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NSW
BREEDERS

THOROUGHBRED
BREEDERS

Australia

Our Magic Millions Champions Under Threat – Protect the **Hunter Valley**



Dance Hero



Excellerator



Phelan Ready



Testa Rossa



Brave Warrior



Dear Thoroughbred Buyers, Breeders and Clients,

Horseracing is one of Australia's oldest sports. It is part of Australia's history and heritage. It is a quintessential part of the Australian way of life.

From the first official thoroughbred race meeting staged by Governor Macquarie in Hyde Park, Sydney, in 1810 to the breathtaking performances of Pharlap, Tulloch, Makybe Diva and many other champions of the turf, the Australian public and, more recently, international audiences have been part of a mature and productive thoroughbred industry that is acknowledged and recognised around the world.

The Hunter Valley region in NSW is now internationally recognised as Australia's breeding capital. It holds the second largest concentration of horse studs in the world, outside Kentucky in the United States.

The Hunter Valley is home to a large number of industry investors and stands stallions with global pedigrees. It produces approximately half of all thoroughbreds born annually in Australia. This year yearlings by Hunter Valley stallions represent upwards of 70% of the Magic Millions catalogue – over all sessions.

Arrowfield, Coolmore, Darley, Vinery, Yarraman Park and the historic Widden Stud are all located in the Hunter Valley. The Hunter Valley also supports a wide cross section of the industry through a large number of high class boarding operations. The Hunter Valley is known around the world as a major source of Group 1 winners.

This historically significant thoroughbred breeding region is now under threat. The negative encroachment from increasing levels of mining exploration and activity is threatening the viability of

our industry. It will also impact on the health and welfare of our employees and livestock and the sustainability of our region and its environment.

We are conscious that mining encroachment has the potential to become an industry-wide issue. It is a threat felt by fellow thoroughbred breeders outside the Hunter Valley, including in the Darling Downs.

Throughout this coming year the Thoroughbred Breeders of the Hunter Valley will be stepping up their campaign to educate the Australian Government and the mining industry about the significance and commercial importance of our industry. We will illustrate the need to maintain a healthy balance between our breeding operations, our communities and our environment with the industries that surround us.

We invite you to send a strong message of support for our campaign. Wider industry support and help will be critical for the long term survival of our industry and of the Upper Hunter. Our success in this regard is your success.

To obtain more information, join our campaign or register your support please contact us directly or visit our website www.htba.com.au/protectourindustries

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Henry Plumtre'.

Henry Plumtre
Thoroughbred Breeders of the Hunter Valley

