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5 January 2010

Company Announcements Office
Australian Securities Exchange Limited
Level 4
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

RE: Thiess awarded \$140 million Queensland coal mining contract extension

Please find attached a copy of a media release to be issued today by Thiess Pty Ltd a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Limited.

Yours faithfully,

V.REES
Company Secretary



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MEDIA RELEASE

5 January 2010

Thiess awarded \$140 million Queensland coal mining contract extension

Thiess has been awarded a twelve month contract extension worth approximately \$140 million at the Tarong Coal Project- Meandu mine located near Kingaroy, in Queensland's South Burnett region.

Tarong Energy, a government owned corporation, is one of Queensland's most significant power generators. Originally awarded the contract in October 2007, Thiess has operated the Meandu mine since the transition from the previous mine owner and operator. The contract will now run through to December 2011.

Coal produced at the Meandu mine supplies the adjacent Tarong Power Stations which are a major source of Queensland's electricity.

Thiess Mining Chief Executive Bruce Munro said today that the contract extension would allow Thiess to continue to provide total mining services which include mine planning, drill and blast, coal mining, coal processing, and maintenance of all fixed and mobile plant.

"Thiess is delighted to have the opportunity to continue our very positive and productive relationship with Tarong Energy," Mr Munro said.

"Together, Thiess and Tarong Energy have sought to establish new benchmarks in safety, the protection of the environment and the development of significant training opportunities for the local community."

ENDS

For further information contact Sue Netterfield on 0400 556 517 or email snetterfield@thiess.com.au

For more than 75 years, Thiess has been helping to build our nation. The Snowy Mountains Scheme, Sydney Harbour Tunnel, Melbourne's EastLink project, Brisbane's \$4.2 billion Airport Link and Victoria's \$3.5 billion Desalination Project are just a few iconic projects to bear the Thiess brand. A commitment to delivering great outcomes for clients has allowed the company to expand throughout Australia and into New Zealand, Indonesia, India and most recently the Middle East.

Thiess has an annual turnover of \$6 billion and \$16.8 billion dollars of work in hand. With over 16,000 employees, it has become one of Australia's leading and most trusted construction, mining and services companies. Thiess is a wholly owned subsidiary of Leighton Holdings Pty Ltd.