

#### 16 October 2019

# Tlou Energy Limited ("Tlou" or "the Company")

#### **OPERATIONAL REPORT - QUARTER ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Tlou Energy Limited is an ASX, AIM and BSE listed company focused on delivering power in Botswana and southern Africa through the exploration and development of coal bed methane (CBM) natural gas.

## Key events during the previous quarter:

- Lesedi 3 and 4 achieved initial sustained gas flows of approximately 20 thousand standard cubic feet per day (Mcfd) from each pod;
- Gas flow rates anticipated to increase steadily as the coals become gas saturated;
- Core-hole drilling utilising Tlou's own drilling rig commenced in the Mamba project area, with the objective of providing valuable data required for the expansion of the Company's gas Reserves and Contingent Resources.

#### Dewatering and gas flow testing

During the quarter the Company's operations made excellent progress with the Lesedi gas production pods having achieved sustained gas production rates.

Following completion of the first phase of production testing, including initial dewatering, reaching critical gas desorption point and commencing gas production, the pods commenced producing sustained gas flows. The initial rates were approximately 20 thousand standard cubic feet per day (Mcfd) from each pod. This was an excellent start and the Company is very encouraged by production data to date.

Gas production is continuing and, as with most new CBM developments the rate is anticipated to continue increasing following further reduction of pressure in the coal and additional dewatering, with the aim to reach a peak and commercial gas flow rate as soon as possible.

The current stage of production involves maintaining pressure on the reservoir to further reduce water production, so that the lateral wells become gas saturated, rather than water saturated. This is followed by reducing pressure in the wells to the desired level which, once achieved, is usually expected to significantly increase the gas flows from the wells. This is a metholodical and detailed process and takes time to achieve. The Company will update the market on further progress in due course.



With CBM projects not yet established in this region, Tlou could pioneer CBM development in the area. Successful results from this project could potentially facilitate the opening up of a whole new CBM basin in Botswana and be a significant boost not only for Tlou, but for the whole region, with the potential for Tlou to supply power within Botswana and also into neighbouring countries via the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

## **Core-hole drilling**

During the quarter, Tlou commenced core-hole drilling in the Mamba project area. Operations are being conducted using Tlou's core drilling rig and Tlou's experienced field-based personnel. As the Company is not using external drilling contractors the costs of core drilling are relatively low.

Core-hole drilling and core analysis provides valuable



information regarding coal quality and gas content. This data is required for the expansion of the Company's gas Reserves and Contingent Resources and providing information to assess new areas for potential development.

#### **Gas-to-Power Tender**

In 2018 the Company submitted a tender to Botswana's Ministry of Minerals Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security for the Development of a CBM-fuelled power plant in Botswana and was subsequently selected as a preferred bidder for this proposal.

If successful, the negotiations will result in the Company agreeing a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Government of Botswana, whereby Botswana Power Corporation (BPC), the national electricity utility in Botswana, would purchase the power produced by Tlou at the Lesedi project.



The tender negotiations are confidential and are being led by the government of Botswana. The government has confirmed its commitment to the development of CBM-fuelled pilot power plants and is in the process of sourcing an advisor to assist them in tender negotiations. Further information will be provided by the government in due course, with the next update expected after Botswana's general election later this month.

#### Forward plan

| 3Q19  | 4Q19  | 1Q20                              | 2Q20  | 3Q20   | 4Q20   | Post 4Q20            |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------|
| Gas flows from Lesedi 3P & 4P      Mamba Project drilling | <ul> <li>Finalise PPA</li> <li>Generation<br/>Licence Award</li> <li>Close<br/>development<br/>financing from<br/>Botswana</li> </ul> | Seismic (~200km)  Reserve upgrade | <ul> <li>Start Poles &amp; Wires</li> <li>Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) application</li> </ul> | Generators & civils at Central Processing Facility  Boomslang Project EIS approval  Boomslang drilling | <ul> <li>Target first<br/>electricity<br/>sales</li> <li>SAPP<br/>membership<br/>approved</li> </ul> | • Expansion to 10MW+ |

The Company's forward plan, subject to financing and operational results, targets finalising a PPA and development financing as soon as possible, with first electricity sales potentially in late 2020. The Company will commit to significant field operations once development, exploration and working capital funding has been secured. The Company is listed on three exchanges so continually monitors all corporate and operational costs with a view to reduce or cut costs in any area not perceived to be adding value.

The Company is progressing funding options for the development of the first 10MW of power generation as well as funding for further exploration and working capital requirements. Significant progress has been made with Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) for financing of the full 10MW project. The total cost for the 10MW project is estimated at USD\$30m including 66kV transmission lines, central processing facility (CPF), 10MW of generation assets and additional production wells. The Company expects to complete negotiations for the first phase of funding by the end of the year.



#### **Project areas**

The Company has three project areas in Botswana:

- Lesedi Project Development, Exploration
- Mamba Project Exploration
- Boomslang Project Exploration

## Lesedi CBM Project Area, Botswana

Licences: Mining Licence 2017/18L, Prospecting Licences 001 & 003/2004 and 35 & 37/2000

Ownership: Tlou Energy Limited 100%

The Lesedi project covers an area of approximately 3,800 Km<sup>2</sup> and consists of four Coal and CBM Prospecting Licences (PL) and a Mining Licence. The Mining Licence area is currently the focal point for the Company's operations and includes the gas producing Lesedi 3 and 4 development wells or 'pods'.

The Lesedi project is the Company's most advanced project, with plans in place to install gas-fired electricity generators and connect to the power grid in Botswana. Subject to results, the first electricity sales could commence in late 2020.

The project has full environmental approval which includes gas extraction, electricity generation and construction of transmission lines. In addition, the Company has approval for 20MW of solar generation. Clean CBM power is ideal for use in conjunction with solar projects.

Tlou has the only CBM Mining Licence in Botswana. A mining licence is required by an operator to develop a CBM asset. This licence spans a large 900 Km<sup>2</sup> area and is valid until 2042 so the Company has security of tenure over the project.

Tlou has the only independently certified CBM gas reserves in Botswana, with 252 Billion Cubic Feet (BCF) of 3P gas Reserves certified in the Lesedi project area. In addition, the 3C Contingent Gas Resources are approximately 3 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF). The potential upside from further successful development of this area is phenomenal.

The status of the Lesedi area licences is as follows:

| Licence                 | Expiry         | Status  |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Mining Licence 2017/18L | August 2042    | Current |
| PL 001/2004             | March 2021     | Current |
| PL 003/2004             | March 2021     | Current |
| PL 035/2000             | September 2020 | Current |
| PL 037/2000             | September 2020 | Current |



## Mamba Project Area, Botswana

Licences: Prospecting Licences 237-241/2014

Ownership: Tlou Energy Limited 100%

The Mamba project consists of five Coal and CBM PL's covering an area of approximately 4,500 Km<sup>2</sup>. The Mamba area is considered to be highly prospective being situated adjacent to Tlou's Lesedi CBM Project and being on-trend with the asset that has produced the encouraging results observed to date. In the event of a gas field development by Tlou, the Mamba area provides the Company with considerable flexibility and optionality. Geographically, the Mamba Project area is approximately 50 km closer to the Orapa Power station than the Lesedi Project area.

Independently certified 3P Gas Reserves of 175 BCF are already in place at the Mamba project. Corehole drilling is ongoing in the Mamba project which, along with a proposed seismic survey of the area is aimed at significantly expanding the reserves footprint across the Mamba project area.

The Mamba area has the potential to become a separate revenue generating development project in addition to the proposed development at Lesedi.

#### The status of the Mamba area licences is as follows:

| Licence     | Expiry         | Status  |
|-------------|----------------|---------|
| PL 237/2014 | September 2021 | Current |
| PL 238/2014 | September 2021 | Current |
| PL 239/2014 | September 2021 | Current |
| PL 240/2014 | September 2021 | Current |
| PL 241/2014 | September 2021 | Current |

#### Boomslang Project Area, Botswana

Licence: Prospecting Licence 011/2019
Ownership: Tlou Energy Limited 100%

The Company's most recently acquired Prospecting Licence, PL011/2019 designated "Boomslang", is valid for an initial term of 3 years. The licence area is approximately 1,000 Km² and is situated adjacent to the Company's existing licences. The Boomslang area is also located on-trend with the asset that has produced the encouraging results observed to date at the Lesedi project and considered to be highly prospective.

The Boomslang licence area provides the Company further flexibility and optionality for development of different projects.



The Company is awaiting confirmation of environmental approval to commence exploration operations in the Boomslang area. This is expected to be granted in mid-2020, thereafter initial exploration operations are planned for this area.

The status of the Boomslang area licence is as follows:

| Licence     | Expiry     | Status  |
|-------------|------------|---------|
| PL 011/2019 | March 2022 | Current |

The information contained within this announcement is deemed to constitute inside information as stipulated under the Market Abuse Regulations (EU) No. 596/2014. Upon the publication of this announcement, this inside information is now considered to be in the public domain.

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#### **Company Information**

Tlou Energy is focused on delivering Gas-to-Power solutions in Botswana and southern Africa to alleviate some of the chronic power shortage in the region. Tlou is developing projects using coal bed methane (CBM) natural gas. Botswana has a significant energy shortage and generally relies on imported power and diesel generation to fulfil its power requirements. As 100% owner of the most advanced gas project in the country, the Lesedi CBM Project, Tlou Energy provides investors with access to a compelling



opportunity using domestic gas to produce power and displace expensive diesel and imported electricity.

The Company is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, London's AIM market and the Botswana Stock Exchange and is led by an experienced Board, management and advisory team including individuals with successful track records in the CBM industry.

Since establishment, the Company has significantly de-risked the project in consideration of its goal to become a significant gas-to-power producer. The Company flared its first gas in 2014 and has a 100% interest over its Mining Licence and ten Prospecting Licences covering an area of ~9,300 Km² in total. The Lesedi and Mamba Projects already benefit from significant independently certified 2P gas Reserves of ~41 BCF. In addition, 3P gas Reserves of ~427 BCF and Contingent Gas Resources of ~3,043 BCF provide significant additional potential.

The Company is planning an initial scalable gas-to-power project. Following successful implementation of this first scalable project, the Company looks forward to evaluating longer-term prospects for the delivery of electricity generated from CBM in Botswana to neighbouring countries.



