6 June 2011



# Lochard Energy Group Plc

# **Re: Athena Development - Drilling Completed**

Lochard Energy Group Plc ("**Lochard**" or the "**Company**") (AIM: LHD, ASX: LHD) notes the announcement made on 6 June 2011 by Ithaca Energy Inc relating to the Athena project. Lochard has a net 10% interest in this field through its 100% ownership of Zeus Petroleum Limited.

Development drilling has now been successfully concluded and the project remains on schedule for production start up in Q4 2011 at approximately 22,000 barrels of oil per day ("bopd") (gross), approx. 2,200 bopd (net to Lochard), in-line with previous disclosure.

# Haydn Gardner, Chief Executive Officer of Lochard Energy Group Plc said:

"I am very pleased to announce the completion of the production wells. The Company is now focused purely on oil and gas exploration and production and this is the next step in the development of the Company's cash generating oil production assets."

"6 June 2011

# Ithaca Energy Inc.: Athena Development-Drilling Completed

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Ithaca Energy Inc. (TSX VENTURE:IAE)(AIM:IAE) announces the final production well on the Athena field has been drilled and fully cased. The well encountered a considerable section of oil saturated net reservoir, with good porosities. Development drilling has now been successfully concluded and the project remains on schedule for production start up in Q4 2011 at approximately 22,000 barrels of oil per day ("bopd") (gross), approx. 5,000 bopd (net to Ithaca), in-line with previous disclosure.

Athena field development well 14/18b-A2Z ("the Well") intersected 515 feet (measured depth) of net reservoir in the sub horizontal section of the well bore which was drilled to a total measured depth of 15,497 feet. The drilling rig, Sedco 704, is now proceeding to run completion equipment and perforate the Well, the three existing suspended production wells and the water injection well.

The Well was directionally drilled to the northwest of the Athena field where it encountered the principal reservoir section, the Scapa A reservoir, at 11,967 feet (measured depth), 8,851 feet (true vertical depth subsea), in line with prognosis. Electric logs acquired across the entire reservoir section of interbedded Scapa age sandstones and shales confirmed a series of reservoir sands with porosities up to 20%. Two of the thickest, high porosity sandstone units were encountered close to the top of the reservoir section and Management anticipates that these will contribute to strong flow rates when the Well comes into production. A production liner has been run across the reservoir section.

The ongoing modification and recertification work on the Floating Production, Storage and Offloading ("FPSO") vessel, 'BW Athena' (currently in dry dock in Dubai) is well advanced. The vessel has been successfully separated for installation of a turret docking section which is currently being welded into the

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structure amidships. The vessel will be extended by approximately 65 feet. The FPSO will return to UK waters for 'hook up' to the turret mooring buoy by the end of Q3 2011. More details and images are provided on the Company's website:

### http://www.ithacaenergy.com/Athena-Area.asp

Athena Joint Venture Partners are Ithaca (operator, 22.5%), Dyas UK Ltd (47.5%), EWE Aktiengesellschaft (20%) and Zeus Petroleum Limited (10%).

Notes to oil and gas disclosure:

In accordance with AIM Guidelines, Hugh Morel, BSc Physics and Geology (Durham), PhD Hydrogeology (London) and senior petroleum engineer at Ithaca Energy is the qualified person that has reviewed the technical information contained in this press release. Dr Morel has 30 years operating experience in the upstream oil industry.

# About Ithaca Energy:

Ithaca Energy Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary Ithaca Energy (UK) Limited ("Ithaca" or "the Company"), is an oil and gas exploration, development and production company active in the United Kingdom's Continental Shelf ("UKCS"). The goal of Ithaca, in the near term, is to maximize production and achieve early production from the development of existing discoveries on properties held by Ithaca, to originate and participate in exploration and appraisal on properties held by Ithaca when capital permits, and to consider other opportunities for growth as they are identified from time to time by Ithaca.

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# Forward-looking statements

Some of the statements in this announcement are forward-looking. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding the intent, belief and current expectations of Ithaca Energy Inc. or its officers with respect to various matters. When used in this announcement, the words "anticipate", "continue", "estimate", "expect", "may", "will", "project", "plan", "should", "believe", "could", "target" and similar expressions, and the negatives thereof, whether used in connection with the estimated production levels of the Athena field, anticipated time of first oil from the Athena field or reserves associated with the Athena field are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The reserves for individual properties may not reflect the same confidence level as estimates of reserves of all properties, due to the effects of aggregation. Such statements are not promises or guarantees, and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements or information. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this announcement. Ithaca Energy Inc. expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained herein to reflect any change in its expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any forward-looking statement is based except as required by applicable securities laws.

The term "boe" may be misleading, particularly if used in isolation. A boe conversion of 6 Mcf: 1 bbl is based on an energy equivalency conversion method primarily applicable at the burner tip and does not represent a value equivalency at the wellhead."



– Ends –

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