

## **GENEX POWER LIMITED (ASX:GNX)**

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ABN: 18 152 098 854

20th November 2023

### **ASX Announcement**

# Chairman's Address to Shareholders

## GENEX POWER LIMITED - 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Dr Ralph Craven and I am the Independent Non-executive Chairman of Genex Power Limited (**Genex**). On behalf of the Directors, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to all our shareholders joining us for this 2023 Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) of the Company.

The formal business of our meeting will start shortly. Before we begin, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on Genex's achievements during the financial year and how they have strengthened our position as the only listed pure renewable energy generation and storage company on the ASX.

# **Delivering on Our Commitments**

Genex remains unwavering in our dedication to sustainable energy solutions. Our projects encompass large-scale batteries, pumped storage hydro, solar, and wind, and are poised to provide clean energy to over 350,000 homes, offsetting nearly 2 million tonnes of  $CO_2$  annually by 2025. We are deeply proud of our contribution to Australia's clean energy transition.

Our commitment has resulted in a unique and diversified portfolio exemplified by our strong track record of delivery. The robust platform we have created has resulted in the business occupying a prominent position in our sector.

In today's rapidly evolving market landscape, Genex stands at the forefront of a pivotal energy transition. Our strong position is a result of our comprehensive understanding of the intricate dynamics at play.

The energy transition demands a deep comprehension of all the forces at work, including staying attuned to the evolving nature of the National Electricity Market (**NEM**). We continue to build out our team with high quality talent as we see the increasing awareness of the need for specialised expertise in the renewable energy and storage space. We forge partnerships with high quality counterparties



and navigate the delicate balance of risk and reward. Genex is strategically positioned to leverage these factors to the fullest advantage.

Additionally, we are operating in a favourable climate, benefiting from several strong tailwinds. Australia's commitment to achieving its renewable energy targets serves as a positive catalyst for our portfolio. The increasing corporate demand for renewable procurement and a positive shift in public sentiment toward cleaner energy sources provides a strong backdrop for our strategy. With policy stability and a robust regulatory environment, Genex is poised for success in playing an important part in the transition to a low carbon emissions economy.

I'm pleased to report on the significant progress we made during FY2023, including on the construction of our flagship 250MW/2,000MWh Kidston Pumped Storage Hydro Project (**K2H**) in Queensland, which is on track to be energised next year. Post FY2023 period end, we announced the completion of the Main Access Tunnel which marks a major milestone for the underground works and de-risks the Project overall.

K2H stands at the heart of our Kidston Clean Energy Hub, and its completion will mark the first pumped storage hydro project developed in Australia in over four decades, as well as the first ever by the private sector.

Together with our operating 50MW Kidston Solar Project (**KS1**), the Kidston Clean Energy Hub will provide 300MW of renewable energy and storage capacity. Furthermore, the advanced development of the 258MW Kidston Stage 3 Wind Project (**K3W**) holds the potential for even greater capacity and will complete the trifecta of wind, solar and pumped storage hydro technologies all co-located at a single site, a global first. K3W remains on track for a final investment decision in CY2024.

While K2H is our flagship project, it is just one of many in our armoury. Beyond the Kidston Clean Energy Hub, our fully operational 50MW Jemalong Solar Project (**JSP**) in NSW provides geographic diversification to our portfolio. It generated a substantial 103,365MWh during FY2023.

In addition, our first large-scale Battery Energy Storage System (**BESS**), the 50MW/100MWh Bouldercombe Battery Project (**BBP**) in Central Queensland, achieved energisation on time and within budget in June 2023 and commenced full commercial operations earlier this month. I'm proud of our team and their quick response to the minor fire incident in September 2023, we were able to get back on track rapidly at no material financial cost to Genex.

The BBP will store and supply up to 35,200MWh annually and will operate under an innovative Autobidder Offtake Agreement with Tesla Motors Australia Pty Ltd, opening the door to revenue opportunities from market pricing events, while providing guaranteed underwritten revenue to support project financing. As the third project to be brought online in our portfolio and the first storage project, we expect it to deliver another step change in our revenues going into the 2024 financial year. We also have land and planning approval to double the size of the BBP with another 50MW/100MWh battery which remains a pipeline opportunity for Genex over the coming period.



Genex also secured the next phase of our development pipeline during FY2023, with the acquisition of the development rights for the up to 2GW multi-stage Bulli Creek Battery and Solar Project (**BCP**) in southern Queensland. The BCP is fast becoming a priority for Genex's next phase of growth. The first stage is a large scale solar farm of up to 775MW with a final investment decision expected in CY2024, together with a 25 year offtake agreement announced with Fortescue Metals Group Limited subsequent to FY2023 year end.

#### Well financed

The Board is very pleased with our financial performance, we continued to drive momentum achieving total revenue of \$24.6M and EBITDA of \$11.2M in FY2023 and a small net loss of \$1M which demonstrates continued trajectory towards profitability.

In June 2023, Genex entered into two significant transactions with our substantial shareholder, Electric Power Development Co., Ltd (**J-POWER**). The first is a new \$35 million corporate loan facility, the proceeds of which will be used as additional standby contingency funding for the K2H project and working capital replenishment. The second transaction involves a joint development agreement with J-POWER for BCP, which includes upfront funding of \$8.5 million and further contributions to Genex through a development funding agreement.

As at 30 September 2023, Genex had \$87.5M cash at bank, meaning we are now fully funded for the completion of construction of BBP and K2H, and we have sufficient working capital to continue advancing the balance of our portfolio.

## Our people, communities, and the environment

We want to express our gratitude to our employees and contractor workforce for their unwavering contribution to Genex's progress and for upholding our environmental, social and governance priorities. The environment continues to be at the heart of our business and value proposition. We also continually consult with local communities throughout each project's life cycle to ensure honest and fair action while minimising disturbance. Further, our commitment to environmental conservation is demonstrated through initiatives like the "Recycling And Reuse Programme" implemented at Kidston.

Socially we have a focus on creating job opportunities in local communities, including the 900 jobs at Kidston, with a particular emphasis on diversity and Indigenous engagement.

## **Executive update**

In May 2023, we announced the promotion of Craig Francis to Chief Executive Officer, following the retirement of James Harding from the role, which took effect from 1 September 2023. Craig is an



experienced leader with deep knowledge of the energy sector and joined the Company in 2017 to lead the commercial development of our portfolio, holding the Chief Financial Officer position from 2021. The Board would also like to thank James for his significant contribution to Genex's development over the last seven years.

We also welcomed Patrick McCarthy as our Chief Financial Officer on 16 October 2023. Patrick is a seasoned energy executive with an extensive background in renewable energy in Australia and the UK.

## Looking ahead

Our outlook for FY2024 is promising. The evolving NEM and the growing awareness of renewable energy's importance provides substantial opportunities for Genex. The shift away from coal places further pressure on existing infrastructure and the network, creating market opportunities for us. With secure long-term energy contracts and a diverse portfolio of projects, we are well-positioned for continued growth and shareholder value creation.

These forces are ensuring the market opportunity for Genex moving forward is significant, and our long term energy contracts will provide secure cash flows which underpin our development pipeline. With 400MW of committed projects, 150MW of which are now operational, we have a diverse renewable energy project portfolio and remain committed to advancing our 2.25GW pipeline of projects.

Despite our strong operational performance this year, macroeconomic factors have contributed to a challenging year across many sectors. While Genex has not been immune to the share price pressure felt in the market, the company fundamentals are strong, and the team has made excellent progress in implementing the business plan.

I wish to thank all my fellow directors for their commitment and support over the last financial year.

On behalf of the Board, I want to also express my gratitude to all our shareholders for their continued support over the past year.

Thank you, and let's continue our journey towards a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ralph Craven Independent Non-executive Chairman of Genex Power Limited

This announcement was approved by the Board of Genex Power Limited.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT:

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#### **About Genex Power Limited**

Genex Power Limited has a portfolio of more than \$1 billion of renewable energy generation and storage projects across Australia. The Company's flagship Kidston Clean Energy Hub, located in north Queensland, will integrate large-scale solar generation with pumped storage hydro. The Kidston Clean Energy Hub is comprised of the operating 50MW stage 1 Solar Project (KS1) and the 250MW Kidston Pumped Storage Hydro Project (K2-Hydro) with potential for further multi-stage wind and solar projects. The 50MW Jemalong Solar Project (JSP) is located in NSW and provides geographical diversification to Genex's portfolio. JSP was energised in December 2020 and is now fully operational. Genex's first battery energy storage system, the 50MW/100MWh Bouldercombe Battery Project (BBP) located in Central Queensland achieved contractual close in February 2022, achieved energisation in June 2023 and is now in operation. With a committed portfolio of 400MW and up to approximately 2.25GW of renewable energy and storage projects in the Company's development pipeline, Genex is well placed in its strategy to become a leading renewable energy and storage company in Australia.

Genex continues to acknowledge the support of key Federal and State Government stakeholders such as the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA), the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF), the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) and the Queensland State Government.