# **Appendix 4G**

# Key to Disclosures Corporate Governance Council Principles and Recommendations

Name o	Name of entity:				
Ī	EMERALD RESOURCES NL				
ABN / A	RBN:	Financial year ended:			
-	72 009 795 046	30 June 2016			
Our co	rporate governance statement <sup>2</sup> for the al These pages of our annual report: This URL on our website:	http://emeraldresources.com.au/corporate_govenance			
the boa	The Corporate Governance Statement is accurate and up to date as at 30 September 2016 and has been approved by the board.  The annexure includes a key to where our corporate governance disclosures can be located.				
Mark (	30 September 2016  Mark Clements  Company Secretary				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Under Listing Rule 4.7.3, an entity must lodge with ASX a completed Appendix 4G at the same time as it lodges its annual report with ASX. Listing Rule 4.10.3 requires an entity that is included in the official list as an ASX Listing to include in its annual report either a corporate governance statement that meets the requirements of that rule or the URL of the page on its website where such a statement is located. The corporate governance statement must disclose the extent to which the entity has followed the recommendations set by the ASX Corporate Governance Council during the reporting period. If the entity has not followed a recommendation for any part of the reporting period, its corporate governance statement must separately identify that recommendation and the period during which it was not followed and state its reasons for not following the recommendation and what (if any) alternative governance practices it adopted in lieu of the recommendation during that period.

Under Listing Rule 4.7.4, if an entity chooses to include its corporate governance statement on its website rather than in its annual report, it must lodge a copy of the corporate governance statement with ASX at the same time as it lodges its annual report with ASX. The corporate governance statement must be current as at the effective date specified in that statement for the purposes of rule 4.10.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Corporate governance statement" is defined in Listing Rule 19.12 to mean the statement referred to in Listing Rule 4.10.3 which discloses the extent to which an entity has followed the recommendations set by the ASX Corporate Governance Council during a particular reporting period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mark whichever option is correct and then complete the page number(s) of the annual report, or the URL of the web page, where the entity's corporate governance statement can be found. You can, if you wish, delete the option which is not applicable.

Throughout this form, where you are given two or more options to select, you can, if you wish, delete any option which is not applicable and just retain the option that is applicable. If you select an option that includes "<u>OR</u>" at the end of the selection and you delete the other options, you can also, if you wish, delete the "<u>OR</u>" at the end of the selection.

## ANNEXURE – KEY TO CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DISCLOSURES

		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
PRINC	PLE 1 – LAY SOLID FOUNDATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT AND OV	ERSIGHT	
1.1	A listed entity should disclose:  (a) the respective roles and responsibilities of its board and management; and  (b) those matters expressly reserved to the board and those delegated to management.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]  and information about the respective roles and responsibilities of our board and management (including those matters expressly reserved to the board and those delegated to management):  at http://emeraldresources.com.au/corporate_govenance	<ul> <li>□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement OR</li> <li>□ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>
1.2	A listed entity should:  (a) undertake appropriate checks before appointing a person, or putting forward to security holders a candidate for election, as a director; and  (b) provide security holders with all material information in its possession relevant to a decision on whether or not to elect or re-elect a director.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable
1.3	A listed entity should have a written agreement with each director and senior executive setting out the terms of their appointment.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	<ul> <li>□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance         Statement <u>OR</u></li> <li>□ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>
1.4	The company secretary of a listed entity should be accountable directly to the board, through the chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the board.	<ul> <li> the fact that we follow this recommendation:</li> <li>☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR</li> <li>☐ at [insert location]</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u></li> <li>□ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> If you have followed all of the Council's recommendations in full for the whole of the period above, you can, if you wish, delete this column from the form and re-format it.

Corpo	rate Governance Council recommendation	We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
1.5	A listed entity should:  (a) have a diversity policy which includes requirements for the board or a relevant committee of the board to set measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity and to assess annually both the objectives and the entity's progress in achieving them;  (b) disclose that policy or a summary of it; and  (c) disclose as at the end of each reporting period the measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity set by the board or a relevant committee of the board in accordance with the entity's diversity policy and its progress towards achieving them and either:  (1) the respective proportions of men and women on the board, in senior executive positions and across the whole organisation (including how the entity has defined "senior executive" for these purposes); or  (2) if the entity is a "relevant employer" under the Workplace Gender Equality Act, the entity's most recent "Gender Equality Indicators", as defined in and published under that Act.	the fact that we have a diversity policy that complies with paragraph (a):  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]  at [insert location]  and the measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity set by the board or a relevant committee of the board in accordance with our diversity policy and our progress towards achieving them:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at http://emeraldresources.com.au/corporate_govenance and the information referred to in paragraphs (c)(1) or (2):  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	<ul> <li>✓ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement OR</li> <li>✓ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>
1.6	A listed entity should:     (a) have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of the board, its committees and individual directors; and     (b) disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether a performance evaluation was undertaken in the reporting period in accordance with that process.	the evaluation process referred to in paragraph (a):  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]  and the information referred to in paragraph (b):  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	<ul> <li>□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u></li> <li>□ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>

Corpo	orate Governance Council recommendation	We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
1.7	A listed entity should:  (a) have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of its senior executives; and  (b) disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether a performance evaluation was undertaken in the reporting period in accordance with that process.	the evaluation process referred to in paragraph (a):  ⊠ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  □ at [insert location]  and the information referred to in paragraph (b):  ⊠ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  □ at [insert location]	<ul> <li>□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement OR</li> <li>□ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>

Corporate Governance Council recommendation		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed <sup>4</sup>
PRINCIP	LE 2 - STRUCTURE THE BOARD TO ADD VALUE		
2.1	The board of a listed entity should:  (a) have a nomination committee which:  (1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors; and  (2) is chaired by an independent director, and disclose:  (3) the charter of the committee;  (4) the members of the committee; and  (5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or  (b) if it does not have a nomination committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs to address board succession issues and to ensure that the board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.	[If the entity complies with paragraph (a):] the fact that we have a nomination committee that complies with paragraphs (1) and (2):  □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] and a copy of the charter of the committee: □ at [insert location] and the information referred to in paragraphs (4) and (5): □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] [If the entity complies with paragraph (b):] the fact that we do not have a nomination committee and the processes we employ to address board succession issues and to ensure that the board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively: □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location]	<ul> <li>         □ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance         Statement OR         □ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable     </li> </ul>
2.2	A listed entity should have and disclose a board skills matrix setting out the mix of skills and diversity that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership.	our board skills matrix:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	□

Corporate Governance Council recommendation			We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\ldots^4$
2.3	A listed entity should disclose:  (a) the names of the directors considered by the board to be independent directors;  (b) if a director has an interest, position, association or relationship of the type described in Box 2.3 but the board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the director, the nature of the interest, position, association or relationship in question and an explanation of why the board is of that opinion; and  (c) the length of service of each director.	the names of the directors considered by the board to be independent directors:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]  and, where applicable, the information referred to in paragraph (b):  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]  and the length of service of each director:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
2.4	A majority of the board of a listed entity should be independent directors.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	□
2.5	The chair of the board of a listed entity should be an independent director and, in particular, should not be the same person as the CEO of the entity.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u> □ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable
2.6	A listed entity should have a program for inducting new directors and provide appropriate professional development opportunities for directors to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as directors effectively.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	<ul> <li>         ⊠ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance         Statement <u>OR</u> <ul> <li>             □ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable         </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Corporate Governance Council recommendation		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
PRINCIPLE 3 –	ACT ETHICALLY AND RESPONSIBLY		
3.1 A list (a)	ted entity should:  have a code of conduct for its directors, senior executives and employees; and disclose that code or a summary of it.	our code of conduct or a summary of it:  ☐ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at http://emeraldresources.com.au/corporate_govenance	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement

Corpora	te Governance Council recommendation	We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
PRINCIP	LE 4 – SAFEGUARD INTEGRITY IN CORPORATE REPORTING		
4.1	The board of a listed entity should:  (a) have an audit committee which:  (1) has at least three members, all of whom are non-executive directors and a majority of whom are independent directors; and  (2) is chaired by an independent director, who is not the chair of the board, and disclose:  (3) the charter of the committee;  (4) the relevant qualifications and experience of the members of the committee; and  (5) in relation to each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or  (b) if it does not have an audit committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of its corporate reporting, including the processes for the appointment and removal of the external auditor and the rotation of the audit engagement partner.	[If the entity complies with paragraph (a):] the fact that we have an audit committee that complies with paragraphs (1) and (2):  □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] and a copy of the charter of the committee: □ at [insert location] and the information referred to in paragraphs (4) and (5): □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] [If the entity complies with paragraph (b):] the fact that we do not have an audit committee and the processes we employ that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of our corporate reporting, including the processes for the appointment and removal of the external auditor and the rotation of the audit engagement partner: □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location]	□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
4.2	The board of a listed entity should, before it approves the entity's financial statements for a financial period, receive from its CEO and CFO a declaration that, in their opinion, the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity and that the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	☐ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement

		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	 ave NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole e period above. We have disclosed <sup>4</sup>
4.3	A listed entity that has an AGM should ensure that its external auditor attends its AGM and is available to answer questions from security holders relevant to the audit.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u> we are an externally managed entity that does not hold an annual general meeting and this recommendation is therefore not applicable
PRINCIPI	LE 5 – MAKE TIMELY AND BALANCED DISCLOSURE		
5.1	A listed entity should:  (a) have a written policy for complying with its continuous disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules; and  (b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.	our continuous disclosure compliance policy or a summary of it:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
PRINCIPI	LE 6 – RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS		
6.1	A listed entity should provide information about itself and its governance to investors via its website.	information about us and our governance on our website:   at http://emeraldresources.com.au/corporate_govenance	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
6.2	A listed entity should design and implement an investor relations program to facilitate effective two-way communication with investors.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
6.3	A listed entity should disclose the policies and processes it has in place to facilitate and encourage participation at meetings of security holders.	our policies and processes for facilitating and encouraging participation at meetings of security holders:  In our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u> we are an externally managed entity that does not hold periodic meetings of security holders and this recommendation is therefore not applicable
6.4	A listed entity should give security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.	the fact that we follow this recommendation:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement

Corpora	te Governance Council recommendation	We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
PRINCIP	LE 7 – RECOGNISE AND MANAGE RISK		
7.1	The board of a listed entity should:  (a) have a committee or committees to oversee risk, each of which:  (1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors; and  (2) is chaired by an independent director, and disclose:  (3) the charter of the committee;  (4) the members of the committee; and  (5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or  (b) if it does not have a risk committee or committees that satisfy (a) above, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for overseeing the entity's risk management framework.	[If the entity complies with paragraph (a):] the fact that we have a committee or committees to oversee risk that comply with paragraphs (1) and (2):  □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] and a copy of the charter of the committee: □ at [insert location] and the information referred to in paragraphs (4) and (5): □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] [If the entity complies with paragraph (b):] the fact that we do not have a risk committee or committees that satisfy (a) and the processes we employ for overseeing our risk management framework: □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
7.2	The board or a committee of the board should:  (a) review the entity's risk management framework at least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound; and  (b) disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether such a review has taken place.	the fact that board or a committee of the board reviews the entity's risk management framework at least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]  and that such a review has taken place in the reporting period covered by this Appendix 4G:  ☑ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  ☐ at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement

Corporate Governance Council recommendation		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\ldots^4$	
7.3	A listed entity should disclose:  (a) if it has an internal audit function, how the function is structured and what role it performs; or  (b) if it does not have an internal audit function, that fact and the processes it employs for evaluating and continually improving the effectiveness of its risk management and internal control processes.	[If the entity complies with paragraph (a):] how our internal audit function is structured and what role it performs:  □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] [If the entity complies with paragraph (b):] the fact that we do not have an internal audit function and the processes we employ for evaluating and continually improving the effectiveness of our risk management and internal control processes: □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location]	□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance     Statement	
7.4	A listed entity should disclose whether it has any material exposure to economic, environmental and social sustainability risks and, if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.	whether we have any material exposure to economic, environmental and social sustainability risks and, if we do, how we manage or intend to manage those risks:  In our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement	

Corporate Governance Council recommendation		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\ldots^4$
PRINCIP	LE 8 – REMUNERATE FAIRLY AND RESPONSIBLY		
8.1	The board of a listed entity should:  (a) have a remuneration committee which:  (1) has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors; and  (2) is chaired by an independent director, and disclose:  (3) the charter of the committee;  (4) the members of the committee; and  (5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or  (b) if it does not have a remuneration committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for setting the level and composition of remuneration for directors and senior executives and ensuring that such remuneration is appropriate and not excessive.	[If the entity complies with paragraph (a):] the fact that we have a remuneration committee that complies with paragraphs (1) and (2):  □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] and a copy of the charter of the committee: □ at [insert location] and the information referred to in paragraphs (4) and (5): □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location] [If the entity complies with paragraph (b):] the fact that we do not have a remuneration committee and the processes we employ for setting the level and composition of remuneration for directors and senior executives and ensuring that such remuneration is appropriate and not excessive: □ in our Corporate Governance Statement OR □ at [insert location]	<ul> <li>         ■ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance         Statement OR         ■ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable     </li> </ul>
8.2	A listed entity should separately disclose its policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive directors and the remuneration of executive directors and other senior executives.	separately our remuneration policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive directors and the remuneration of executive directors and other senior executives:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	<ul> <li>□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u></li> <li>□ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable</li> </ul>
8.3	A listed entity which has an equity-based remuneration scheme should:  (a) have a policy on whether participants are permitted to enter into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise) which limit the economic risk of participating in the scheme; and  (b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.	our policy on this issue or a summary of it:  In our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	□ an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement <u>OR</u> □ we do not have an equity-based remuneration scheme and this recommendation is therefore not applicable <u>OR</u> □ we are an externally managed entity and this recommendation is therefore not applicable

Corporate Governance Council recommendation		We have followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed	We have NOT followed the recommendation in full for the whole of the period above. We have disclosed $\dots^4$
ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES APPLICABLE TO EXTERNALLY MANAGED LISTED ENTITIES			
-	Alternative to Recommendation 1.1 for externally managed listed entities:  The responsible entity of an externally managed listed entity should disclose:  (a) the arrangements between the responsible entity and the listed entity for managing the affairs of the listed entity;  (b) the role and responsibility of the board of the responsible entity for overseeing those arrangements.	the information referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b):  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement
-	Alternative to Recommendations 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 for externally managed listed entities:  An externally managed listed entity should clearly disclose the terms governing the remuneration of the manager.	the terms governing our remuneration as manager of the entity:  in our Corporate Governance Statement OR  at [insert location]	an explanation why that is so in our Corporate Governance Statement



#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

In fulfilling its obligations and responsibilities to its various stakeholders, the Board of Emerald Resources NL is a strong advocate of corporate governance. The Board has adopted corporate governance policies and practices consistent with the ASX Corporate Governance Council's "Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations" (Recommendations) where considered appropriate for a company of Emerald's size and complexity.

The 3rd edition of the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations was introduced on 27 March 2014 and took effect for a listed entity's first full financial year ending on or after 1 July 2014. Accordingly this Corporate Governance Statement has been prepared on the basis of disclosure under the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of these principles with a table included at the back of this statement detailing the Company's compliance with these principles during the period.

This statement describes how Emerald has addressed the Council's guidelines and eight corporate governance principles and where the Company's corporate governance practices depart from a recommendation, the Company discloses the reason for adoption of its own practices on an "if not, why not" basis.

Given the size and stage of development of the Company and the cost of strict compliance with all the recommendations, the Board has adopted a range of modified procedures and practices which it considers appropriate to enable it to meet the principles of good corporate governance. At the end of this statement is a checklist setting out the recommendations with which the Company does or does not comply. The information in this statement is current as at 30 September 2016.

The following governance-related documents can be found on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.emeraldresources.com.au">www.emeraldresources.com.au</a>, under the section marked "Corporate Governance".

#### **Charters**

Board

#### Policies and Procedures

- Code of Conduct
- Policy and Procedure for Selection and (Re)Appointment of Directors
- Policy on Assessing the Independence of Directors
- Securities Trading Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Procedure for the Selection, Appointment and Rotation of External Auditor
- Policy on Continuous Disclosure
- Shareholder Communication Policy
- Diversity Policy

# Principle 1 – Lay solid foundations for management and oversight Role and Responsibilities of the Board and Management

The main function of the Board is to lead and oversee the management and strategic direction of the Company. The Board regularly measures the performance of Management in implementation of the strategy through regular Board meetings.

Emerald has adopted a formal board charter delineating the roles, responsibilities, practices and expectations of the Board collectively, the individual directors and Management.

The Board of Emerald ensures that each member understands its roles and responsibilities and ensures regular meetings so as to retain full and effective control of the Company.

#### Role of the Board

The Board responsibilities are as follows:

- Setting the strategic aims of Emerald and overseeing Management's performance within that framework;
- Making sure that the necessary resources (financial and human) are available to the
- · Company and Management to meet its objectives;
- Overseeing and measuring Management's performance of the Company's strategic
- plan;
- Selecting and appointing a Managing Director (or equivalent) with the appropriate skills
- to help the Company in the pursuit of its objectives;
- Controlling and approving financial reporting, capital structures and material contracts;
- Ensuring that a sound system of risk management and internal controls is in place;
- Setting the Company's values and standards;
- Undertaking a formal and rigorous review of the Corporate Governance policies to
- ensure adherence to the ASX Corporate Governance Council principles;
- Ensuring that the Company's obligations to shareholders are understood and met;
- Ensuring the health, safety and well-being of employees in conjunction with
- Management, developing, overseeing and reviewing the effectiveness of the Company's occupational health and safety systems to assure the well-being of all employees;
- Ensuring an adequate system is in place for the proper delegation of duties for the
- effective day to day running of the Company without the Board losing sight of the direction that the Company is taking:
- Establishing a diversity policy and setting objectives for achieving diversity.

## Delegation to Management

Other than matters specifically reserved for the Board, responsibility for the operation and administration of the Company has been delegated to the Managing Director. This responsibility is subject to an approved delegation of authority which is reviewed regularly and at least annually.

Internal control processes are designed to allow management to operate within the parameters approved by the Board and the Managing Director cannot commit the Company to additional activities or obligations in excess of these delegated authorities without specific approval of the Board.

#### Election of Directors

The Board is responsible for overseeing the selection process of new directors, and will undertake appropriate checks before appointing a new director, or putting forward a candidate for election as a director. All relevant information is to be provided in the Notice of Meeting seeking the election or reelection of a director including:

- biographical details including qualifications and experience;
- other directorships and material interests;
- term of office:
- statement by the board on independence of the director;
- statement by the board as to whether it supports the election or re-election; and
- any other material information.

## Terms of appointment

#### Non-Executive Directors

To facilitate a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities all non-executive directors have signed letter of appointment. This letter of appointment letter includes acknowledgement of:

- director responsibilities under the Corporations Act, Listing Rules, the Company's Constitution and other applicable laws;
- corporate governance processes and Company policies;
- board and board committee meeting obligations;
- conflicts and confidentiality procedures;
- securities trading and required disclosures;
- access to independent advice and employees;
- confidentiality obligations;
- directors fees:
- expenses reimbursement:
- · directors and officers insurance arrangements;
- other directorships and time commitments; and
- board performance review.

#### Managing Director

The Managing director has a signed executive services agreement. For further information refer to the Remuneration Report included in the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2015.

#### Role of Company Secretary

The Company Secretary is accountable to the Board for:

- advising the Board and committees on corporate governance matters;
- the completion and distribution of board and committee papers;
- completion of board and committee minutes; and
- the facilitation of director induction processes and ongoing professional development of directors.

All directors have access to the Company Secretary who has a direct reporting line to the Chairman.

#### **Diversity**

The Board values diversity in all aspects of its business and is committed to creating a working environment that recognises and utilizes the contribution of its employees. The purpose of this is to provide diversity and equality relating to all employment matters. The Company's policy is to recruit and manage on the basis of ability and qualification for the position and performance, irrespective of gender, age, marital status, sexuality, nationality, race/cultural background, religious or political opinions, family responsibilities or disability. The company opposes all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination.

The Board acknowledges the absence of female participation on the Board of Directors. However, the Board has determined that the composition of the current Board represents the best mix of Directors that have an appropriate range of qualifications and expertise, can understand and competently deal with current and emerging business issues and can effectively review and challenge the performance of management.

The Company has not set or disclosed measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity. Due to the size of the Company, the Board does not deem it practical to limit the Company to specific targets for gender diversity as it operates in a very competitive labour market where positions are sometimes difficult to fill. However, every candidate suitably qualified for a position has an equal opportunity of appointment regardless of gender, age, ethnicity or cultural background.

The Company currently only has one full-time employee, being the Managing Director who is male. The Company has one other part-time male employee and contracts three consultants, one of whom is female and two of whom are male.

#### Performance review

#### Board and board committees

A review of the Board's performance and effectiveness is conducted annually and the performance of individual directors is undertaken regularly. The Board has the discretion for these reviews to be conducted either independently or on a self-assessment basis.

The review focuses on:

- strategic alignment and engagement;
- board composition and structure;
- processes and practices;
- culture and dynamics; relationship with management; and
- personal effectiveness.

A formal review of the Board's performance and effectiveness in respect of the year ended 30 June 2016 did not occur.

## Managing Director and senior executives

Performance evaluation of the Managing Director, senior executives and employees is undertaken annually through a performance appraisal process which involves reviewing and assessment of performance against agreed corporate and individual key performance indicators and deliverables.

For further information refer to the Remuneration Report included in the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2016.

#### Retirement and rotation of directors

Retirement and rotation of directors are governed by the Corporations Act 2001 and the Constitution of the Company. Each year, one third of directors must retire and may offer themselves for re-election. Any casual vacancy filled will be subject to shareholder vote at the next Annual General Meeting of the Company. It is intended that Mr Williams will stand for re-election by rotation at the Company's 2016 Annual General Meeting and Mr Tremain will stand for re-election as a director appointment since the last Annual General Meeting.

#### Independent Professional Advice

Each director of the Company or a controlled entity has the right to seek independent professional advice at the expense of the Company or the controlled entity. However prior approval of the Chairman is required which will not be unreasonably withheld.

#### Access to employees

Directors have the right of access to any employee. Any employee shall report any breach of corporate governance principles or Company policies to the Managing Director who shall remedy the breach. If the breach is not rectified to the satisfaction of the employee, they shall have the right to report any breach to an independent director without further reference to senior executives of the Company.

#### Directors' and officers' liability insurance

Directors' and officers' liability insurance is maintained by the Company for the Directors and senior executives at the Company's expense.

## **Board meetings**

The frequency of board meetings and the extent of reporting from management at board meetings are as follows:

- a minimum of four scheduled meetings are to be held per year;
- other meetings will be held as required;
- meetings can be held where practicable by electronic means;
- information provided to the Board includes all material information related to the operations of the Company including exploration, development and production operations, budgets, forecasts, cash flows, funding requirements, investment and divestment proposals, business development activities, investor relations,
- financial accounts, taxation, external audits, internal controls, risk assessments, people and health, safety and environmental reports and statistics;
- once established, the Chairman of the appropriate board committee will report to the next subsequent board meeting the outcomes of that meeting and the minutes of those committee meetings are also tabled.

The number of directors' meetings (including meetings of committees of directors) and the number of meetings attended by each of the directors of the Company during the financial year are set out in the Directors' Report included in the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2016.

## Principle 2 - Structure the Board to add value Composition of the Board

The names of the directors of the Company and their qualifications are set out in the section headed "Information on Directors" in the current financial year's Director's Report.

The composition of the Board has been structured so as to provide Emerald with an adequate mix of directors with industry knowledge, technical, commercial and financial skills together with integrity and judgment considered necessary to represent shareholders and fulfill the business objectives of the Company.

The ASX Corporate Governance Council guidelines recommend that the Board should constitute of a majority of independent directors and that the Chairperson should be independent. The Board currently consists of five directors of whom two are considered independent, being Mr Simon Lee (Independent Chairman – appointed 20 August 2014) and Mr Ross Williams (Non-Executive Director - appointed 4 October 2013). Mr Ross Stanley is not considered independent for the majority of the financial year ending 30 June 2016 due to his substantial shareholding in the Company. Mr Simon Lee is considered independent as he is not a director, shareholder or involved in the management of SHL Pty Ltd which is a substantial holder. Mr Morgan Hart was appointed Managing Director on 20 August 2014 and Mr Justin Tremain was appointed as Executive Director on 27 September 2016 and therefore do not meet the criteria for an independent director due to their executive roles.

Whilst the Company does not have a majority of independent directors, the Board considers the current balance of skills and expertise is appropriate for the Company which is in the preliminary stages of evaluating a significant transaction in the energy and broader resources sector. The detailed skills matrix of the Board for a company of Emerald's size and complexity is not considered necessary. The principal business of the Company at present is managing the Appalachian gas interests and identifying new investment opportunities, therefore requiring a skillset of geological and geophysical expertise, executive management, financial and commercial skills.

The Board comprises directors who each have extensive technical, financial and commercial expertise. If or when the Company enters into a transaction in the energy and broader resources sector, the Board will address the skills matrix to ensure those skill sets are complemented by additional industry expertise in the sector pursued as required.

#### Nomination of other Board Members

Membership of the Board of Directors is reviewed on an on-going basis by the Chairperson of the Board to determine if additional core strengths are required to be added to the Board in light of the nature of the Company's businesses and its objectives. The Board does not have a separate Nomination Committee and does not believe it is necessary in a Company of Emerald's size.

## Director induction and ongoing professional development

The Company does not have a formal induction program for Directors but does provide Directors with information pack detailing policies, corporate governance and various other corporate requirements

of being a director of an ASX Listed company. Due to the size and nature of the business, Directors are expected to already possess a level of both industry and commercial expertise before being considered for a directorship of the Company. Directors are provided with the opportunity to access employees of the business and any information as they require about the business including being given access to regular news articles and publications where considered relevant.

## Principle 3 - Promote ethical and responsible decision-making Code of Conduct

Directors, officers, employees and consultants to the Company are required to observe high standards of behavior and business ethics in conducting business on behalf of the Company and they are required to maintain a reputation of integrity on the part of both the Company and themselves. The company does not contract with or otherwise engage any person or party where it considers integrity may be compromised.

#### Conflicts of Interest

Directors are required to disclose to the Board actual or potential conflicts of interest that may or might reasonably be thought to exist between the interests of the director or the interests of any other party in so far as it affects the activities of the Company and to act in accordance with the Corporations Act if conflict cannot be removed or if it persists. That involves taking no part in the decision making process or discussions where that conflict does arise.

#### Trading in Company Securities

Directors are required to make disclosure of any share trading. The Company policy in relation to share trading is that officers are prohibited to trade whilst in possession of unpublished price sensitive information concerning the Company or within a period of the release of results i.e. the blackout period. That is information which a reasonable person would expect to have a material affect on the price or value of the Company's shares. An officer must receive authority to acquire or sell shares with the directors or the Company Secretary prior to doing so to ensure that there is no price sensitive information of which that officer might not be aware. The undertaking of any trading in shares must be notified to the ASX.

#### Principle 4 - Safeguard integrity in financial reporting

Emerald has a financial reporting process which includes half year and full-year results which are signed off by the Board before they are released to the market.

The Board does not have a separate Audit Committee and does not believe it is necessary in a Company of Emerald's size. Instead, the five Board members, who each have extensive commercial and financial expertise, manage the financial oversight as well as advise on the modification and maintenance of the Company's financial reporting, internal control structure, external audit functions, and appropriate ethical standards for the management of the Company.

In discharging its oversight role, the Board is empowered to investigate any matter brought to its attention with full access to all books, records, facilities, and personnel of the Company and the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisers as it determines necessary to carry out its duties.

The Managing Director reports in writing on the propriety of compliance on internal controls and reporting systems and ensures that they are working efficiently and effectively in all material respects.

The Company has established procedures for the selection, appointment and rotation of its external auditor. The Board is responsible for the initial appointment of the external auditor and the appointment of a new external auditor when any vacancy arises, as recommended by the Board. Candidates for the position of external auditor must demonstrate complete independence from the Company through the engagement period. The Board may otherwise select an external auditor based on criteria relevant to the Company's business and circumstances. The performance of the external auditor is reviewed on an annual basis by the Board.

The Company's external auditor attends each Annual General meeting and is available to answer questions from shareholders relevant to the conduct of the external audit, the preparation and content of the Auditor's Report, the accounting policies adopted by the Company and the independence of the auditor.

## Principle 5 - Make timely and balanced disclosure

Emerald has adopted a formal policy dealing with its disclosure responsibilities. The Board has designated the Company Secretary as the person responsible for overseeing and coordinating disclosure of information to the ASX as well as communicating with the ASX. In accordance with the ASX Listing Rules the Company immediately notifies the ASX of information:

- concerning the Company that a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the Company's securities; and
- that would, or would be likely to, influence persons who commonly invest in securities in deciding whether to acquire or dispose of the Company's securities.

The policy also addresses the Company's obligations to prevent the creation of a false market in its securities. Emerald ensures that all information necessary for investors to make an informed decision is available on its website.

The Managing Director has ultimate authority and responsibility for approving market disclosure which, in practice, is exercised in consultation with the Board and Company Secretary.

In addition, the Board will also consider whether there are any matters requiring continuous disclosure in respect of each and every item of business that it considers.

#### Principle 6 - Respect the rights of shareholders

The Board's fundamental responsibility to shareholders is to work towards meeting the Company's objectives so as to add value for them. The Board maintains an investor relation program which will inform shareholders of all major developments affecting the Company by:

- preparing half yearly and yearly financial reports;
- preparing quarterly cash flow reports and reports as to activities;
- making announcement in accordance with the listing rules and the continuous disclosure obligations;

- posting all of the above on the Company's website;
- annually, and more regularly if required, holding a general meeting of shareholders and forwarding to them the annual report, if requested, together with notice of meeting and proxy form; and
- voluntarily releasing other information which it believes is in the interest of shareholders.

The Annual General Meeting enables shareholders to discuss the annual report and participate in the meetings either by attendance or by written communication. The Company provides all shareholders with a Notice of Meeting so they can be fully informed and be able to vote on all resolutions at the Annual General Meeting. Shareholders are able to discuss any matter with the directors and/or the auditor of the Company who is also invited to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Shareholders have the option to receive all Company and share registry communications electronically, and may also communicate with the Company by emailing the Company via its website. All shareholders have the ability to request copies of ASX releases, all of which are published and available on the Company's website immediately after they are released to ASX.

The Company regularly reviews its stakeholder communication policy and endeavours to maintain a program appropriate for a company of its size and complexity.

## Principle 7 - Recognise and Manage Risk

The Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy, which sets out the Company's risk profile. Under the policy, the Board is responsible for approving the Company's policies on risk oversight and management and satisfying itself that management has developed and implemented a sound system of risk management and internal control.

Under the policy, the Board delegate's day-to-day management of risk to the Managing Director, who is responsible for identifying, assessing, monitoring and managing risks. The Managing Director is also responsible for updating the Company's material business risks to reflect any material changes, with the approval of the Board.

In fulfilling the duties of risk management, the Managing Director may have unrestricted access to Company employees, contractors and records and may obtain independent expert advice on any matter they believe appropriate, with the prior approval of the Board.

The Board does not have a separate Risk Management Committee as the Board monitors and reviews the integrity of financial reporting and the Company's internal financial control systems. Management assess the effectiveness of the internal financial control on an annual basis and table concerns and recommendations at Board meetings were required.

In addition, the following risk management measures have been adopted by the Board to manage the Company's material business risks:

- Establishment of financial control procedures and authority limits for management;
- Approval of an annual budget;
- Adoption of a compliance procedure for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Company's continuous disclosure obligations; and

- Adoption of a corporate governance manual which contains other policies to assist the Company to establish and maintain its governance practices.
- Maintenance and review of a risk register to identify the Company's material business risks and risk management strategies for these risks. The risk register is reviewed half yearly and updated as required. Management reports to the Board on material business risks at each Board meeting.

The Board has required management to design, implement and maintain risk management and internal control systems to manage the material business risks of the Company. The Board also requires management to report to it confirming that those risks are being managed effectively. The Board has received a report from management as to the effectiveness of the Company's management of its material business risks for the Reporting Period.

The Managing Director has provided a declaration to the Board in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act and has assured the Board that such declaration is founded on a sound system of risk management and internal control and that the system is operating effectively in all material respects in relation to financial risks.

#### Internal Audit

The Company does not have an internal audit function as the Board believes the business is neither the size nor complexity that requires such a function. The Board is currently responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of internal controls, risk management procedures and governance.

## Sustainability Risks

The Company has a detailed risk matrix which it regularly reviews and which highlights critical risk factors the Company faces at any particular time. The principal risks highlighted are what would typically be expected for a small listed exploration company and include;

- Reliance on key executives
- Inability to access new exploration capital
- Volatility in oil prices and applicable exchange rates (mainly USD)
- Unsuccessful exploration results
- Exposure to other operators, be it through Joint Venture agreements or actions of those operators in an operational sense
- Legislature changes in jurisdictions the Company operates in

As the Company expands its activities either within existing projects or with the addition of new projects, it is expected that the sustainability risks will change accordingly. The Board reviews the overall sustainability of both the oil and gas exploration business and more specifically, the Company, in its normal course of business and therefore does not produce a separate sustainability report.

## Principle 8 - Remunerate fairly and responsibly

The Company does not have a Remuneration Committee. Instead, the Board monitors and reviews the remuneration policy of the Company. The Board will engage an independent remuneration consultant to review the Company's policy on remuneration as and when required.

Details of the remuneration policy are contained in the Remuneration Report included in the Directors' Report of the year ended 30 June 2016 Annual Report. The Company's policy is to remunerate non-executive directors at a fixed fee for time, commitment and responsibilities. Remuneration for non-executive directors is not linked to individual performance. From time-to-time the Company may grant options to non-executive directors. The grant of options is designed to recognise and reward efforts as well as to provide non-executive directors with additional incentive to continue those efforts for the benefit of the Company.

The maximum aggregate amount of fees (including superannuation payments) that can be paid to non-executive directors is subject to approval by the shareholders at general meeting.

Pay and rewards for executive directors and senior executives consists of a base salary and performance incentives. Long term performance incentives may include options and / or performance rights granted at the discretion of the Remuneration Committee and subject to obtaining the relevant approvals. The grant of options and / or performance rights is designed to recognise and reward efforts as well as to provide additional incentive and may be subject to the successful completion of performance hurdles. Executives are offered a competitive level of base pay at market rates (for comparable companies) and are reviewed annually to ensure market competitiveness.

There are no termination or retirement benefits for non-executive directors (other than for superannuation).