# ASX Announcement (ASX: NSE) (OTCQX: NWSTF)

NEW STANDARD ENERGY

Date: 31 March 2015

# Company update - funding and assets

New Standard Energy Limited (**New Standard**) has secured an additional US\$3 million from its existing debt facility with Credit Suisse to provide working capital for the Company while it continues to investigate alternatives for the ongoing maintenance and development of its asset portfolio.

As previously announced, discussions with a number of parties in relation to various alternatives have progressed over the past three months. These discussions have included negotiations on a corporate transaction which have not matured to a point, nor become sufficiently binding, to warrant further disclosure.

New Standard is continuing discussions around several other initiatives including corporate transactions, joint ventures and asset sales or swaps.

To ensure that New Standard can finalise an appropriate transaction on the best terms possible, Credit Suisse has agreed to release an additional US\$3 million as part of New Standard's enhanced debt facility.

New Standard Energy Managing Director Phil Thick said the Credit Suisse additional debt was a welcome interim solution that allowed the Board additional time to pursue the potential options currently available.

"Our views on the prospectivity of New Standard's asset portfolio have not changed, but unfortunately the commercial environment engulfing the oil and gas sector has," he said.

"We are pleased that our bankers, Credit Suisse, have worked closely and cooperatively with us over the past few weeks to provide us with additional time and capital to continue to seek alternatives," he said.

"We have made the tough but necessary cuts to staff, costs and overheads. We are assessing potential transactions at a corporate and asset level to secure value for our shareholders in this very tough market."

To further streamline the Company's capital expenditure in the United States, New Standard is in the final stages of negotiating an extension for an additional 12 months on one of its largest leases in Texas, which will allow the Company to defer all upcoming lease commitments while securing the tenure on the acreage.

- ENDS -

For further information, please contact:

Phil Thick Managing Director Ph: + 61 8 9481 7477

Email: pthick@newstandard.com.au

Cameron Morse FTI Consulting Ph: +61 8 9485 8888

Email: <a href="mailto:cameron.morse@fticonsulting.com">cameron.morse@fticonsulting.com</a>



**About New Standard:** New Standard Energy is an onshore hydrocarbon producer, developer and explorer with a commitment to develop and realise the oil and gas potential of the most prospective shale and tight gas basins across the US and Australia.

The Company's exploration and production program is active and extensive. It is underpinned and complemented by targeted corporate activity to take advantage of opportunities and to build an extensive pipeline of prospective projects. New Standard's Board has substantial technical and commercial experience in the oil and gas sector.

The Company operates in four primary basins: Eagle Ford, Texas, USA; Cooper, South Australia; and the Canning and Carnarvon, Western Australia.

The Eagle Ford acreage is a development and production project. It contains seven existing production wells, in the oil window of the Eagle Ford shale, which are currently producing and generating revenue that provides monthly cash flow to the Company. New Standard is currently drilling and evaluating additional wells.

The Cooper Basin Project is later stage exploration and development, to take advantage of existing infrastructure and the domestic and export opportunities available in the Australian East Coast gas market.

The Canning and Carnarvon Projects are frontier basins, providing New Standard's investors with exposure to high risk, high reward exploration.

## Texas, USA

#### Atascosa Project

 Operated working interests ranging from 35.4% to 100% across 5,585 net acres in the Eagle Ford shale, onshore Texas

### Colorado Project

• 32.5% non-operated working interest ,Colorado County, onshore Texas

### South Australia

# Cooper Basin Project

• 17.5% non-operated interest in the PEL 570 acreage area, Cooper Basin, South Australia

## Western Australia

## Southern Canning Project

- 100% operated interest in exploration permits (EPs 443, 450, 451, 456), Southern Canning Basin, Western Australia
- 100% operated interest in exploration permit application areas (STP-EPA-006, STP-EPA-007 and STP-EPA-010), Southern Canning Basin, Western Australia

# Laurel Project

- 100% operated interest in exploration permit EP 417, Northern Canning Basin, Western Australia
- 100% operated interest in exploration permit application areas (STP-EPA-0092 and STP-EPA-0109), Northern Canning Basin, Western Australia

## Merlinleigh Project

• 100% operated interest in exploration permits (EPs 481 and 482), onshore Carnarvon Basin, Western Australia

In addition to the above portfolio, New Standard has an 11.8% equity interest in ASX listed Elixir Petroleum (ASX: EXR).