

# **Employee Share Option Plan**

**Cannon Resources Limited**

**ABN 32 646 149 902**

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# **Cannon Resources Limited - Employee Share Option Plan**

## **1. The plan**

The purpose of the Plan is to provide Eligible Employees with an incentive to remain with the Group and to improve the longer-term performance of the Company and its return to shareholders. It is intended that the Plan will enable the Group to retain and attract skilled and experienced employees and provide them with the motivation to make the Group more successful.

## **2. Eligibility**

The Board may determine at any time that any Eligible Employee is not entitled to participate in the Plan if the Eligible Employee's participation would be unlawful.

## **3. Participation**

### **3.1 Invitation to participate**

Subject to these rules, the Board at its sole discretion may invite any Eligible Employee selected by it to complete an Application Form relating to a specified number of Options allocated to that Eligible Employee by the Board. For the purpose of clarity, these rules are also to apply to all Options granted by the Company to employees prior to the date of adoption of these rules.

### **3.2 Application form**

The Board must give to each Eligible Employee selected under rule 3.1 above, an Application Form together with an offer letter which sets out the following information relating to the Options proposed to be allocated to the Eligible Employee:

- (a) the date of grant or intended date of grant;
- (b) the total number of Options to be granted;
- (c) the Exercise Period;
- (d) the Exercise Price or the method of determining the Exercise Price;
- (e) the Exercise Conditions attaching to the Options (if any);
- (f) the Disposal Restrictions attaching to any Shares issued on exercise (if any);
- (g) the Forfeiture Conditions attaching to the Options (if any);
- (h) any other terms and conditions relating to the grant which, in the opinion of the Board, are fair and reasonable but not inconsistent with these rules;
- (i) in respect of the initial grant made to an Eligible Employee, a summary, or a copy of these rules; and
- (j) any other information or documents required to be notified to the Eligible Employee by the Corporations Act or the Listing Rules.

### **3.3 Nominee**

Eligible Employees may nominate for their Options to be granted to a nominee (provided that the disclosure relief in section 708(12) of the Corporations Act would extend to that nominee). However, the Board reserves the absolute discretion to refuse to issue the Options to the proposed nominee.

### **3.4 Participant bound by application form, rules and constitution**

By completing and returning the Application Form, a Participant agrees (and if an election has been made by an Eligible Employee under rule 3.3 above, the Eligible Employee's nominee agrees) to be bound by the terms of the Application Form, these rules and the Constitution.

## **4. Grant of options**

### **4.1 Grant of options**

The Board may only grant Options to a Participant following receipt of a duly signed and completed Application Form from the Participant.

### **4.2 No payment for options**

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, no payment is required for the grant of Options under the Plan.

### **4.3 Options non-transferable**

An Option granted under the Plan is not capable of being transferred or encumbered by a Participant, unless the Board determines otherwise and at all times subject to the requirements of the Corporations Act and the ASX Listing Rules.

### **4.4 Quotation of Options**

The Company has no obligation to apply for quotation of the Options on the ASX.

### **4.5 Option certificate**

The Company must issue a Certificate to a Participant in respect of the Options granted to that Participant. The Company must comply with the provisions of the Constitution, the Listing Rules and the Corporations Act relating to the issue of the Certificate.

## **5. Exercise of options**

### **5.1 Manner of exercise of options**

The exercise of any Option granted under the Plan may only be effected in such form and manner as the Board may prescribe which may include the automatic exercise of Options.

### **5.2 Exercise conditions**

Subject to rules 5.3 and 7, an Option granted under the Plan may only be exercised:

- (a) if all the Exercise Conditions have been met;

- (b) if the Exercise Price has been paid to the Company including in accordance with clause 6 or as the Company may direct; and
- (c) within the Exercise Period relating to the Option.

An Option granted under the Plan may not be exercised once it has lapsed.

### **5.3 Total Control or Control Event**

Notwithstanding rule 5.2:

- (a) an Option may be exercised, whether or not any or all applicable Exercise Conditions have been met, on the occurrence of a Total Control Event; and
- (b) the Board may determine that an Option may be exercised, whether or not any or all applicable Exercise Conditions have been met, on the occurrence of a Control Event.

### **5.4 Issue or transfer of shares on exercise**

Following exercise of an Option by a Participant, the Company must, within such time as the Board determines, allot and issue or procure the transfer to the Participant of the number of Shares in respect of which the Option has been exercised, credited as fully paid.

### **5.5 Shares rank equally**

Subject to the satisfaction of any applicable Disposal Restrictions, Shares allotted and issued under the Plan must rank equally in all respects with all other Shares from the date of allotment and issue, including:

- (a) voting rights; and
- (b) entitlements to participate in:
  - (i) distributions and dividends; and
  - (ii) future rights issues and bonus issues,

where the record date for determining entitlements falls on or after the date of allotment and issue.

### **5.6 Quotation**

If the Shares allotted and issued under the Plan are in the same class as Shares which are listed on the ASX, the Company will apply for quotation of the Shares allotted and issued under the Plan within the time required by the Listing Rules after the date of issue.

### **5.7 Financial assistance**

The Company may, but is not obliged to, financially assist a person to pay any Exercise Price for an Option, subject to compliance with the provisions of the Corporations Act and the Listing Rules relating to financial assistance.

## 5.8 Tax

No member of the Group or any adviser to a member of the Group is liable for any tax which may become payable by an Eligible Employee and none of them represent or warrant that any person will gain any taxation advantage by participating in the Plan.

## 5.9 Issue of Shares

The Company must, at the time of inviting an Eligible Employee to participate in the Plan, have reasonable grounds to believe that the Shares that have been or may be issued in any of the circumstances covered by rules 5.9(a) and 5.9(b) will not exceed 5% of the total number of Shares on issue:

- (a) Shares that may be issued under the invitation or offer to participate; and
- (b) Shares issued or that may be issued as a result of invitations or offers to participants made at any time during the previous 3 year period under:
  - (i) an employee incentive scheme or like scheme of the Company where offers were made in reliance on ASIC Class Order 14/1000 or an individual instrument made by ASIC in terms similar to that class order; or
  - (ii) an employee incentive scheme or employee share scheme of the Company where the offers were covered by ASIC Class Order CO 03/184 or an individual instrument made by ASIC in terms similar to that class order.

## 6. Cashless Exercise Facility

- (a) Subject to the Shares of the Company being quoted on the ASX and clause 6(d), if a Participant wishes to exercise some or all of this Options it may elect by notice in such form and manner as the Board may prescribe to pay the Exercise Price by using the cashless exercise facility provided for under this clause (**Cashless Exercise Facility**).
- (b) The Cashless Exercise Facility entitles a Participant to set-off the Exercise Price against the number of Shares which the Participant is entitled to receive on the exercise of the Participant's Options. By using the Cashless Exercise Facility, the Participant will receive the Shares to the value of the surplus after the Exercise Price has been set-off.
- (c) If the Participant elects to use the Cashless Exercise Facility, the Participant will (instead of paying the Exercise Price) only be issued that number of Shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$S = NO \times [(MV - EP) \div MV]$$

where:

**S** is the number of Shares to be issued on the exercise of the Options;

**NO** equals the number of Options being exercised;

**MV** is the market value of Shares (calculated using the volume weighted average price at which Shares were traded on the ASX over the 5 trading days immediately prior to the date of exercise; and

**EP** equals the Exercise Price.

- (d) If the difference between the Exercise Price otherwise payable for the Options and the then market value of the Shares at the time of exercise (calculated in accordance with clause 6(c)) is zero or negative, then a Participant will not be entitled to use the Cashless Exercise Facility.

## **7. Cessation of appointment/employment and lapsing of options**

### **7.1 Resignation and dismissal for cause or poor performance**

- (a) Subject to rule 7.1(b), if a Participant ceases to be appointed as director or employed by any member of the Group due to his or her resignation, dismissal for cause or poor performance or in any other circumstances determined by the Board all Options granted to that Participant will lapse as at the date of cessation, unless the Board determines otherwise.
- (b) The Board in its absolute discretion may determine that rule 7.1(a) will not apply to a Participant in which case rule 7.2 will apply to that Participant.

### **7.2 Cessation for any other reason**

If a Participant ceases to be appointed or employed by any member of the Group for any reason other than those contemplated by rule 7.1 where determined by the Board in accordance with rule 7.1(b):

- (a) all Options granted to that Participant as at the date of cessation which are Vested Options may be exercised by that Participant on the earlier of the expiry date of the Vested Options and the 90 day period following the date of cessation of appointment or employment (and the Exercise Period is amended accordingly), after which those Vested Options will lapse; and
- (b) in respect of all other Options granted to that Participant the Board may:
  - (i) accelerate the vesting of the Participant's Options, subject to any Corporations Act and Listing Rules requirements; and/or
  - (ii) pro rata the Participant's Options at cessation to reflect the portion of the vesting period for which the Participant has been employed,

such Options may be exercised by that Participant on the earlier of the end of the original Exercise Period for the Options and the 90 day period following the date of cessation of appointment or employment (and the Exercise Period is amended accordingly), after which those Options will lapse.

### **7.3 Liquidation**

On Liquidation, all unexercised Options will lapse.



## **7.4 Fraud**

If, in the opinion of the Board, a Participant (or, where a Participant is a person nominated by an Eligible Employee, the executive or director who nominated the Participant) has acted fraudulently or dishonestly, the Board may determine that any Option granted to that Participant should lapse, and the Option will lapse accordingly.

## **7.5 Forfeiture conditions**

An Option will lapse on the occurrence of a Forfeiture Condition relating to that Option, unless the Board determines otherwise.

## **7.6 End of Exercise Period**

If an Option has not lapsed earlier in accordance with this rule 7, it will lapse at the end of the Exercise Period.

# **8. Changes in circumstances**

## **8.1 Reconstruction**

In the event of any reconstruction (including consolidation, subdivision, reduction, capital return, buy back or cancellation) of the share capital of the Company, the number of Options to which each Participant is entitled and/or the Exercise Price of those Options must be reconstructed in accordance with the Listing Rules. Options must be reconstructed in a manner which will not result in any additional benefits being conferred on Participants which are not conferred on other shareholders of the Company.

## **8.2 Participation in new issues**

Subject to the Listing Rules, a Participant is only entitled to participate (in respect of Options granted under the Plan) in a new issue of Shares to existing shareholders generally if the Participant has validly exercised his or her Options within the relevant Exercise Period and become a Shareholder prior to the relevant record date, and is then only entitled to participate in relation to Shares of which the Participant is the registered holder.

## **8.3 Adjustment to exercise price - rights issues**

Subject to the Listing Rules, if there is a Pro Rata Issue (except a Bonus Issue) to the holders of Shares, the Exercise Price of an Option will be reduced according to the following formula:

$$O' = O - \frac{E[P - (S + D)]}{N+1}$$

where:

- O' = the Exercise Price immediately following the adjustment;
- O = the Exercise Price immediately prior to the adjustment;
- E = the number of Shares into which one Option is exercisable;

- P = the average market price per Share (weighted by reference to volume) during the 5 trading days ending on the day before the ex rights date or ex entitlements date;
- S = the subscription price for a Share under the Pro Rata Issue;
- D = any dividend due but not yet paid on a Share (except any Share to be issued under the Pro Rata Issue); and
- N = the number of Shares with rights or entitlements that must be held to receive a right to one new Share.

#### **8.4 Adjustment to number of underlying securities - bonus issues**

Subject to the Listing Rules, if there is a Bonus Issue to the holders of Shares, the number of Shares over which an Option is exercisable will be increased by the number of Shares which the holder of the Option would have received if the Option had been exercised before the record date for the Bonus Issue.

### **9. Amendment**

Subject to the Listing Rules, these rules may be amended or supplemented by resolution of the Board. Unless the resolution of the Board expressly states otherwise, any amendment or supplement to these rules will not apply to any Options granted under these rules which have not yet been exercised.

## **10. Powers of the Board**

### **10.1 Powers of the Board**

The Plan will be managed by the Board, which will have power to:

- (a) determine appropriate procedures for the administration of the Plan consistent with these rules;
- (b) resolve conclusively all questions of fact or interpretation arising in connection with the Plan;
- (c) determine matters falling for determination under these rules in its discretion having regard to the interests of and for the benefit of the Company;
- (d) exercise the discretions conferred on it by these rules or which may otherwise be required in relation to the Plan; and
- (e) delegate to any one or more persons (for such period and on such conditions as it may determine) the exercise of any of its powers or discretions arising under the Plan.

### **10.2 Indemnification**

The Company must indemnify, and keep indemnified, to the full extent permitted by law, each person who is or has been a director or alternate director of the Company against all proceedings, actions, claims, demands, losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses which may be made, brought against, suffered or incurred by the person arising directly or indirectly out of or in connection with the administration of the Plan.

### **10.3 Termination or suspension of Plan**

The Board may terminate or suspend the operation of the Plan at any time.

### **10.4 Resolution to terminate, suspend, supplement or amend**

In passing a resolution to terminate or suspend the operation of the Plan or to supplement or amend these rules, the Board must consider and endeavour to ensure that there is fair and equitable treatment of all Participants.

## **11. Powers of the administrator**

### **11.1 Appointment of administrator**

The Board may appoint an Administrator and may determine the terms and conditions of the Administrator's appointment. The Board may remove the Administrator.

### **11.2 Role of administrator**

The Administrator must administer the Plan in accordance with these rules and any procedures determined by the Board and agreed to as between the Board and the Administrator.

## **12. Contracts of employment and other employment rights**

### **12.1 Discretion of board**

It is a condition of these rules that the Plan may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the Board and that no compensation under any employment contract will arise as a result.

### **12.2 No right to grant of options**

Participation in the Plan does not confer on any Eligible Employee any right to a grant of Options.

### **12.3 Calculation of employee benefits**

The value of the Options do not increase a Participant's income for the purpose of calculating any employee benefits.

### **12.4 No right to future employment etc.**

Participation in the Plan does not confer on any Participant any right to future employment and does not affect any rights which the Company may have to terminate the employment of any Participant.

### **12.5 Acknowledgment by Participant**

It is acknowledged and accepted by each Participant that the terms of the Plan do not form part of the terms and conditions of the Participant's employment contract, nor do the terms of the Plan constitute a contract or arrangement (including any related condition or collateral arrangement) in relation to the Participant's employment contract.

### **13. Connection with other plans**

Unless the Board otherwise determines, participation in the Plan does not affect, and is not affected by, participation in any other incentive or other plan operated by the Company unless the terms of that other plan provide otherwise.

### **14. Notices**

Any notice or direction given under these rules is validly given if it is handed to the person concerned or sent by ordinary prepaid post to the person's last known address or given in any reasonable manner which the Board from time to time determines.

### **15. General**

Notwithstanding any rule, Options may not be granted and Shares may not be allotted and issued, acquired, transferred or otherwise dealt with under the Plan if to do so would contravene the Corporations Act, the Listing Rules, or any other applicable laws.

### **16. Plan costs**

#### **16.1 Plan Costs**

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the Company must pay all costs, charges and expenses relating to the establishment and operation of the Plan, including all costs incurred in or associated with an allotment, issue or acquisition of Shares for the purposes of enabling Participants to exercise Options granted to them under the Plan.

#### **16.2 Reimbursement**

The Company and any Associated Body Corporate of the Company may provide money to the trustee of any trust or any other person to enable them to acquire Shares to be held for the purposes of the Plan, or enter into any guarantee or indemnity for those purposes, to the extent permitted by the Corporations Act. In addition, the Company may require any Associated Body Corporate to enter into any other agreement or arrangement as it considers necessary to oblige that Associated Body Corporate to reimburse the Company for any amounts paid by the Company in connection with this Plan, directly or indirectly, in relation to any employee or director of that Associated Body Corporate.

### **17. Overseas Eligible Employees**

The Company at the Board's discretion may:

- (a) grant options to Eligible Employees and Participants who are resident outside of Australia; and
- (b) make regulations for the operation of the Plan which are not inconsistent with these rules to apply to Eligible Employees and Participants who are resident outside of Australia.

### **18. Governing law**

The laws of Western Australia govern these rules.

## 19. Definitions and interpretation

### 19.1 Definitions

In this document, unless the context requires otherwise:

**Accounting Standards** means the Australian Accounting Standards from time to time and if and to the extent that any matter is not covered by the Australian Accounting Standards means generally accepted accounting principles applied from time to time in Australia for a business similar to the Business.

**Administrator** means the person (if any) selected by the Board to carry out the day to day administration of the Plan as contemplated by rule 11.1.

**Application Form** means the form that the Board determines is to be used by an Eligible Employee to apply for Options under the Plan.

**Associated Body Corporate** of the Company means each:

- (a) related body corporate of the Company, within the meaning of section 50 of the Corporations Act;
- (b) body corporate that has voting power in the Company of not less than 20%; or
- (c) body corporate in which the Company has voting power of not less than 20%,

where “voting power” has the meaning in section 610 of the Corporations Act.

**ASIC** means Australia Securities and Investments Commission.

**ASX** means Australian Securities Exchange Limited (ACN 008 624 691) or the Australian Securities Exchange as the context requires.

**Board** means the board of directors of the Company or a committee appointed by the board of directors of the Company.

**Bonus Issue** means a Pro Rata Issue of Shares to holders of Shares for which no consideration is payable by them.

**Cashless Exercise Facility** has the meaning given to that term in clause 6.

**Certificate** means, in relation to a Participant, the certificate or statement (in a form approved by the Board) issued to the Participant which discloses the number of Options entered in the register of Option holders in the name of the Participant.

**Company** means Cannon Resources Limited (ABN 32 646 149 902).

**Constitution** means the constitution of the Company.

**Contractor** means a consultant or contractor that has entered into a contract which requires or might reasonably be expected to require the consultant or contractor to provide the pro-rata equivalent of 40% or more of a comparable full-time position with a member of the Group:

- (a) directly in their individual capacity; or

- (b) through a company (e.g. a small family owned company or a corporate trustee of a family trust) where the individual who performs the work under or in relation to the contract is a director of the company or the spouse of a director of that company.

**Control** of an entity means having the right:

- (a) to vote 50% (or more) of the votes that can be cast on the election or removal of the entity's directors;
- (b) to appoint or remove directors who possess 50% (or more) of the votes exercisable by all directors of the entity; or
- (c) to 50% (or more) of the profits or distributions of the entity or of its net liquidation proceeds.

For this definition, if the entity does not have a board of directors, 'director' means a member of the entity's governing body with a role similar to a board of directors.

**Control Event** means any of the following:

- (a) any event that occurs which causes a change in Control of the Company; or
- (b) any other event which the Board reasonably considers should be regarded as a Control Event; and
- (c) which does not constitute a Total Control Event.

**Corporations Act** means *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*.

**Disposal Restrictions** means, in relation to an Option, the restrictions (if any) determined by the Board that are required to be satisfied before a Share acquired as a result of the exercise of the Option by the Participant can be sold, transferred or otherwise dealt with by a Participant.

**Eligible Employee** means a person who is, in relation to a member of the Group:

- (a) a full-time or part-time employee, including an executive director;
- (b) a non-executive director;
- (c) a Contractor;
- (d) a casual employee where they are, or might reasonably be expected to be, engaged to work the pro-rata equivalent of 40% or more of a comparable full-time position; or
- (e) a prospective participant, being a person to whom an invitation is made under rule 3.1 but who can only accept that invitation if an arrangement has been entered into that will result in the person becoming covered by one of paragraphs (a) to (d) above.

**Exercise Conditions** means, in relation to an Option, the period of time, performance hurdles and other conditions (if any) determined by the Board that are required to be satisfied before the Option can be exercised.

**Exercise Period** means, in relation to an Option, the period in which the Option may be exercised specified by the Board under rule 3.2, subject to any variation under rules 5.3 and 6.

**Exercise Price** means the amount that is specified by the Board under rule 3.2, subject to any adjustment under rule 8.3.

**Forfeiture Conditions** means, in relation to an Option, the conditions (if any) determined by the Board that will result in the Option lapsing if satisfied.

**Group** means the Company and each Associated Body Corporate of the Company.

**Liquidation** means the passing of a resolution for voluntary winding up, or the making of an order for the compulsory winding up of the Company.

**Listing Rules** means the listing rules (as defined in the Corporations Act) made or adopted by the ASX.

**Option** means a right to subscribe for or acquire a Share, subject to any adjustment under rule 8.4.

**Participant** means an Eligible Employee who has been invited to participate in the Plan and any other person who is nominated by that Eligible Employee under rule 3.3 and who is determined by the Board to be a Participant for the purposes of the Plan.

**Plan** means the Cannon Resources Limited Employee Share Option Plan established and operated in accordance with these rules.

**Pro Rata Issue** means an issue which has been offered to all holders of Shares on a pro rata basis.

**Share** means a fully paid ordinary share in the capital of the Company.

**Total Control** of an entity means where a person owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company.

**Total Control Event** means where an offer is made by a person for the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company (or any part as is not at the time owned by the offeror or any person acting in concert with the offeror) and after announcement of the offer the offeror (being a person who did not Control the Company prior to the offer) acquires Total Control of the Company.

**Vested Option** means an Option in respect of which all Exercise Conditions have been met or which are otherwise exercisable (including as contemplated by rules 5.3 and 6).

## 19.2 Interpretation

In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) a reference to any thing (including an amount or a provision of this document) is a reference to the whole and each part of it;
- (b) the singular includes the plural, and vice versa;
- (c) the word 'person' includes an individual, a body corporate, a firm, an unincorporated body, a society, an association and an authority;

- (d) a reference to a particular person includes their legal personal representatives, administrators, successors, substitutes and permitted assigns;
- (e) a reference to 'costs' includes charges, expenses and legal costs;
- (f) a reference to a "rule" or "these rules" is to the rule or these rules (as the case may be) as amended or replaced;
- (g) a reference to the Constitution includes a reference to any provision having substantially the same effect which is substituted for or replaces the Constitution;
- (h) where a Participant is a director of any member of the Group, but is not also an employee of any member of the Group, a reference to the employment with any member of the Group of that Participant is a reference to that Participant holding office as a director of any member of the Group;
- (i) where a Participant is a person nominated by an Eligible Employee, a reference to the employment with any member of the Group of that Participant is a reference to the employment with any member of the Group of that Eligible Employee;
- (j) a Participant does not cease to be employed by any member of the Group where the Participant ceases to be employed by one member of the Group but commences employment with another member of the Group provided that the new employment commences within 60 days from the date of termination or such other period as the Board may determine by notice in writing;
- (k) a reference to 'law' means statute law, common law and equitable principles;
- (l) a reference to a particular law includes that law and any subordinate legislation (such as regulations) under it, in each case as amended, replaced, re-enacted or consolidated;
- (m) a reference to an accounting term is to that term as it is used in the Accounting Standards;
- (n) a reference to 'dollars', '\$' or 'A\$' is to the lawful currency of Australia;
- (o) a time means that time in Melbourne, Australia;
- (p) a reference to a day or a month means a calendar day or calendar month;
- (q) if a period of time starts from a given day (or event), it is to be calculated exclusive of that day (or the day the event occurs);
- (r) the masculine includes the feminine, and vice versa;
- (s) the meaning of any general language is not restricted by any accompanying example and the words 'includes', 'including' 'such as' or 'for example' (or similar phrases) are not words of limitation; and
- (t) headings in this document are for convenience only and do not affect its meaning.

If (but for this rule) a provision of this document would be illegal, void or unenforceable or contravene the law, this document is to be interpreted as if the provision was omitted.