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News Release

Attention News Editors
For immediate release
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Illawarra Coal's WestVAMP technology gets US Environment award

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has presented its Climate Protection Award to Illawarra Coal's Technology Provider MEGTEC Systems, in recognition of the Swedish firm's patented technology in action – WestVAMP, situated at Illawarra Coal's West Cliff mine.

Presentation of the award follows last month's visit to the world-first technology by US EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson, and Australian recognition last year with the Australian Institute of Energy Award.

Illawarra Coal President Colin Bloomfield said he was proud of the recognition awarded to MEGTEC for their contribution to climate protection.

"Our WestVAMP power plant is the first commercial application of MEGTEC's technology, which generates electricity from the extremely dilute methane in ventilation air from West Cliff mine," he said.

"Our partnership with MEGTEC to achieve this world-first has already resulted in the abatement of more than 225,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent and the export of more than 30 gigawatt hours of electricity to the West Cliff mine."

The \$30 million project was officially opened by the Premier of NSW, Morris Iemma, in September last year and is currently the world's only officially proven and commercially viable technology to abate methane emissions from mine ventilation air.

Accepting the award for MEGTEC in a ceremony at the Kennedy Centre in Washington, D.C was Mohit Uberoi, President of the MEGTEC Systems group, Lars Sundback, Managing Director of Swedish Megtec Systems, Ake Kallstrand, inventor of the WestVAMP technology and Richard Mattus, Business Manager for MEGTEC's activities for coal mining.

"We are honoured and delighted for the recognition and appreciation shown by presenting MEGTEC with this highly respected award," Mohit Uberoi said.

"By bringing forward new technology to reduce methane emissions, we are proud to be part of the global climate protection solution."

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Climate Protection Award recipients are selected by the US EPA from finalists chosen by an international advisory panel of judges representing government, industry and non-governmental organisations.

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