

28 November 2016

The Company Announcements Platform Australian Securities Exchange Exchange Centre 20 Bond Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 **Tap Oil Limited** ABN 89 068 572 341

Level 1, 47 Colin Street West Perth WA 6005 Australia

T: +61 8 9485 1000 F: +61 8 9485 1060 E: info@tapoil.com.au

www.tapoil.com.au

## PAYMENT DISPUTE SETTLEMENT WITH NORTHERN GULF PETROLEUM

- All outstanding payment disputes settled for a zero settlement sum
- Arbitration and further legal actions ceased
- In addition, the future earn-out obligation bought out for US\$2 million (cash and equity)

**Tap Oil Limited (ASX: TAP)** is pleased to announce that it has agreed to settle various outstanding disputes and future payment obligations with Mr Chatchai Yenbamroong and with Northern Gulf Petroleum Holdings Limited and related entities (collectively **NGP**).

Tap has previously announced disputes with Mr Yenbamroong relating to acquisition payments due under the sale and purchase agreement for Tap's acquisition of its 30% interest in the G1/48 Concession. The disputes relate to the calculation of amounts payable by Tap to NGP in respect of the 2P reserves deferred payment, and the payment of carried costs by NGP to Tap. On the 19 August 2015 Tap filed a Notice of Arbitration in Singapore relating to these disputes with the hearing due to commence on the 5 December 2016.

Tap and NGP have agreed to settle these disputed payments for a zero settlement sum. Both parties have agreed to bear their own legal costs and to discontinue the arbitration and any further legal action on this matter.

Further Tap has agreed to pay NGP a lump sum of US\$2 million in full and final payment of all existing and future obligations owing by Tap by way of earn-out payments to NGP.

Under the sale and purchase agreement, Tap agreed to pay an earn-out to NGP equal to 2% of all revenue from the sale of petroleum attributable to Tap's 30% interest in the G1/48 Concession for the life of the Manora project. The current earn-out owing by Tap to NGPH is US\$677,301. Further earn-out payments will accrue from the proceeds from future oil liftings if the Brent crude price is over US\$50/bbl.

In the opinion of the non conflicted Directors of the Board, the settlement is value accretive as it is priced at a discount to the expected value of the earn-out payable.

The payment amount of US\$2 million owing by Tap is to be paid as follows:

- An immediate payment of cash of US\$500,000;
- An immediate issue of fully paid shares in Tap, having a notional value of US\$662,769;
- The remaining balance to be paid in cash on or before 31 March 2018 provided always that if Tap undertakes an equity fundraising prior to that time, the obligation to pay this remaining balance is accelerated such that Tap must ensure that the funds raised from that equity raising are sufficient to pay this remaining balance. Were Tap to undertake a rights issue, as part of these arrangements, NGP has committed to

use their best endeavours to take up their pro-rata entitlement under any such fundraising.

## The CEO, Mr Troy Hayden commented:

"The Board felt the ongoing relationship with our second largest shareholder could be adversely impacted by the arbitration result. The outgoing Chairman, Mr Doug Bailey has successfully negotiated a settlement with Mr Yenbamroong and additionally remove the future earn-out payments for a discounted amount. The settlement of the dispute and the cancellation of the ongoing earn-out remove any potential future conflicts over these payments. We were able to achieve this outcome by working cooperatively with NGP who have also been keen to move forward constructively with Tap".

## **Investor Enquiries**

Troy Hayden CEO

Chris Bath CFO & Company Secretary

Telephone: +61 8 9485 1000 Email: info@tapoil.com.au Website: www.tapoil.com.au

## Disclaimer

Certain statements contained in this announcement, including information as to the future financial or operating performance of Tap Oil Limited and its projects, are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements:

- are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by Tap Oil Limited, are inherently subject to significant technical, business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties and contingencies;
- involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from estimated or anticipated events or results reflected in such forward-looking statements; and
- may include, among other things, statements regarding targets, estimates and assumptions in respect of production
  and prices, operating costs and results, capital expenditures, reserves and resources and anticipated flow rates, and
  are or may be based on assumptions and estimates related to future technical, economic, market, political, social and
  other conditions.

Tap Oil Limited disclaims any intent or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise.

The words "believe", "expect", "anticipate", "indicate", "contemplate", "target", "plan", "intends", "continue", "budget", "estimate", "may", "will", "schedule", "potential", "opportunity" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements made in this announcement are qualified by the foregoing cautionary statements. Investors are cautioned that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and accordingly investors are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements due to the inherent uncertainty therein.

No representation or warranty is or will be made by any person (including Tap Oil and its officers, directors, employees, advisers and agents) in relation to the accuracy or completeness of all or part of this document, or any constituent or associated presentation, information or material (collectively, the Information), or the accuracy, likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of any projections, prospects or returns contained in, or implied by, the Information or any part of it. The Information includes information derived from third party sources that has not necessarily been independently verified.

Subject to any obligations under applicable laws, regulations or securities exchange listing rules, Tap Oil disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release any updates or revisions to the Information to reflect any change in expectations or assumptions.

Nothing contained in the Information constitutes investment, legal, tax or other advice. The Information does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any recipient. Before making an investment decision, each recipient of the Information should make its own assessment and take independent professional advice in relation to the Information and any action taken on the basis of the Information.