



# ANTARES ENERGY LIMITED

A.C.N. 009 230 835

Ground Floor  
63 Hay Street  
Subiaco WA 6008

PO Box 690  
West Perth WA 6872  
[www.antaresenergy.com](http://www.antaresenergy.com)

## ASX/NEWS RELEASE

15 September 2015

### SUSPENSION – ANTARES ENERGY LIMITED

Antares Energy Limited (ASX:AZZ) has been advised by the ASX that it must disclose the identity of the Purchaser of the Northern Star & Big Star Projects pre-market today.

The ASX has advised that failure to identify the Purchaser will result in the suspension of the Company's securities from trading, pursuant to Listing Rule 17.3.

Antares Energy will not disclose the identity of the Purchaser as it believes this will be detrimental to Antares' shareholders, noteholders and other stakeholders for the following reasons:

1. Disclosure of the Purchaser's identity will jeopardise completion of the agreement;
2. As these transactions were worth, at the time of announcement, 15 times the market capitalisation of the Company (~USD 250,000,000) we do not consider it reasonable to jeopardise transactions of this magnitude merely to advise the market of the name of the Purchaser for no additional benefit;
3. Given the transaction is cash only, we believe the identity of the Purchaser is irrelevant;
4. Disclosure of the Purchaser will enable other sellers and other intermediaries, to make contact with the Purchaser with a view to the Purchaser undertaking a transaction with them instead of Antares – this has the potential for the Antares deal to be adversely affected and / or terminated and dramatically changes the risk profile of the deal.

Chairman James Cruickshank has already fielded >50 calls from other companies and intermediaries trying to find out the identity of the buyer so as to be a part of the transaction or to pursue the purchaser to complete an alternative transaction;

5. As the Purchaser is not a listed ASX Company, there are no restrictions on their disclosure to other parties on the status of the transaction. There is the possibility that shareholders, noteholders, stakeholders or others could contact the Purchaser directly, and gain access to information which has not been made available to the market. Information may then be made public through social media and not through the ASX. Antares has a long established history of information remaining confidential and the market being kept fully informed. If all participants in the market have access to the Purchaser, Antares will no longer be able to ensure information is reported correctly or completely;
6. As the development and disposal of oil and gas projects is the main undertaking of Antares, we would find it difficult to conduct similar transactions in the future if potential buyers were of the view that Antares could not keep details of a transaction confidential until it had been settled;
7. Given that Antares operates in a market where private companies are a significant purchaser of these types of assets, our ability to require disclosure from them is severely limited as they do not have continuous disclosure requirements. Additionally, this places Antares at a significant disadvantage to our competitors who are not subject to the same continuous disclosure requirements as Antares;

8. Antares' precedent for not disclosing the name of a Purchaser prior to closing a transaction was established out of commercial necessity back on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009 when Antares announced the sale of ownership rights in approximately 5,102 gross and 4,840 net acres to Petrohawk Energy Corporation. The integrity of the transaction was maintained throughout, reducing closing risk and assisting in the transaction's closure, resulting in the Purchaser being disclosed after closing.

Additionally on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2013 Antares announced the execution of an Asset Purchase Agreement for Antares' non-core Hawkville interest for the amount of 10,000,000 USD. The name of the Purchaser was not disclosed. On the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Antares advised of the completion of the Asset Purchase Agreement for Antares' non-core Hawkville interests for the amount of 10,000,000 USD and subsequently advised that the Purchaser was BHP Billiton. The integrity of the transaction was maintained throughout, reducing closing risk and assisting in the transaction's closure, resulting in the Purchaser being disclosed after closing.

Additionally on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014 the integrity of the sale of Southern Star to Breitburn Energy Partners for 50,000,000 USD and 4,300,000 Breitburn Common Units was maintained throughout, reducing closing risk and assisting in the transaction's closure, resulting in the Purchaser being disclosed after closing.

Antares is of the very strong view that disclosure of the identity of the Purchaser would dramatically increase closing risks and jeopardise our ability to complete these transactions.

Antares believes it is in the best interest of all our stakeholders not to take any action which will jeopardise the potential for these two transactions to be completed.

Graeme Smith  
**Company Secretary**

+61 408 447 493