Leigh Creek Energy

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

31 December 2019



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DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors of Leigh Creek Energy Limited (or 'Leigh Creek Energy') present their Report together with the financial statements of the Consolidated Entity, being Leigh Creek Energy Limited ('the Company') and its Controlled Entities ('the Group') for the half-year ended 31 December 2019.

Director details

The following persons were Directors of Leigh Creek Energy during or since the end of the financial half-year:

- Daniel Justyn Peters
- Gregory English
- Murray Chatfield
- Zhe Wang
- Phillip Staveley
- Zheng Xiaojiang

Review of operations and financial results

Leigh Creek Energy Project:

The Company commenced the financial year by concluding consultation with South Australian Regulatory Authorities regarding the operations and shutdown of the Pre-Commercial Demonstration (PCD). The Company was able to confirm:

- 1. The PCD operated in accordance with the approved Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") and Statement of Environmental Objectives ("SEO");
- 2. No environmental or safety incidents occurred during PCD operations;
- 3. The Department for Energy and Mining have confirmed that they have reviewed the three third party reports covering the PCD operation and agreed that the PCD was safely operated and operated fulfilling the PCD EIR and SEO environmental compliance requirements;
- 4. The final PCD shut down success will be confirmed following ongoing monitoring required by the EIR;
- 5. LCK will provide a full Closure Report when all monitoring commitments have been fulfilled under the EIR. There is expected to be minimal changes to the environmental data;
- 6. Air quality and groundwater quality reports have been submitted and are in line with the SEO and Monitoring Plans; and
- 7. The Regulator and LCK have agreed on a process for commercial approval.

The Company confirmed the pathway to commercial operations is as follows:

The Upstream Development activities include seismic acquisition, investigation drilling operations, front end engineering design, environmental and social surveys, fabrication and construction of small scale above ground plant and commence gasifier field development plan. The Downstream Development activities will be the provision of the commercial production facility, which will either be a fertiliser plant or a gas plant and pipeline to produce pipeline quality gas into the east coast gas network.

The culmination of the Upstream and Downstream Development phases will be preparation of the Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for Construction and Operations and the approval of the SEOs for each stage in the SA Government Gazette.

In order to commence the Upstream Development design, on 20 November 2019, the Company confirmed that the Statement of Environmental Objectives (SEO) for geophysical operations has been published in the SA

Government Gazette via the Department for Energy and Mining (Regulator). This allows LCK to proceed with the next steps for seismic acquisition across the entire Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) 650 at Leigh Creek.

The Company also confirmed submission of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and draft SEO for Exploration Drilling Operations across PEL 650, completion of Phase 1 of the Biodiversity and Ecological survey and that Water studies and Traffic studies were also underway. The Company continues to undertake the periodic community and stakeholder updates sessions in Leigh Creek and surrounding areas.

Finance and Corporate

The consolidated operating loss for the half year to 31 December 2019 was \$3,193,773 (2018: \$4,364,733). Expenditure incurred on the Leigh Creek Energy Project capitalised as Exploration and Evaluation expenditure was \$1,200,601 (2018: \$6,852,616).

In August 2019, the Company completed a \$3.2m capital raising, placing 14.32m ordinary shares with institutional, sophisticated and professional investors.

Following completion of the PCD, the Company was also able to sign a Heads of Agreement with China New Energy Group Limited to commence In-Situ Gasification in China. The agreement establishes the process to develop a full commercial agreement through a joint working group to formalise documentation.

On 10 September 2019 the Company announced the thyssenkrupp Concept Select Study on ISG to Fertiliser. The study confirmed low operating and associated ongoing costs for the production of fertiliser products.

The Company was also able to confirm the receipt of a Research and Development Tax Incentive cash rebate from the Australian Taxation Office of \$6,389,839. The facility limit for the Research and Development Working Capital Facility with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia was reduced to \$1.5m allowing the Company to repay drawings relating to the rebate. Borrowings under the facility as of 31 December 2019 were nil.

After reporting date events

A Farm-in Agreement was executed between Leigh Creek Oil & Gas Pty Ltd (a new entity) and Bridgeport Energy (QLD) Pty Ltd on 20 February 2020 for a 20% participating interest in two permits in the Cooper & Eromanga Basins (ATP 2023 and 2024). Commitments are estimated to be \$200,000 for FY2020, \$450,000 in FY2021, and \$1m in FY2022 (if the agreement continues to term).

In the Directors' opinion, no other events or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company or the Group.

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under s.307c of the *Corporations Act 2001* is included on page 3 of this financial report and forms part of this Directors' Report.

ACN: 107 531 822

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

P Staveley - Director

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Dated at Adelaide, South Australia this 20th day of February 2020



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Auditor's Independence Declaration

To the Directors of Leigh Creek Energy Limited

In accordance with the requirements of section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, as lead auditor for the review of Leigh Creek Energy Limited for the year ended 31 December 2019, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the review; and
- b no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

GRANT THORNTON AUDIT PTY LTD

Chartered Accountants

J/L Humphrey

Partner - Audit & Assurance

Adelaide, 20 February 2020

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the half-year ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	31 December 2019 \$	31 December 2018 \$
Other income		-	3,455
Other expenses		(1,397,721)	(1,593,131)
Depreciation		(27,331)	(28,492)
Employee benefits expense		(1,668,320)	(2,610,171)
		(3,093,372)	(4,228,339)
Finance income		17,947	87,833
Finance costs		(118,348)	(224,227)
Loss before tax		(3,193,773)	(4,364,733)
Tax expense		-	-
Loss for the period from continuing operations		(3,193,773)	(4,364,733)
Total other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive (loss) for the period		(3,193,773)	(4,364,733)
Earnings per share		15.5.1	(
Basic and Diluted (cents per share)	6	(0.01)	(0.01)

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2019

	Notes	31 December 2019 \$	30 June 2019 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		3,880,822	3,057,383
Trade and other receivables		516,516	6,524,077
Total current assets		4,397,338	9,581,460
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment		372,187	412,699
Exploration and evaluation expenditure	7	26,226,518	25,025,917
Total non-current assets		26,598,705	25,438,616
TOTAL ASSETS		30,996,043	35,020,076
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		554,794	767,908
Borrowings	8	60,721	3,881,105
Employee entitlements		373,359	517,416
Total current liabilities		988,874	5,166,429
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	8	102,156	107,907
Total non-current liabilities	•	102,156	107,907
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,091,030	5,274,336
NET ASSETS		29,905,013	29,745,740
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to the owners of the parent			
Share capital	9	74,150,986	71,000,050
Reserves		2,783,838	2,581,728
Retained losses		(47,029,811)	(43,836,038)
TOTAL EQUITY		29,905,013	29,745,740

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the half-year ended 31 December 2019

	SHARE CAPITAL \$	RETAINED LOSSES \$	SHARE OPTION RESERVE \$	TOTAL \$
BALANCE 1 July 2019	71,000,050	(43,836,038)	2,581,728	29,745,740
Total comprehensive income				
Total profit or (loss)	-	(3,193,773)	-	(3,193,773)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	(3,193,773)	-	(3,193,773)
Transactions with members in their capacity as owners:				
Issued share capital (net of costs)	3,150,936	-	-	3,150,936
Employee share-based payment	-	-	202,110	202,110
Total transactions with owners	3,150,936	-	202,110	3,353,046
BALANCE AT 31 December 2019	74,150,986	(47,029,811)	2,783,838	29,905,013

	SHARE CAPITAL \$	RETAINED LOSSES \$	SHARE OPTION RESERVE \$	TOTAL \$
BALANCE 1 July 2018	58,327,054	(34,747,560)	1,802,721	25,382,215
Total comprehensive income				
Total profit or (loss)	-	(4,364,733)	-	(4,364,733)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	(4,364,733)	-	(4,364,733)
Transactions with members in their				
capacity as owners:				
Issued share capital (net of costs)	4,101,578	-	-	4,101,578
Employee share-based payment	-	-	1,223,692	1,223,692
Transfer of lapsed options	-	466,379	(466,379)	-
Total transactions with owners	4,101,578	466,379	757,313	5,325,270
BALANCE AT 31 December 2018	62,428,632	(38,645,914)	2,560,034	26,342,752

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the half-year ended 31 December 2019

N	Notes	31 December 2019 \$	31 December 2018 \$
Cash flows from operating activities		·	·
Payments to suppliers and employees		(3,468,925)	(2,809,801)
R&D rebates received		6,387,439	9,010,220
Interest received		17,947	87,833
Net cash provided by operating activities		2,936,461	6,288,252
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant & equipment		13,182	(183,792)
Proceeds from disposal of assets		-	3,455
Capitalised exploration costs		(1,200,601)	(14,939,825)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(1,187,419)	(15,120,162)
Cash flow from financing activities			
Issue of shares		3,222,500	4,292,387
Share issue transaction costs		(203,620)	(190,809)
Proceeds from borrowings		108,711	3,725,899
Borrowing costs		(118,348)	(224,228)
Repayment of borrowings		(3,934,846)	(3,830,000)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(925,603)	3,773,249
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		823,439	(5,058,661)
Cash at the beginning of the year		3,057,383	9,323,648
Cash at the end of the period		3,880,822	4,264,987

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Nature of operations

The principal activity of the Group is advancing the development of its Leigh Creek Energy Project.

2. General information and basis of preparation

The condensed interim consolidated financial statements ('the interim financial statements') of the Group are for the six (6) months ended 31 December 2019 and are presented in Australian Dollars (\$AUD), which is the functional currency of the Parent Company. These general purpose interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting*. They do not include all of the information required in annual financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 30 June 2019 and any public announcements made by the Group during the half-year in accordance with continuous disclosure requirements arising under the Australian Securities Exchange Listing Rules and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The interim consolidated financial statements have been approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 20th February 2020.

3. Changes in significant accounting policies

The interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies adopted in the Group's last annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019. Note that the changes in accounting policies specified below applied to the current period. The accounting policies included in the Group's last annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019 are the relevant policies for the purposes of comparatives.

3.1 New standards adopted as at 1 July 2019

AASB 16 Leases

AASB 16 'Leases' replaces AASB 117 'Leases' along with three Interpretations (AASB Interpretation 4 'Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease', AASB Interpretation 115 'Operating Leases-Incentives' and AASB Interpretation 27 'Evaluating the Substance of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a Lease'). The new Standard has been applied as at 1 July 2019 using the modified retrospective approach, with the cumulative effect of adopting AASB 16 being recognised in equity as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings for the current period. Prior periods have not been restated.

On transition, for leases previously accounted for as operating leases with a remaining lease term of less than 12 months and for leases of low-value assets the Group has applied the optional exemptions to not recognise right-of-use assets but to account for the lease expense on a straight line basis over the remaining lease term.

The Group has benefited from the use of hindsight for determining lease term when considering options to extend and terminate leases.

The following is a reconciliation of total operating lease commitments at 30 June 2019 to the lease liabilities recognised at 1 July 2019:

	\$
Total operating lease commitments disclosed as at 30 June 2019	201,921
Recognition exemptions:	
- Leases of low value assets	(12,530)
- Lease with remaining lease term of less than 12 months	(189,391)
Operating lease liabilities before discounting	-
Discounted using incremental borrowing rate	<u> </u>
Operating lease liabilities	-
Finance lease obligations	-
Total lease liabilities recognised under AASB 16 at 1 July 2019	-

Based on the assessment by the Group, there is no cumulative effect of the initial application of AASB 16 at 1 July 2019 in accordance with the transition requirement.

4. Accounting estimates and judgements

When preparing the interim financial statements, management undertakes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions about recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The actual results may differ from the judgements, estimates and assumptions made by management, and will seldom equal the estimated results.

The judgements, estimates and assumptions applied in the interim financial statements, including the key sources of estimation uncertainty were the same as those applied in the Group's last annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019.

5. Significant events and transactions

A Farm-in Agreement was executed between Leigh Creek Oil & Gas Pty Ltd (a new entity) and Bridgeport Energy (QLD) Pty Ltd on 20 February 2020 for a 20% participating interest in two permits in the Cooper & Eromanga Basins (ATP 2023 and 2024). Commitments are estimated to be \$200,000 for FY2020, \$450,000 in FY2021, and \$1m in FY2022 (if the agreement continues to term).

In the Directors' opinion, no other events or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company or the Group.

6. Earnings per share

The calculation of basic loss per share at 31 December 2019 was based on the loss attributable to ordinary equity holders of \$3,193,773 (2018: \$4,364,733) and a weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the six months of 444,786,992 (2018: 409,321,351).

The calculation of diluted loss per share at 31 December 2019 is the same as basic diluted loss per share. In accordance with AASB 133 Earning per share, as potential ordinary shares may result in a situation where their conversion results in a decrease in the loss per share, no dilutive effect has been taken into account. Potential ordinary shares relating to unlisted options at 31 December 2019 totalled 41,263,500 (2018: 22,763,500).

7. Exploration and evaluation expenditure

Exploration and evaluation expenditure incurred is accumulated in respect of each identifiable area of interest. These costs are only carried forward to the extent that right of tenure is current and those costs are expected to be recouped through the successful development of the area (or, alternatively by its sale) or where activities in the area have not yet reached a stage which permits reasonable assessment of the existence of economically recoverable reserves and operations in relation to the area are continuing.

During the year the Company applied for R&D Tax Incentives through AusIndustry in relation to eligible research expenditure incurred during 2018/19 for the Leigh Creek Energy Project. The tax incentive is provided as a refundable tax credit and has been credited to Exploration and Evaluation capitalised expenditure. The Company has received a tax refund of \$6,387,439 for the 2018/19 year and booked a receivable (\$330,000) in relation to eligible R&D expenditure for the half year to 31 December 2019.

	Six months to 31 December 2019 \$	Year to 30 June 2019 \$
Balance at opening	25,025,917	16,400,151
Licence fees	942	7,518
Costs capitalised for Commercial Studies	-	856,874
Costs capitalised for Opportunities	-	107,500
Costs capitalised for LCEP	1,553,980	14,016,992
Less R&D tax concession rebates	(354,321)	(6,363,118)
Total exploration and evaluation expenditure	26,226,518	25,025,917

8. Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction and finance costs. Borrowings with a determinable payment due less than twelve months from the reporting date are classified as current liabilities.

In December 2019 LCK extended the facility limit for the Research and Development Working Capital Facility with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to December 2020 and the facility limit was decreased to \$1.5m. Following receipt of the 2018/19 ATO rebate and clean down of the Facility the limit decreased from \$4m to \$1.5m to match anticipated 2019/20 tax rebates. The receivable due from the R&D 2018/19 rebate at 30 June 2019 of \$6,387,439 was received in December 2019.

	Six months to 31 December 2019	Year to
	\$1 December 2019 \$	30 June 2019 \$
Current		
Loan – Motor Vehicle	11,367	11,105
Loan – Insurance	49,354	-
R&D working capital facility		3,870,000
Total current borrowings	60,721	3,881,105
Non-current		
Loan – Motor Vehicle	102,156	107,907
Total borrowings	162,877	3,989,012
R&D working capital facility – available	1,500,000	4,000,000
R&D working capital facility – undrawn	(1,500,000)	(130,000)
Total borrowings drawn	-	3,870,000
Less unamortised transaction costs	<u> </u>	-
Carrying amount at balance date	-	3,870,000

9. Share capital

On 6 August 2019, the Company announced the placement of 14.32m shares at 22.5 cents per share to raise approximately \$3,200,00.

	Six months to 31 December 2019 \$	Year to 30 June 2019 \$
Shares issued and fully paid:		
Beginning of the period	71,000,050	58,327,054
Shares issued	3,354,556	13,506,387
Share issue costs	(203,620)	(833,391)
Total share capital at the end of the period	74,150,986	71,000,050
Number of shares	563,290,994	548,143,421

10. Related party transactions

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those to other parties, unless otherwise stated:

- Legal expenses were incurred with Piper Alderman totalling \$33,818. Mr Greg English is a Director of Leigh Creek Energy and Partner of Piper Alderman.
- The Company engaged Investment Co Services for brokerage service to the value of \$18,865. The party is related to Mr Peters, Executive Chairman Leigh Creek Energy.
- The Company incurred consulting fees to the value of \$134,167 with Mr Zheng Xiaojiang. Mr Zheng Xiaojiang is a Director of Leigh Creek Energy.

11. Events after the reporting date

A Farm-in Agreement was executed between Leigh Creek Oil & Gas Pty Ltd (a new entity) and Bridgeport Energy (QLD) Pty Ltd on 20 February 2020 for a 20% participating interest in two permits in the Cooper & Eromanga Basins (ATP 2023 and 2024). Commitments are estimated to be \$200,000 for FY2020, \$450,000 in FY2021, and \$1m. in FY2022 (if the agreement continues to term).

In the Directors' opinion, no other events or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company or the Group.

12. Going concern

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of a going concern. The financial report shows the group incurred a net loss of \$3,193,773 and a net cash inflow from operating and investing activities of \$1,749,042 during the half-year ended 31 December 2019. The group has a borrowing facility available from Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd to draw upon as/if required. The group continues to be economically dependent on the generation of cashflow from the business and/or raising additional capital for the continued development of its Leigh Creek Energy Project and working capital. The group continues to be in consultation with its advisers to evaluate alternative means of raising additional equity and working capital.

The directors consider the consolidated entity to be a going concern and will be able to meet its debts and obligations as they fall due.

The events and conditions identified above and detailed below give rise to a material uncertainty that may cause significant doubt on the Groups ability to continue as a going concern.

The group's ability to continue as a going concern is contingent upon generation of cashflow from its business and/or successfully raising additional capital. If sufficient cash flow is not generated and/or additional funds are not raised, the going concern basis may not be appropriate, with the result that the group may have to realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities, other than in the ordinary course of business and at amounts different from those stated in the financial report. No allowance for such circumstances has been made in the financial report.

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In the opinion of the Directors of Leigh Creek Energy Limited:

- a) The consolidated financial statements and notes of Leigh Creek Energy Limited are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - i. Giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 31 December 2019 and of its performance of the Group for the half-year ended on that date; and
 - ii. Complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting; and

ACN: 107 531 822

b) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Group will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors:

P Staveley - Director

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Dated at Adelaide, South Australia this 20th day of February 2020



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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Leigh Creek Energy Limited

Report on the review of the half year financial report

Conclusion

We have reviewed the accompanying half year financial report of Leigh Creek Energy Limited (the Company) and its subsidiaries (the Group), which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the half year ended on that date, a description of accounting policies, other selected explanatory notes, and the directors' declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the half year financial report of Leigh Creek Energy Limited does not give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2019, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the half year ended on that date, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting*.

Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw attention to Note 12 in the financial report, which indicates that the Group incurred a net loss of \$3,193,773 during the half year ended 31 December 2019. As stated in Note 12, these events or conditions, along with other matters as set forth in Note 12, indicate that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. Our conclusion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Directors' responsibility for the half year financial report

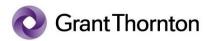
The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the half year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half year financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half year financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2410 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity*, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2019 and its performance for the half year ended on that date, and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*. As the auditor of Leigh Creek Energy Limited, ASRE 2410 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the audit of the annual financial report.

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A review of a half year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

GRANT THORNTON AUDIT PTY LTD

Grant Thomson

Chartered Accountants

J[/]L Humphrey

Partner - Audit & Assurance

Adelaide, 20 February 2020

CORPORATE DIRECTORY

Directors

Daniel Justyn Peters Executive Chairman

Phillip Staveley

Managing Director

Greg D English

Non-Executive Director

Murray K Chatfield Non-Executive Director

Zhe Wang Non-Executive Director

Zheng Xiaojiang
Non-Executive Director

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