



# Interim Report

Half-year ended 31 December 2023

Central Petroleum Limited  
ABN 72 083 254 308

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### Forward-looking statements

This document contains forward-looking statements, including (without limitation) statements of current intention, opinion, predictions and expectations regarding Central's present and future operations, possible future events and future financial prospects. Such statements are not statements of fact, are not certain and are susceptible to change and may be affected by a variety of known and unknown risks, variables and changes in underlying assumptions or strategy that could cause Central's actual results or performance to differ materially from the results or performance expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no certainty of outcome in relation to the matters to which the statements relate. Central makes no representation, assurance or guarantee as to the accuracy or likelihood of fulfilment of any forward-looking statement (whether express or implied) or any outcomes expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements in this document reflect expectations held at the date of this document. Except as required by applicable law or the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) Listing Rules, Central disclaims any obligation or undertaking to publicly update any forward-looking statements.

## CHAIR'S LETTER

Dear Shareholders,

At the halfway point of the 2024 financial year and with the strategic review concluded, we have a clearer view of where Central stands in the gas market and we have a renewed focus on shareholder value.

A key outcome from the strategic review was the sale of our 50% interest in the Range gas project in Queensland. Whilst the Range project held potential, realising that potential was going to require a very significant investment to develop the field, with any incoming revenues at least several years away. Instead, the \$12.5 million in sale proceeds have reduced our net debt to just \$4.4 million at 31 December, leaving us with a much strengthened balance sheet.

During the strategic review process, we fielded interest from a number of parties in both our Amadeus Basin production assets and highly prospective sub-salt exploration prospects. Although we did not receive a sufficiently attractive offer to progress a transaction, the recently announced Mereenie transaction, which will see New Zealand Oil & Gas and Horizon Oil purchase Macquarie's 50% interest in the Mereenie gas field, confirms the value we see in our stakes in the Mereenie, Palm Valley and Dingo fields.

We will continue our focus on extracting maximum value and cash flow from our proven production assets through cost and production efficiencies, with targeted investment in production capacity to meet market demand.

Our production assets continued to provide a steady income over the first six months of the year. Underlying EBITDAX, sales volumes and revenues were all up from the corresponding 2023 half year, and could have been higher if not for unscheduled disruptions to the Northern Gas Pipeline for several weeks during this half year. We've secured three new gas sale agreements since September, confirming that there is strong demand for gas at prices which exceed our historical portfolio average.

Our aim is to maximise our cash flow from operations and pay off debt, with a view to being able to consider paying a dividend to shareholders when the company is in a position to do so. To this end, the stability of northern gas markets and pipeline infrastructure will be key to a sustainable cash flow and to support ongoing investment in production capacity.

While there is value in our producing fields, a large upside potential lies within our exploration acreage. The potential helium, hydrogen and natural gas resources in the sub-salt prospects are significant, and we are advancing discussions with interested parties to re-start activity in these areas on a promoted basis.

Regarding recent Board changes, I thank Troy Harry for his contribution to the Board as a Director over the last 18 months and although he has now stepped back from the Board, we welcome his ongoing support as our largest shareholder.

We enter the second half of the year in a better position than we started, with new gas sales agreements locked in, a stronger balance sheet, potential for a new helium business and renewed interest in our exploration prospects.

We look forward to sharing our progress with you as we pursue our strategies over coming months.

Yours faithfully



**Mick McCormack**  
Chair  
8 March 2024

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

31 December 2023

The Directors present their report on the consolidated entity consisting of Central Petroleum Limited and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the half-year ended 31 December 2023.

### Directors

The names of the Directors of the Company in office during the half-year are:

Mr Michael (Mick) McCormack	Independent Non-executive Chair
Mr Leon Devaney	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer
Mr Stephen Gardiner	Independent Non-executive Director
Mr Troy Harry	Independent Non-executive Director ( <i>Resigned 5 February 2024</i> )
Ms Katherine Hirschfeld AM	Independent Non-executive Director
Dr Agu Kantsler	Independent Non-executive Director

Directors have held office for the period and until the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

### Operating highlights

The principal continuing activities of the consolidated entity ("the Group") during the period were the exploration, development, production, processing and marketing of hydrocarbons.

#### Highlights for the half-year reporting period and up to the date of this report

- The Group completed the sale of its interests in the Range gas project, recording a profit of \$13.8 million.
- Underlying EBITDAX of \$8.0 million up from \$5.3 million for the previous corresponding period.
- Closing cash balance of \$21.4 million at 31 December 2023 and net debt of \$4.4 million.
- New gas supply agreements were entered into for the supply of gas to:
  - Incitec Pivot Fertilisers Limited in 2024 (0.87 PJ (Central's share))
  - South32 at Mount Isa in 2025 (0.36 PJ (Central's share)); and
  - Arafura's Nolans rare earth project for up to 5 years from 2026 (up to 6.85 PJ (Central's share)).
- The Group extended the availability period of its undrawn \$5 million debt facility until 30 September 2024.

### Operating and Financial Review

#### KEY FINANCIAL AND OPERATING DATA

The Group had an operating profit after income tax for the half year to 31 December 2023 of \$13.9 million (Dec 2022: loss of \$11.2 million).

The above result was after expensing exploration costs of \$2.5 million (Dec 2022: \$10.9 million). The Group's policy is to expense all exploration costs as incurred. To assist understanding of the Group's underlying financial performance excluding exploration costs, earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation, exploration costs and profit on disposal of subsidiaries (Underlying EBITDAX) is reported below.

The table overleaf shows key metrics for the Group:

Operating and financial Review *continued*)

	Half year to		Change from Half Year ending 31 December 2022	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022		%
Net Sales Volumes				
- Natural Gas (TJ)	2,344	2,131	213	10%
- Oil & Condensate (Bbls)	15,643	16,538	(895)	(5%)
Sales Revenue (AUD \$ '000)	19,934	16,653	3,281	20%
Gross Profit <sup>1</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	6,420	4,377	2,043	47%
Underlying EBITDAX <sup>2</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	8,048	5,272	2,776	53%
Underlying EBITDA <sup>3</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	5,585	(5,631)	11,216	199%
Underlying EBIT <sup>4</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	2,002	(9,260)	11,262	122%
Underlying Profit/(Loss) after tax <sup>5</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	64	(11,243)	11,307	101%
Statutory Profit/(Loss) after tax (AUD \$ '000)	13,859	(11,243)	25,102	223%
Net Cash Outflow from Operations <sup>6</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	(114)	(4,465)	4,351	97%
Capital expenditure <sup>7</sup> (AUD \$ '000)	1,516	9,075	(7,559)	(83%)

## Notes:

1. Refer Note 1 regarding restatement of prior year expenses by function.
2. Underlying EBITDAX is Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment, Exploration costs and profit on disposal of interests in subsidiaries (refer reconciliation below).
3. Underlying EBITDA is Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment and profit on disposal of interests in subsidiaries.
4. Underlying EBIT is Earnings before Interest, Taxation and profit on disposal of interests in subsidiaries.
5. Underlying loss after tax is statutory loss after tax before profit on disposal of interests in subsidiaries.
6. Cashflow from Operations includes cash outflows associated with exploration activities.
7. Capital expenditure on tangible assets.

Underlying EBITDAX, underlying EBITDA and underlying EBIT are non-IFRS measures that are presented to provide an understanding of the underlying performance of the Group. The non-IFRS information is not subject to audit review, however the numbers have been extracted from the financial statements which have been subject to review by the Group's auditor. A reconciliation to profit before tax is provided on page 5.

**EBITDAX**

Underlying EBITDAX for the six months to December 2023 was \$8.0 million, up from \$5.3 million in the corresponding 2022 half year reflecting higher revenue and gross profit.

Underlying EBITDAX is earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation, impairment, exploration and profit on disposal of interests in subsidiaries. Underlying EBITDAX is used by management as an indicative measure of underlying operating profit from operations as it excludes non-cash items, the costs of finance and expensed exploration costs and is reconciled to statutory profit below.

It should be noted however, that Underlying EBITDAX is only an indicative measure of underlying cash profit from operations. There are other significant non-cash items included in underlying EBITDAX, such as share based payments (Dec 2023: \$462,000, Dec 2022: \$438,000). Revenues recognised may also not reflect actual cash receipts, as some gas revenues relate to presold gas for which cash was received in previous periods and amounts received under take-or-pay gas contracts are not recognised as revenue until the gas is taken or forfeited by the customer.

Operating and Financial Review (*continued*)

## Reconciliation of statutory profit before tax to underlying EBITDAX

	Six months ending:	
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
	\$'000	\$'000
Statutory profit / (loss) before tax	13,859	(11,243)
Profit on disposal of subsidiary	(13,795)	–
<b>Underlying profit / (loss) before tax</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>(11,243)</b>
Net finance costs and income from financial assets	1,938	1,983
<b>Underlying EBIT</b>	<b>2,002</b>	<b>(9,260)</b>
Depreciation and amortisation, including impairment	3,583	3,629
<b>Underlying EBITDA</b>	<b>5,585</b>	<b>(5,631)</b>
Exploration expenses	2,463	10,903
<b>Underlying EBITDAX</b>	<b>8,048</b>	<b>5,272</b>

## Revenue

The Group recorded \$19.9 million of operating revenue for the half year, 20% higher than the December 2022 half. Revenues include \$2.3 million released from deferred take-or-pay balances. Revenue from delivered gas was up 7% with higher volumes partly offset by lower average pricing. Oil revenue was down 5%, reflecting lower volumes. Realised oil prices were consistent with the December 2022 half year.

## Gross Profit

A Gross Profit of \$6.4 million was recorded, 47% higher than the December 2022 half year, reflecting the higher revenues. Unit costs of sale, inclusive of non-cash depreciation and amortisation, were \$5.55/GJe up 1.6% compared to the corresponding FY2023 first half.

## Other Expenses

Net general and administrative costs (including share based benefits) for the half year were \$2.0 million compared to \$2.6 million for the prior corresponding period which included additional costs associated with the recently concluded strategic review.

## Net Assets/Liabilities

At 31 December 2023 the Group had a net asset position of \$33.7 million compared to \$19.4 million at 30 June 2023.

Included in liabilities on the Group's balance sheet are amounts relating to take-or-pay receipts recognised as deferred revenue amounting to \$12.0 million (June 2023: \$15.2 million). These liabilities will be recognised as revenue as gas is supplied to the customer or forfeited by the customer under take-or-pay contracts and therefore do not represent a cash liability to the Group.

During the half year, 0.37 PJ of previously over-lifted gas was repaid to joint venture partners and 0.44 PJ of pre-sold gas was delivered. All pre-sold gas under the final contract year of the pre-sale agreement had been delivered by 31 December 2023.

## Operating and Financial Review (*continued*)

### Debt

The Group repaid \$2.3 million of loan principal during the period. Underlying EBITDAX of \$8.0 million covered regular service of loan facilities of \$3.7 million (2.2 times cover) during the half year.

Net debt including lease liabilities was \$4.4 million at 31 December 2023, down from \$14.3 million at 30 June 2023, reflecting cash inflows for the period including proceeds from the sale of the Group's interest in the Range Gas project.

The balance of the debt facility at 31 December 2023 was \$25.8 million. Principal repayments are currently \$1.2 million per quarter. Central continually reviews its forward capital requirements and has amended the undrawn portion of its bank loan facility to retain additional working capital flexibility:

- The availability period during which the remaining \$5 million under tranche 1 can be drawn has been extended to 30 September 2024;
- 25% of any future amounts drawn from tranche 1 are to be repaid over the period from drawdown to the facility maturity date, 30 September 2025; and
- The \$6 million previously available under tranche 2 was not available after 31 December 2023.

The loan facility is due to expire on 30 September 2025.

### Net cashflow from operations

Net cashflow outflow from operations was \$0.1 million compared to \$4.5 million for the December 2022 half.

The improved cash flow reflects exploration expenditure which was \$4.1 million lower than the first half of FY2023.

## SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

There were no MTI / LTI's during the period. The Company's TRIFR (Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate) at the end of the half year was zero, reflecting the excellent outcome of no recordable injuries for more than 15 months.

## PRODUCTION

### Mereenie Oil and Gas Field (OL4 and OL5) – Northern Territory

*(CTP 25% interest [Operator], Macquarie Mereenie Pty Ltd 50%, NZOG Mereenie Pty Ltd 17.5%, Cue Mereenie Pty Ltd 7.5%)*

During the half-year:

- Gas sales averaged 24.3 TJ/d over the half-year (100% JV), down from 27.1TJ/d for the preceding June half year due to normal field decline and NGP outages.
- Oil sales averaged 340 barrels of oil per day over the half-year (100% JV).
- Field capacity (sales gas) was approximately 27 TJ/d at 31 December.

Planning is continuing for the drilling of two new production wells in the next 12 months, subject to joint venture approval.

### Palm Valley Gas Field (OL3) – Northern Territory

*(CTP 50% Interest [Operator], NZOG Palm Valley Pty Ltd 35%, Cue Palm Valley Pty Ltd 15%)*

Gas production averaged 9.9 TJ/d over the six months to December 2023 (100% JV), down 17% from 11.9 TJ/d for the preceding six months, due to natural field decline.

Sales capacity was approximately 9.3 TJ/d (100% JV) at the end of the period.

## Operating and Financial Review (*continued*)

### Dingo Gas Field (L7) and Dingo Pipeline (PL30) – Northern Territory

(CTP 50% Interest [Operator], NZOG Dingo Pty Ltd 35%, Cue Dingo Pty Ltd 15%)

The Dingo field supplies gas to the Owen Springs Power Station, with gas sales averaging 3.5 TJ/d over the half-year (100% JV), an increase of 17% from the 3.0 T/day sold in the preceding six months and 3% lower than the corresponding 2022 half year. The balance of the contracted volume of 4.4 TJ/d is subject to take-or-pay provisions and is paid annually to Central in January for the preceding year. A total of \$2.3 million of revenue was recognised during the period from the release of deferred take-or-pay balances which have been forfeited by the customer.

## APPRAISAL / DEVELOPMENT

### Range Gas Project (ATP2031) - Queensland

In November, Central sold its 50% interest in the Range CSG project (ATP 2031) in Queensland's Surat Basin to a wholly owned subsidiary of Senex Energy Pty Ltd for \$12.5 million. Development of the Range Project would have required significant capital investment, and its sale releases capital for Central to pursue other strategic options. Central has recognised a gain on sale of \$13.8 million from the transaction.

## EXPLORATION

### Amadeus Basin Exploration Activity

The Amadeus Basin in the Northern Territory is an extensive underexplored basin with five working hydrocarbon systems demonstrated by proven oil and gas production. Exploration has also identified rare gases such as helium and naturally-occurring hydrogen within the basin. Central has identified several high reward exploration targets throughout the basin at various stages of maturity.

Central intends to progress exploration activity, funded on a promoted basis by new partners where possible.

#### Sub-salt exploration

#### Dukas (EP112), Jacko Bore (Mt Kitty) (EP125) and Mahler (EP82), operated by Santos.

CTP – 45% interest (EP112); 30% interest (EP125); 60% interest (EP82)

Planning for the drilling of a sub-salt exploration well in each of the three permits targeting helium, naturally occurring hydrogen and hydrocarbons has been suspended following termination of farmout arrangements. Central is proceeding to have its ownership interests returned to the pre-farmout interests (as listed above).

Central and Santos (Operator) are considering options for progressing exploration in the permits, including extensions to current permit terms. Central is also in active discussions with parties to accelerate sub-salt exploration drilling through a promote-based farm-out.

#### Zevon (EP115) (CTP 100%)

A short 2D seismic test line with several experimental parameters was acquired at EP115 in November to further define the Zevon lead and to assist with the planning of future seismic campaigns. The acquired data is currently being processed in the USA and will ultimately be used in the identification of exploration drilling locations.

#### Other exploration

In addition to the sub-salt targets, Central has a number of other high reward exploration targets which are located near existing production areas. This includes the Mamlambo oil prospect which is a promising structure defined on an existing seismic grid, only 8km from the suspended Surprise oil field.

Other gas prospects lie within existing producing fields. The Mereenie Sandstones, which sit above the deeper producing Pacoota Sandstones at Mereenie have flowed gas during drilling activities and could significantly increase the production capacity and economic life of the Mereenie field.

Deeper targets also lie beneath the Palm Valley and Dingo gas fields and remain attractive exploration prospects.



## Operating and Financial Review (*continued*)

### COMMERCIAL

#### New Gas Sales Agreements

Gas markets remain dynamic, with spot gas prices on Australia's east coast softening in 2023 from the highs experienced in 2022. Central continues to see strong interest in fixed-term gas contracts for supply into northern and eastern Australian markets. Two new fixed-term gas supply agreements (GSAs) were agreed during the period:

- The existing two year GSA with South32 Cannington Pty Ltd was extended by a further 12 months. An additional 1.46 PJ of gas will be supplied to South32 at Mount Isa in 2025 (Central share: 0.36 PJ).
- Central and its joint venturers at the Palm Valley field entered into a GSA for the supply of 1.74 PJ of gas to Incitec Pivot Fertilisers Limited in 2024 (Central share 0.87 PJ).

An additional new GSA was secured after the end of the reporting period to supply up to 27.4 PJ of gas to Arafura's Nolan's rare earth project for up to five years from 2026 (Central share 6.85 PJ), subject to project approvals.

The new GSAs are for firm supply with take-or-pay provisions and fixed prices which exceed Central's historic portfolio average price.

#### Helium Recovery Unit

Central and its Mereenie joint venturers have entered into a MOU with Twin Bridges LLC (Twin Bridges), a private US company specialising in helium appraisal and production, to work towards a final investment decision (FID) for construction of a helium recovery unit (HRU) at Mereenie.

It is proposed that the HRU will be sized to process up to 30 TJ/d of Mereenie gas, which typically contains circa 0.2% helium, extracting up to 60,000 scfd of helium using proven membrane technology.

Preliminary technical and market reviews have progressed, with project economics leveraging the brownfield economics afforded by the existing gas stream and infrastructure at Mereenie.

Work is underway to achieve the necessary conceptual, design, engineering, commercial and financial milestones required to reach FID for the construction of the HRU at Mereenie.

## Events since the end of the Half Year

In February 2024, Central announced the extension of its available loan facility, with \$5 million available to be drawn by 30 September 2024 for development activities and working capital.

Central executed a new gas sale agreement in February 2024 to supply up to 6.85 PJ of gas (Central share) to Arafura's Nolan's rare earth project for up to five years from 2026, subject to certain conditions precedent, including project approvals.

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since 31 December 2023 that will affect the Group's operations, results or state of affairs.

## Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 9.

## Rounding of amounts

The company is of a kind referred to ASIC Legislative Instrument 2016/191, relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the directors' report and financial report. Amounts in the directors' report and financial report have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with the instrument.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors.



**Michael (Mick) McCormack**  
Chair  
Brisbane  
8 March 2024

## AUDITOR'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

31 December 2023



### Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the review of Central Petroleum Limited for the half-year ended 31 December 2023, 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.

This declaration is in respect of Central Petroleum Limited and the entities it controlled during the period.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marcus Goddard', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Marcus Goddard  
Partner  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Brisbane  
8 March 2024

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## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022* \$'000
Revenue from contracts with customers - sale of hydrocarbons	4(a)	19,934	16,653
Cost of sales		<u>(13,514)</u>	<u>(12,276)</u>
Gross profit		6,420	4,377
Other income	5	14,167	706
Exploration expenditure	6 (a)	(2,463)	(11,301)
General and administrative expenses net of recoveries		(1,965)	(2,574)
Finance costs		<u>(2,300)</u>	<u>(2,451)</u>
Profit/(loss) before income tax		13,859	(11,243)
Income tax expense		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Profit/(loss) for the half-year		13,859	(11,243)
Other comprehensive profit/(loss) for the half-year, net of tax		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total comprehensive profit/(loss) for the half-year		<u>13,859</u>	<u>(11,243)</u>
<b>Total comprehensive profit/(loss) attributable to members of the parent entity</b>		<u>13,859</u>	<u>(11,243)</u>
		<b>2023 cents</b>	<b>2022 cents</b>
Basic earnings/(loss) per share		1.88	(1.54)
Diluted earnings/(loss) per share		1.84	(1.54)

\*Refer Note 1 regarding restatement of HY2022 comparatives as a result of changing the presentation of certain expenses from by nature to by function.

*The above Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	21,426	13,826
Trade and other receivables	8	7,065	6,675
Inventories		3,628	3,550
Total current assets		32,119	24,051
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	9	60,227	60,192
Right-of-use assets	11(a)(i)	419	551
Exploration assets		7,999	7,999
Other intangible assets		271	332
Other financial assets		2,852	3,053
Goodwill		1,953	1,953
Total non-current assets		73,721	74,080
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>105,840</b>	<b>98,131</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables		2,471	3,009
Deferred revenue	4(b)	1,222	3,536
Borrowings	10(a)	4,416	4,376
Lease liabilities	11(a)(ii)	352	426
Provisions	12	5,099	5,597
Total current liabilities		13,560	16,944
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Deferred revenue	4(b)	10,793	11,632
Borrowings	10(b)	20,944	23,150
Lease liabilities	11(a)(ii)	100	201
Provisions	12	26,738	26,816
Total non-current liabilities		58,575	61,799
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>72,135</b>	<b>78,743</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>33,705</b>	<b>19,388</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity	13	197,776	197,776
Reserves	13	31,891	31,433
Accumulated losses		(195,962)	(209,821)
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>33,705</b>	<b>19,388</b>

The above Consolidated Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

	Attributable to owners of Central Petroleum Limited			
	Contributed Equity	Option Reserve	Accumulated Losses	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Balance at 1 July 2022</b>	<b>197,776</b>	<b>30,615</b>	<b>(201,861)</b>	<b>26,530</b>
Loss for the half-year	-	-	(11,243)	(11,243)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the half-year	-	-	(11,243)	(11,243)
<b>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners</b>				
Share based payments	-	438	-	438
Share issue costs	-	(2)	-	(2)
Total transactions with owners	-	436	-	436
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>197,776</b>	<b>31,051</b>	<b>(213,104)</b>	<b>15,723</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2023</b>	<b>197,776</b>	<b>31,433</b>	<b>(209,821)</b>	<b>19,388</b>
Profit for the half-year	-	-	13,859	13,859
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive profit for the half-year	-	-	13,859	13,859
<b>Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners</b>				
Share based payments	-	462	-	462
Share issue costs	-	(4)	-	(4)
Total transactions with owners	-	458	-	458
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>197,776</b>	<b>31,891</b>	<b>(195,962)</b>	<b>33,705</b>

The above Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from customers		17,699	16,050
Interest received		324	231
Government grants		10	–
Other income		–	238
Interest and borrowing costs		(1,558)	(1,297)
Payments for exploration expenditure		(1,989)	(6,077)
Payments to other suppliers and employees		<u>(14,600)</u>	<u>(13,610)</u>
Net cash outflow from operating activities		<u>(114)</u>	<u>(4,465)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(2,030)	(1,772)
Proceeds from the disposal of subsidiary net of transaction costs and cash disposed	5 (a)	12,158	–
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		2	3
Redemption of security deposits and bonds		278	–
Lodgement of security deposits and bonds		<u>(89)</u>	<u>–</u>
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from investing activities		<u>10,319</u>	<u>(1,769)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Payments for issue of securities		(4)	(2)
Transaction costs related to borrowings		–	(195)
Proceeds from borrowings		–	1,000
Repayment of borrowings		(2,333)	(2,292)
Principal elements of lease payments		<u>(268)</u>	<u>(241)</u>
Net cash outflow from financing activities		<u>(2,605)</u>	<u>(1,730)</u>
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>7,600</b>	<b>(7,964)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the half-year</b>		<b><u>13,826</u></b>	<b><u>21,647</u></b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the half-year</b>		<b><u>21,426</u></b>	<b><u>13,683</u></b>

### Non-Cash Investing and Financing Activities

During the half year, the purchasers of 50% of the Group's interests in the Amadeus Basin producing properties funded \$452,000 of the Group's share of the costs for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment (2022: \$7,332,000). These amounts formed part of the deferred consideration component of the sale proceeds.

*The above Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the half-year ended 31 December 2023

## 1. Basis of Preparation of Half-Year Report

This consolidated interim financial report for the half-year reporting period ended 31 December 2023 has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*. They present reclassified comparative information where required for consistency with the current reporting period's presentation or where otherwise stated. Central Petroleum Limited is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

This consolidated interim financial report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and any public announcements made by Central Petroleum Limited during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

This consolidated financial report is presented in Australian Dollars, which is Central Petroleum Limited's functional and presentation currency.

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year and corresponding interim reporting period unless otherwise stated.

### Presentation Restatement

To ensure comparability, amounts disclosed for the comparative period have been reclassified consistent with the presentation of the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income as presented for the year ended 30 June 2023. Employee benefits and associated costs related to cost of sales or exploration activities had previously been allocated to these items, but unallocated and unrecovered employee benefit costs were separately disclosed. Share based payments and other employee benefits and associated costs, net of recoveries from joint venturers, have now been reclassified to general & administrative expenses. Impairment expenses related to exploration permits have been re-allocated to exploration expense. Depreciation and amortisation expenses have been re-allocated between cost of sales and general and administrative expenses (also reflected in Note 3 Segment Reporting). The impacts of the reclassification for the Group for comparative period are as follows:

HY 2022 Expenses as reported	Reclassified HY Dec 2022 expenses by function			
	HY Dec 2022 as reported \$'000	Allocated to Cost of Sales \$'000	Allocated to Exploration expenditure \$'000	Allocated to General & Administrative \$'000
Cost of sales	(9,331)	(9,331)	—	—
General and administrative costs	(951)	—	—	(951)
Employee benefits and associated costs net of recoveries	(899)	—	—	(899)
Share based payments	(438)	—	—	(438)
Exploration expense	(10,903)	—	(10,903)	—
Impairment expense	(398)	—	(398)	—
Depreciation and amortisation	(3,231)	(2,945)	—	(286)
<b>Total Dec 2022 comparatives as reported in Dec 2023 HY Report</b>		<b>(12,276)</b>	<b>(11,301)</b>	<b>(2,574)</b>

### (a) Going Concern

The interim financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

The Board has considered cash flow forecasts prepared for the next twelve months and believe the Group has sufficient cash flows and access to capital to continue operations as planned.

## 1. Basis of Preparation of Half-Year Report *(continued)*

Central and its joint venturer are considering the future structure and timing of the three-well sub-salt exploration program following the termination of farm-out funding arrangements. New farm-out funding is being pursued and applications for deferral of permit commitments are being prepared by the operator. Alternatively, the relevant permit may be relinquished if funds are not available to satisfy specific permit commitments (potentially impacting the carrying value of relevant Exploration Assets). The Board and management are confident alternative arrangements will be made and will not affect the Group's ability to continue as a going concern.

### (b) New and Amended Standards Adopted by the Group

A number of new or amended standards became applicable for the current reporting period. The Group did not have to change its accounting policies or make retrospective adjustments as a result of adopting these standards.

## 2. Significant Changes in the Current Reporting Period

The financial position and performance of the Group was particularly affected by the following events and transactions during the half-year ended 31 December 2023:

- Central sold its 50% interest in the Range CSG Project (ATP 2031) through the sale of its wholly owned subsidiary, Central Petroleum Eastern Pty Ltd for \$12.5 million, releasing capital and realising an accounting profit of \$13.8 million.
- The farmout of interests in three Northern Territory exploration permits to Peak Helium was terminated following Peak Helium's failure to comply with statutory demands for payments due under the agreement. The planned three well sub-salt exploration program has been suspended while Central and Santos (operator) consider options for progressing exploration in the permits.

For a detailed discussion about the group's performance and financial position please refer to the review of operations contained in the Directors' Report on pages 3 to 8.

## 3. Segment Reporting

The Group has identified its operating segments based on the internal reports that are reviewed and used by the executive management team (the chief operating decision makers) in assessing performance and in determining the allocation of resources. The following operating segments are identified by management based on the nature of the business or venture.

### (a) Producing Assets

Production and sale of crude oil, natural gas and associated petroleum products from fields that are in the production phase.

### (b) Development Assets

Fields under development in preparation for the sale of petroleum products. There were no fields under development during the current or comparative reporting period.

### (c) Exploration Assets

Exploration and evaluation of permit areas.

### (d) Unallocated Items

Unallocated items comprise non-segmental items of revenue and expenses and associated assets and liabilities not allocated to operating segments as they are not considered part of the core operations of any segment.

### (e) Performance Monitoring and Evaluation

Management monitors the operating results of the operating segments separately for the purpose of making decisions about resource allocation and performance assessment. The consolidated entity's operations are wholly in one geographical location being Australia.



## 3. Segment Reporting (continued)

2023	Producing Assets 31 Dec 2023 \$'000	Exploration Assets 31 Dec 2023 \$'000	Unallocated Items 31 Dec 2023 \$'000	Consolidated 31 Dec 2023 \$'000
<b>Revenue from contracts with customers</b>				
Natural Gas	18,104	—	—	18,104
Crude oil and condensate	1,830	—	—	1,830
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>19,934</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>19,934</b>
<b>Cost of sales</b>	<b>(13,514)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(13,514)</b>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>6,420</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6,420</b>
Other income	117	13,798	252	14,167
Exploration expenditure	(8)	(2,455)	—	(2,463)
General and administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>	—	—	(1,965)	(1,965)
Finance costs	(2,086)	(73)	(141)	(2,300)
<b>Statutory profit / (loss) before income tax</b>	<b>4,443</b>	<b>11,270</b>	<b>(1,854)</b>	<b>13,859</b>
Taxes	—	—	—	—
<b>Statutory profit / (loss) for the period</b>	<b>4,443</b>	<b>11,270</b>	<b>(1,854)</b>	<b>13,859</b>
Add Finance costs net of interest income	1,979	70	(111)	1,938
Add Depreciation and amortisation expense	3,286	—	297	3,583
Add Exploration expenditure	8	2,455	—	2,463
<b>EBITDAX<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>9,716</b>	<b>13,795</b>	<b>(1,668)</b>	<b>21,843</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes share based payments of \$462,000 which is a non-cash item.

<sup>2</sup> EBITDAX is Earnings before Interest, Taxation, Depreciation and Amortisation, Impairment and Exploration expenses

2022 Restated <sup>3</sup>	Producing Assets 31 Dec 2022 \$'000	Exploration Assets 31 Dec 2022 \$'000	Unallocated Items 31 Dec 2022 \$'000	Consolidated 31 Dec 2022 \$'000
<b>Revenue from contracts with customers</b>				
Natural Gas	14,722	—	—	14,722
Crude oil and condensate	1,931	—	—	1,931
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>16,653</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>16,653</b>
<b>Cost of sales</b>	<b>(12,276)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(12,276)</b>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>4,377</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,377</b>
Other income	371	177	158	706
Exploration expenditure	(6,176)	(5,125)	—	(11,301)
General and administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>	—	—	(2,574)	(2,574)
Finance costs	(2,279)	(27)	(145)	(2,451)
<b>Statutory profit / (loss) before income tax</b>	<b>(3,707)</b>	<b>(4,975)</b>	<b>(2,561)</b>	<b>(11,243)</b>
Taxes	—	—	—	—
<b>Statutory profit / (loss) for the period</b>	<b>(3,707)</b>	<b>(4,975)</b>	<b>(2,561)</b>	<b>(11,243)</b>
Add Finance costs net of interest income	1,972	23	(12)	1,983
Add Depreciation and amortisation expense	2,946	—	285	3,231
Add Exploration expenditure	6,176	5,125	—	11,301
<b>EBITDAX<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>7,387</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>(2,288)</b>	<b>5,272</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes share based payments of \$438,000 which is a non-cash item.

<sup>2</sup> EBITDAX is Earnings before Interest, Taxation, Depreciation and Amortisation, Impairment and Exploration expense.

<sup>3</sup> HY2022 restated to reflect expenses by function (refer Note 1)

### 3. Segment Reporting (continued)

	Producing Assets \$'000	Exploration Assets \$'000	Unallocated Items \$'000	Consolidated \$'000
<b>Total Segment Assets</b>				
31 December 2023	77,004	9,455	19,381	105,840
30 June 2023	74,344	9,968	13,819	98,131
<b>Total Segment Liabilities</b>				
31 December 2023	(60,142)	(4,876)	(7,117)	(72,135)
30 June 2023	(64,310)	(5,768)	(8,665)	(78,743)

### 4. Revenue from contracts with customers

#### (a) Revenue from contracts with customers

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Sale of hydrocarbon products – point in time		
Natural gas	15,776	14,722
Crude oil and condensate	1,830	1,931
Revenue released from Deferred revenue in respect of take or pay contracts <sup>1</sup>	2,328	—
	<b>19,934</b>	<b>16,653</b>

<sup>1</sup> Represents amounts paid for gas under take or pay contracts for which the customer will no longer be able to take physical delivery of the gas due to time and maximum daily quantity limits under the contract.

#### (b) Contract liabilities

	31 December 2023			30 June 2023		
	Current \$'000	Non-current \$'000	Total \$'000	Current \$'000	Non-current \$'000	Total \$'000
Deferred Revenue - take or pay contracts <sup>1</sup>	1,087	10,793	11,880	1,371	11,632	13,003
Deferred Revenue - other sales contracts <sup>2</sup>	135	—	135	2,165	—	2,165
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>10,793</b>	<b>12,015</b>	<b>3,536</b>	<b>11,632</b>	<b>15,168</b>

<sup>1</sup> Take-or-pay proceeds received are taken to revenue at the earlier of physical delivery of the gas to the customer, or upon forfeiture of the right to gas under the contract. No revenue has been recognised during the year for gas forfeited under take-or-pay contracts.

<sup>2</sup> Deferred Revenue from other contracts represents gas pre-sold to customers which is yet to be delivered. Amounts are recognised as Deferred Revenue when no cash settlement option exists for the customer. Where a cash settlement option previously existed, the amount transferred to Deferred Revenue is the equivalent fair value of that cash settlement option at the time that option ceased to be available.

#### Movements in Contract Liabilities

	Deferred Revenue from take or pay Contracts \$'000	Deferred Revenue from other contracts \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2023	13,003	2,165	15,168
Revenue recognised from the delivery of gas	(331)	(2,105)	(2,436)
Revenue released from take or pay contracts	(2,328)	—	(2,328)
Gas paid for but not taken	1,536	—	1,536
Finance charges	—	75	75
<b>Carrying amount at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>11,880</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>12,015</b>

## 5. Other Income

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Interest	362	236
Profit from disposal of subsidiary (a)	13,795	—
Income from financial assets at amortised cost	—	232
Profit on disposal of drilling inventories	—	173
Other income	10	65
	<b>14,167</b>	<b>706</b>

### (a) Profit from disposal of subsidiary

On 30 November 2023 the Group completed the sale of its 50% interest in the Range Gas Project (ATP 2031) in Queensland's Surat Basin by way of the sale of its wholly owned subsidiary, Central Petroleum Eastern Pty Ltd.

Details of the disposal were as follows:

	\$'000
Cash consideration received or receivable from the disposal, net of cash disposed	12,457
Transaction costs paid or payable	(273)
Net cash received or receivable <sup>1</sup>	12,184
Net liabilities of Central Petroleum Eastern Pty Ltd at date of disposal	1,611
<b>Profit on disposal</b>	<b>13,795</b>

<sup>1</sup> Cashflow to 31 December 2023 was \$12,158.

## 6. Expenses

Refer Note 1 regarding restatement of comparatives for the half year ended 31 December 2022 as a result of changing the presentation of expenses from by nature to by function.

### (a) Impairment of exploration assets

No impairment of exploration assets was recognised during the half year ended 31 December 2023. During the half year ended 31 December 2022 the Group recognised the impairment of exploration assets amounting to \$398,000 in respect of its interest in RL3 and RL4. This is included in exploration expenses for the year ended 31 December 2022.

## 7. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Cash at bank and on hand comprising:		
Corporate (a)	9,855	13,296
Joint arrangements (b)	1,571	530
Cash on term deposit (c)	10,000	—
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>21,426</b>	<b>13,826</b>

- (a) \$3,735,000 of this balance relates to cash held with Macquarie Bank Limited to be used for allowable purposes under the loan Facility Agreement (30 June 2023: \$2,920,000), including, but not limited to, operating costs for the Palm Valley, Dingo and Mereenie fields, taxes, capital expenditure and debt servicing.
- (b) This balance related to the Group's share of cash balances held under Joint Venture Arrangements to be used for joint operations.
- (c) Cash on term deposit held to meet short term cash needs and there is no significant risk of a change in value as a result of early withdrawal.

## 8. Trade and other receivables

	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Trade debtors	244	55
Accrued income, take or pay and recoveries (a)	4,654	3,963
Other receivables	278	545
Prepayments	1,678	1,361
<i>Items measured at fair value through profit and loss:</i>		
Deferred receivable from sale of interests in producing properties (b)	211	751
	<b>7,065</b>	<b>6,675</b>

- (a) Accrued income relates to the revenue recognition of hydrocarbon volumes delivered to customers but not yet invoiced. Accrued take or pay relates to amounts due from customers under the respective gas sales agreements where minimum contract quantities have not been taken during the contract year.
- (b) Represents deferred consideration receivable in respect of the disposal of 50% of interests in the Amadeus Basin producing assets. This is classified as a Financial Asset measured at amortised cost. During the period, \$540,000 was recouped through a free carry by the purchasers of Central's share of expenditure on certain exploration and development projects.

## 9. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Freehold land and buildings \$'000	Producing assets \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>30 June 2023</b>				
Cost	1,952	64,442	47,779	114,173
Accumulated depreciation	(1,373)	(26,263)	(26,345)	(53,981)
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>38,179</b>	<b>21,434</b>	<b>60,192</b>
<b>Half year ended 31 December 2023</b>				
Opening net book amount	579	38,179	21,434	60,192
Additions	–	159	1,357	1,516
Changes to rehabilitation estimates	–	1,816	2	1,818
Disposals/ write offs	–	–	(1)	(1)
Depreciation charge	(88)	(1,784)	(1,426)	(3,298)
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>38,370</b>	<b>21,366</b>	<b>60,227</b>
<b>31 December 2023</b>				
Cost	1,952	66,417	48,932	117,301
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(1,461)	(28,047)	(27,566)	(57,074)
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>38,370</b>	<b>21,366</b>	<b>60,227</b>

At 31 December 2023, \$3,199,000 of property, plant and equipment balances relates to assets under construction and is not subject to depreciation until complete (30 June 2023: \$2,891,000).

## 10. Borrowings

	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
(a) Current		
Debt facilities	4,416	4,376
(b) Non-current		
Debt facilities	<u>20,944</u>	<u>23,150</u>

The debt facilities are structured as partially amortising term loans with a maturity date of 30 September 2025. The interest costs are based on fixed spreads over the periodic Bank Bill Swap (BBSW) average bid rate. The Group does not have any interest rate hedging arrangements in place.

Under the terms of the Facility, the Group is required to comply with the following key financial covenants:

1. The Group current ratio is at least 1:1, excluding amounts payable under the debt facility and certain liabilities associated with gas sale agreements with Macquarie Bank.
2. The Net Present Value with a 10% discount rate (NPV<sub>10</sub>) of forecasted net cash flow from the Palm Valley, Dingo and Mereenie gas fields limited by the sales of only Proved Developed Producing reserves, divided by the outstanding loan amount must be greater than 1.3:1.

The Group remains compliant with these and all other financial covenants under the facility.

## 11. Leases

### (a) Amounts recognised in the balance sheet

	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
(i) Right-of-use assets		
Land and buildings	306	483
Plant and equipment	<u>113</u>	<u>68</u>
	<b>419</b>	<b>551</b>
(ii) Lease liabilities		
Current	352	426
Non-current	<u>100</u>	<u>201</u>
	<b>452</b>	<b>627</b>

### (b) Amounts recognised in the statement of profit or loss

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Depreciation charge of right-of-use assets		
Land and buildings	188	158
Plant and equipment	<u>36</u>	<u>66</u>
	<b>224</b>	<b>224</b>
Interest expense (included in finance costs)	17	27
Cash outflow for leases	<u>285</u>	<u>268</u>

## 12. Provisions

	31 December 2023			30 June 2023		
	Current	Non-current	Total	Current	Non-current	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Employee entitlements (a)	3,185	806	3,991	4,365	763	5,128
Restoration and rehabilitation (b)	1,045	24,765	25,810	370	24,460	24,830
Joint Venture production over-lift (c)	869	1,167	2,036	862	1,593	2,455
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,099</b>	<b>26,738</b>	<b>31,837</b>	<b>5,597</b>	<b>26,816</b>	<b>32,413</b>

### Movements in Provisions

	Employee Entitlements (a)	Restoration and Rehabilitation (b)	Other (c)	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2023	5,128	24,830	2,455	32,413
Additional provisions charged to profit or loss	694	347	17	1,058
Additional provisions charged to property, plant and equipment	—	1,818	—	1,818
Unwinding of discount	—	500	—	500
Disposal of subsidiary	—	(1,569)	—	(1,569)
Amounts used during the half-year	(1,831)	(116)	(436)	(2,383)
<b>Carrying amount at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>25,810</b>	<b>2,036</b>	<b>31,837</b>

- (a) The current provision for employee entitlements includes accrued short term incentive plans, severance entitlements, accrued annual leave and the unconditional entitlements to long service leave where employees have completed the required period of service.
- (b) Provisions for future restoration and rehabilitation costs are recognised where there is a present obligation and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. The estimated future obligations include the costs of removing facilities, abandoning wells and restoring the affected areas.
- (c) Under an Interim Gas Balancing Agreement with its joint venture partners, the Group has taken a higher proportion of natural gas produced from the Mereenie joint venture than its joint venture percentage entitlement. A provision has been recognised to reflect the expected additional production costs of rebalancing production entitlements between the joint venture partners from future operations.

## 13. Contributed Equity and Reserves

	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
<b>Share capital</b>		
740,123,420 ordinary shares	197,776	197,776
(30 June 2023: 729,405,268 ordinary shares)		
<b>Reserves</b>		
Share options reserve	31,891	31,433

13. Contributed Equity and Reserves (*continued*)

	Half-Year Ended 31 December	
	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Movements in share capital:</b>		
Balance at start of half year	197,776	197,776
Issues of ordinary shares	-	-
<b>Balance at the end of the half year</b>	<b>197,776</b>	<b>197,776</b>
<b>Movements in share options reserve:</b>		
Balance at start of the half year	31,433	30,615
Share based payments costs	462	438
Transaction costs	(4)	(2)
<b>Balance at the end of the half year</b>	<b>31,891</b>	<b>31,051</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>No. of securities</b>	<b>No. of securities</b>
<b>Movements in ordinary shares on issue during the half-year:</b>		
Balance at the beginning of the half-year	729,405,268	725,907,449
Exercise of employee share rights	10,718,152	3,353,001
<b>Balance at the end of the half-year</b>	<b>740,123,420</b>	<b>729,260,450</b>

## Movement in Employee Share Rights

Class	Expiry Date	Plan Year Commencing	Balance at start of period	Issued during the period	Cancelled or lapsed during the period	Exercised during the period	Balance at the end of the period
<b>Long term Incentive Plans</b>							
Employee LTIP rights	22 May 2024	1 Jul 2018	72,877	-	-	(54,508)	18,369
Employee LTIP rights	12 Nov 2024	1 Jul 2018	578,689	-	-	(578,689)	-
Employee LTIP rights	30 Jun 2024	1 Jul 2019	319,033	-	-	(161,136)	157,897
Employee Deferred Share rights <sup>1</sup>	30 Jun 2025	1 Jul 2019	3,360,571	-	-	(3,360,571)	-
Employee LTIP rights	30 Jun 2025	1 Jul 2020	8,701,069	-	(556,482)	(2,697,709)	5,446,878
Employee LTIP rights	30 Jun 2026	1 Jul 2021	374,901	-	(26,293)	-	348,608
Employee LTIP rights	30 Jun 2027	1 Jul 2022	507,180	-	(42,265)	-	464,915
Employee LTIP rights	30 Jun 2028	1 Jul 2023	-	1,051,206	(51,994)	-	999,212
<b>Executive Incentive Plan</b>							
Executive EIP rights	30 Jun 2027	1 Jul 2021	7,813,471	-	-	(2,778,803)	5,034,668
Executive EIP rights	30 Jun 2028	1 Jul 2022	-	9,611,724	-	-	9,611,724
<b>Non-Executive Director rights<sup>2</sup></b>							
Director Share Rights	30 Jun 2026	1 Jul 2021	161,765	-	-	(161,765)	-
Director Share Rights	30 Jun 2027	1 Jul 2022	924,971	-	-	(924,971)	-
Director Share Rights	30 Jun 2028	1 Jul 2023	-	1,489,560	-	-	1,489,560
<b>Total</b>			<b>22,814,527</b>	<b>12,152,490</b>	<b>(677,034)</b>	<b>(10,718,152)</b>	<b>23,571,831</b>

1 In respect of the year ended 30 June 2020, certain employees were awarded deferred share rights rather than cash short term incentives. These deferred share rights vested on 1 July 2023.

2 Directors had the discretion to sacrifice up to 25% of their Base Directors Fees to earn share rights. These rights vest on 30 June of the relevant Plan Year and may be exercised any time prior to the expiry date.

The rights do not entitle the holders to participate in any share issue of the Company or any other entity.

### 13. Contributed Equity and Reserves (*continued*)

#### Movement in Options

Class	Expiry Date	Exercise Price	Balance at start of period	Issued during the period	Cancelled or lapsed during the period	Exercised during the period	Balance at the end of the period
Executive Options	30 Jun 2023	\$0.20	17,221,046	–	(17,221,046)	–	–
<b>Total</b>			<b>17,221,046</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(17,221,046)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

### 14. Contingencies and Commitments

#### (a) Exploration and Capital Commitments

The Group has the following capital expenditure commitments:

	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Due within one year	1,025	1,241
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>1,241</b>

The Group has contingent exploration expenditure commitments on various permit areas held through joint ventures in Australia:

	Consolidated	
	31 Dec 2023 \$'000	30 June 2023 \$'000
Within one year	29,850	7,200
Later than one year but not later than three years	–	8,223
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,850</b>	<b>15,423</b>

The value and timing of these commitments may be varied in the future as a result of renegotiations of the terms of exploration permits. In the petroleum industry it is common practice for entities to farm-out, transfer or sell a portion of their rights to third parties or relinquish (whole or part of the permit) and, as a result, obligations may be reduced or extinguished.

#### (b) Contingent Liabilities

There were no changes to contingent liabilities as outlined in the annual financial report to 30 June 2023.

### 15. Post Balance Date Events

There were no events that occurred subsequent to 31 December 2023 and up to the date of this report that will affect the Group's operations, results or state of affairs.

### 16. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the period.



## DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

31 December 2023

In the Directors' opinion:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 10 to 23 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
  - (i) complying with Accounting Standards, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Consolidated Entity's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that Central Petroleum Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable, and

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.



**Michael (Mick) McCormack**  
Chair

Brisbane  
8 March 2024

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW



## ***Independent auditor's review report to the members of Central Petroleum Limited***

### **Report on the half-year financial report**

#### ***Conclusion***

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Central Petroleum Limited (the Company) and the entities it controlled during the half-year (together the Group), which comprises the consolidated balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, selected explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the accompanying half-year financial report of Central Petroleum Limited does not comply with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date
2. complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

#### ***Basis for conclusion***

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity* (ASRE 2410). Our responsibilities are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the half-year financial report* section of our report.

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to the audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

#### ***Responsibilities of the directors 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.

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### ***Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the half-year financial report***

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether 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 2023 and of 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*.

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.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers



Marcus Goddard  
Partner

Brisbane  
8 March 2024

# CORPORATE DIRECTORY

## Directors

Mr Michael (Mick) McCormack BSurv, GradDipEng, MBA, FAICD, Independent Non-executive Chair

Mr Leon Devaney BSc MBA, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stephen Gardiner BEc (Hons), FCPA, Independent Non-executive Director

Ms Katherine Hirschfeld AM, BE(Chem) UQ, HonFIEAust, FTSE, FIChemE, FAICD, Independent Non-executive Director

Dr Agu Kantsler BSc (Hons), PhD, GAICD, FTSE, Independent Non-executive Director

## Group General Counsel and Company Secretary

Mr Daniel C M White LLB, BCom, LLM

## Registered Office

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## Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers

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## Stock Exchange Listing

Central Petroleum Limited shares are listed on the Australian Securities Exchange under the code CTP.