

17 May 2024

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN THE SUPPLY OF MEREENIE GAS

Central Petroleum Limited, the Operator of New Zealand Oil & Gas Limited's [NZO] Amadeus Assets [Mereenie, Palm Valley and Dingo] has issued the attached media release announcing an Expression of Interest [EOI] for the supply of gas from the Mereenie field.

The EOI is for the supply of up to 40TJ/d or 90PJ of gas [gross to the JV], for delivery from mid-2024 through until the end of 2030.

NZO has a 17.5% interest in the Mereenie Joint Venture, Cue Energy Resources [Cue] has a 7.5% interest, CTP a 25% interest and Macquarie Mereenie a 50% interest. As announced on 14 February 2024, NZO has agreed to purchase from Macquarie Mereenie a further 25% interest in the Mereenie licenses. From completion of that transaction, the participating interests will be: NZO 42.5%, Horizon Oil 25%, CTP 25% [Operator] and Cue 7.5%.

### About New Zealand Oil & Gas Limited

New Zealand Oil & Gas Limited [NZX/ASX:NZO] is a nimble Australasia-focussed energy commodity exploration and production company, headquartered in Wellington, New Zealand. The company is committed to undertaking development and exploration activities that are ethical and values-based, and underpinned by quality relationships, skills and values. It also strives to deliver strong ESG standards that meet the benchmarks expected by communities and regulators.

The company's portfolio comprises a spread of wholly- and partly-owned onshore and offshore oil and gas assets, located in Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia. These stakes are held either directly by the company, or indirectly through its circa 50% stake in ASX-listed Cue Energy Resources Limited [ASX:CUE].

New Zealand Oil & Gas' team of experienced energy sector experts, along with those of its key partners, are now working together to explore and develop multiple assets on the company's books. These activities have comprised multiple exploration programs that continue to validate prospectivity within New Zealand Oil & Gas' asset portfolio. At the same time, the company along with its joint venture partners remain on the lookout for opportunities to acquire additional value-accretive producing and exploration assets.

For further information please contact the Company on:  
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### **Update on the Northern Territory Gas Market and Mereenie EOI**

Central Petroleum Limited (“**Central**”) provides the following gas market update:

- The Mereenie gas field has been selling at full capacity since late April following the as-available gas supply agreement with Power and Water Corporation (“**PWC**”) which expires at the end of 2024.
- Central and its Mereenie joint venture partners, Macquarie Mereenie Pty Limited, NZOG Mereenie Pty Ltd and Cue Mereenie Pty Ltd (collectively the “**Mereenie JV**”), have issued an Expression of Interest (“**EOI**”) for the supply of up to 40 TJ/d or 90 PJs of gas (10 TJ/d or 22.5 PJs net to Central) from mid-2024 to the end of 2030.
- The daily volume under the EOI represents approximately two-thirds of the Northern Territory’s (“**NT**”) current gas requirements and would facilitate the Mereenie JV in making a final investment decision for drilling multiple wells at Mereenie, including two drill-ready development wells.
- Given the projected NT supply shortfalls as described in AEMO’s 2024 Gas Statement of Opportunities, Central sees the EOI process as an efficient way to sell Mereenie production to customers that require gas supply from a well-established gas field with a long track record of reliably supplying customers under long-term arrangements.
- The EOI volumes can easily support a Northern Gas Pipeline (“**NGP**”) minimum flow of 20 TJ/d to ensure the long-term reliability of the NGP to export our gas from the Northern Territory to east coast customers.

Leon Devaney, Central’s Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer commented, “most major energy users do not want to gamble on their future energy security, particularly when the Australian Energy Market Operator itself is forecasting significant gas shortages in the Northern Territory from as early as this year.”

“Mereenie is an existing onshore conventional field with a reliable track record of providing long-term firm gas supply and the ability to supply a volume roughly equivalent to two-thirds of the NT’s total gas demand. We think Mereenie gas will be attractive to the NT and East coast markets because it has, in our view, a significantly lower risk profile when compared to the alternative supply sources available.”

“Importantly, the EOI process is a transparent process under the Gas Market Code<sup>1</sup> which aims to assist in producing efficient outcomes for both gas producers and customers. We encourage interested parties to participate in the EOI process as outlined in the link on our website or the link below, and look forward to making this significant volume of gas available to customers during this period of gas supply uncertainty,” he continued.

<https://centralpetroleum.com.au/public-notice/>

**-ends-**

This ASX announcement was approved and authorised for release by Leon Devaney, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.

**About Central Petroleum**

Central Petroleum Limited (Central) is an established ASX-listed Australian oil and gas producer (ASX: CTP) with exploration and appraisal permits in the Northern Territory (NT). Central has grown to become the largest onshore gas Operator in the NT, supplying residential and industrial customers in the NT and wider Australian east coast market.

Central is seeking to become a major domestic energy supplier, in addition to helium and naturally occurring hydrogen, with exploration, appraisal and development plans across 169,112 km<sup>2</sup> of tenements the NT, including some of Australia’s largest known onshore conventional gas prospects in the Amadeus Basin.

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<sup>1</sup> Competition and Consumer (Gas Market Code) Regulations 2023 (Cth)



# ANNOUNCEMENT AND MEDIA RELEASE



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