

5 October 2016

#### Infratil commits to development of renewables in the U.S.

Infratil Limited today announced an initial investment in Longroad Energy Holdings, LLC ("Longroad"), a recently formed renewable energy development and operating vehicle headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts. Infratil committed to invest in this renewable opportunity in conjunction with the NZ Superannuation Fund.

Infratil and the NZ Superannuation Fund will own the business in partnership with the management team of Longroad. Longroad's focus is primarily in the development of utility-scale wind and solar generation throughout North America. The potential investment targeted for development expenditure is up to USD\$100m. Over time, Longroad will provide an option for further investment in stable, low risk operating assets.

Longroad was founded in 2016, and is the reformulated team of First Wind, one of the most successful independent renewable energy development teams in the U.S. over the past decade. The team is led by Paul Gaynor, Michael Alvarez, Pete Keel, and Charles Spiliotis, all former First Wind executives.

"The Longroad opportunity emerged from an origination effort focused on North American renewable energy developers," said Marko Bogoievski, CEO of Infratil. "We sought an experienced and proven management team with the ability to operate a large scale development platform. Following an extensive review of potential opportunities, Longroad emerged as the best candidate to realise our ambitions in the market."

The management team at Longroad has operated across a number of different states, regulatory environments and transmission networks in the U.S. They have a demonstrable track record of developing, financing, constructing and operating utility scale renewable generating facilities, having completed development and financing for projects with a total capacity over 4 GW.

The US provides a unique opportunity to enter one of the largest and fastest growing renewable markets in the world, in a sector Infratil has significant experience and comfort investing in. Infratil's partnership with the former management team of First Wind combines local knowledge with the capital of Infratil and the NZ Superannuation Fund.

Matt Whineray, CIO for the NZ Superannuation Fund, said "We are attracted to the risk adjusted returns that are available in global renewables, and the investment in Longroad, with the capability that the team offers, will help us access this sector and the shifting trend to clean energy in the United States."

The Longroad investment will be managed by investment management firm H.R.L. Morrison & Co on behalf of Infratil and the NZ Superannuation Fund.

Marko Bogoievski Chief Executive Officer Infratil Limited



# **Summary of Longroad investment**

### Commitment to the development of renewables in the US



- Attractive access point into the US renewable energy market
  - Experienced team with a demonstrable track record of developing and operating utility scale renewable generation facilities
  - Partnership with Longroad combines local knowledge with the capital of Infratil and the NZ Superannuation Fund
  - Increased investment into a sector where Infratil has significant operating experience
- Compelling industry fundamentals with strong anticipated growth in the medium term
  - The US provides a unique opportunity to enter one of the largest and fastest growing renewable markets in the world
  - Macro environment is increasingly supportive of renewable energy development
- Potential to invest up to USD\$100m in renewable energy development projects
  - Infratil and the NZ Superannuation Fund will initially own 90% of the business while Longroad Energy Partners (LEP), an entity held by the Longroad management team will own the remaining 10%
  - Over time, Longroad will provide an option for further investment in stable, low risk operating assets





### **Investment rationale**





1

Attractive access point backed by strong management team

- Senior management team with a long and demonstrable track record in development and operation of utility scale renewable assets
- Experienced in operating across a number of different states, networks and regulatory environments in the US

2

Large and readily available pipeline of opportunities in the US

- The US is a collection of '50' markets under a single umbrella
- Significant need for new capacity to replace existing aging coal fleet
- Multiple sources of long term offtake (e.g. utilities, large corporates, banks)
- Opportunity to construct a pipeline that we are comfortable with from inception

3

Ability to optimise capital across a portfolio of investment options

- Opportunity to secure a broad portfolio of wind and solar development options across different US electricity markets
- Option to build and retain assets or exit into a deep, liquid and growing market for pre-construction or operating assets

Underpinned by favourable tailwinds in the US as it transitions to energy independence and a low carbon economy

### **Management team**

### Experienced and proven management team



#### **Paul Gaynor, Chief Executive Officer**



- Former CEO of Firstwind (2004 2015)
- Over 25 years experience in leadership and finance roles in the energy, power, pipeline and renewable energy sectors
- Led Firstwind through its sale in January 2015 to SunEdison
- Co-Founder of Longroad (2015)

#### Michael Alvarez, Chief Operating Officer



- Former CFO and President of Firstwind (2006 – 2015)
- Over 30 years experience in finance and operational roles
- Responsible for managing all engineering, procurement, construction and asset management activities
- Co-Founder of Longroad (2015)

#### Peter Keel, Chief Financial Officer



- Former Senior Vice President of Finance at First Wind (2006 – 2015)
- Responsible for managing all of Longroad's finance-related activities

### **Charles Spiliotis, Chief Investment Officer**



- Former Vice President of Corporate Development and Project Finance at Firstwind (2007 – 2015)
- Responsible for managing all of Longroad's M&A and capital investment activities

## **Attractive industry fundamentals**





1

Global policy is positive toward renewables

- Energy security and climate change remains a high priority for many countries, with a structural shift in generation towards renewables
- The Paris Conference on Climate Change 21 provided a legally binding treaty on climate action which contains emission reduction commitment from 187 countries starting in 2020
- Many major economies are now focused on diversifying their energy mix, which improves energy security by reducing their physical dependence and price exposure, from only a few fuel sources and countries

2

Fall in oil prices has not slowed rate of development

- Fundamentals for investment have not changed, as economics for renewables remain primarily policy driven
- Low oil price will have a variable impact globally on the deployment of renewables, depending on the composition of the electricity market and source of marginal supply
- The introduction of the Clean Power Plan and an extension of the policy which supports renewables has reinvigorated the US market

# **Attractive industry fundamentals**





3

Increasing role of technology

- Capital cost of equipment continues to fall, particularly solar PV. Efficiency improvements in conversion to energy is increasing for both wind and solar PV, improving total capital economics
- Projects are increasing significantly in size, giving rise to engineering, procurement and construction economies of scale
- Energy efficiency, demand response, load shifting, battery storage and generation at point of consumption will play an increasingly important role but unlikely to replace the role of centralised generation

4

Acceptance as an investment class

- Increasing number of mainstream infrastructure funds entering the sector, competing for returns on operating projects and replacing the gap left by yield-based renewables companies
- A few of the larger pension funds have begun moving up the risk curve, taking direct exposure to development risk
- In some markets, utility PPAs are being supplemented by direct corporate PPAs from large consumers of electricity

### **Immediate focus**

## The immediate focus is on building the development pipeline



#### Business build out

- Governance structures
- Team expansion
- •Secure development options

# Pipeline development

- Tollgate process for assessing and prioritising initial opportunities
- Ongoing spend to maintain pipeline

# Steady state

- Sustainable run-rate of development
- Options to build & own projects or transfer to 3rd parties
- Combination of development returns and more stable cashflows from operational assets