



Board Appointments LSE – December 2011

Oil and Gas Producers

BP Plc

Egdon Resources Plc

Essar Energy Plc

Global Petroleum Ltd

Petroceltic International Plc

Westmount Energy Ltd

Woburn Energy Plc

BP Plc

The board of BP Plc have announced that Andrew Shilston has joined the Board as a non-executive director with effect from 1st January 2012. He is currently chief financial officer at Rolls-Royce Holdings plc.

Andrew Shilston has been Chief Financial Officer of Rolls-Royce Holdings Plc since 2002. Prior to that he was Finance Director at Enterprise Oil Plc from 1993 to 2002. He was a Non-Executive Director at Cairn Energy Plc from 2004 to 2008, and is currently a Non-Executive Director of Circle Holdings plc. He is retiring from Rolls-Royce Holdings Plc at the end of 2011.

Following the announcement in October 2011 of Brian Gilvary as Chief Financial Officer, the Board will, from 1st January 2012, comprise 11 Non-Executive and four Executive Directors.

Carl-Henric Svanberg, chairman of BP, said: "We continue to strengthen the Board with world class individuals. Andrew has deep financial and City experience together with industry experience from his time with Enterprise Oil and Cairn Energy. I welcome Andrew to BP."

Egdon Resources Plc

Egdon Resources PLC has announced the appointment of Jerry Field as Exploration Director with immediate effect. Jerry has been employed as Exploration Manager at Egdon since February 2011.

Jeremy James Field, 56, graduated from Leeds University in 1977 and has since gained over 30 years' oil industry experience working in small-to-medium sized independent Exploration and Production companies (including Weeks Petroleum, Triton, Ranger, Canadian Natural Resources, Toreador and Northern Petroleum). Jerry has a breadth of experience of exploration in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent and has spent a good proportion of his career working in Egdon's core areas of the UK Onshore and France. As a result of his far-reaching experience, Jerry has developed a wide range of contacts throughout the industry, and has significant experience in managing exploration projects at all levels.

Commenting in the appointment, Mark Abbott, Managing Director of Egdon said: "I am delighted that Jerry has agreed to this appointment, which strengthens the executive representation on the Board. Jerry is highly respected in the industry and brings a wealth of experience, particularly in our core areas of operation, and he will be instrumental in developing the businesses as we begin a more active exploration phase."

Essar Energy Plc

Essar Energy Plc, the India-focused integrated energy company, today announced the appointment of Naresh Nayyar as Deputy Chairman and Lalit Kumar Gupta as managing director and chief executive officer of Essar Oil Limited.

Until now, Mr Naresh Nayyar has held the dual roles of Chief Executive Officer of Essar Energy Plc and Managing Director and CEO of Essar Oil. However, Mr Gupta's appointment allows Mr Nayyar to relinquish his current role at Essar Oil and to focus on his wider executive responsibilities across the Essar Energy portfolio. These include the refining, power, and exploration and production businesses. He will remain on the board of Essar Oil Limited as a Non-Executive Director in the newly created role of Deputy Chairman. Mr Gupta joins Essar Oil Limited from JSW Energy Ltd, where he was the Chief Executive Officer and joint Managing Director. Prior to this he was associated with Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals as its Director of Finance and was recognised by CNBC TV 18 as the best performing CFO in the Indian oil and gas sector in 2008-09. Mr Gupta, who has 31 years of experience, is a chartered accountant and also a company secretary and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce (Gold Medalist) from Jiwaji University, Gwalior.

Mr Nayyar said: "Lalit Gupta's appointment comes at a key time for Essar Oil, where we are nearing the completion of our phase one expansion at the Vadinar refinery. The global refining scenario is increasingly becoming more challenging. With his vast experience in the energy sector in India, he would be able to create much greater value for the stakeholders of Essar Energy."

Mr Gupta said: "I am keenly looking forward to my new role. Essar Oil is among the world's leading refiners with a robust marketing business. I am excited about the challenge of taking Essar Oil to greater heights."

Essar Energy Plc have also announced that Mr Ravi Ruia has voluntarily decided to temporarily step aside as Chairman, however he will continue as a director of Essar Energy. This decision follows allegations by India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) that Mr Ruia, certain other executives of the Essar Group, and Essar Teleholdings Limited - an Indian company belonging to the Essar Group, had suppressed facts relating to the extent of equity holding of Essar Group in Loop Telecom Limited (Loop).

There are no charges of bribery or corruption or collusion with public servants (as compared to the other prosecutions being pursued in the 2G spectrum scam).

The allegations relate principally to a certification given by Loop Telecom at the time of grant of Universal Access Services licenses (mobile telecom licenses) that Loop was in compliance with Clause 8 of the guidelines under which such licenses were issued. This clause prohibits any shareholder company (directly or through its associates) from holding 10% or more equity shareholding in more than one mobile licensee company.

Essar Group is surprised and disappointed by the stand taken by the CBI especially because the Indian Ministries of Law & Justice and Corporate Affairs have already reviewed the facts and confirmed that the direct and indirect shareholding of the

Essar Group in Loop was below 10% and therefore there was no such violation and that no *prima facie* case of any offence can be made out.

Mr Ruia and Essar Group deny all charges and intend to take legal recourse to defend their position.

These charges do not relate to Essar Energy Plc, or any of its businesses and subsidiaries, and are not expected to have any impact on Essar Energy's business operations.

Commenting on his decision to step aside as Chairman, Mr Ravi Ruia said: "I believe that as a good corporate governance measure and to ensure that the board and management of Essar Energy continue to be fully focused on successfully delivering against their strategy, I should step aside at this time. Essar Group has always been open, transparent and law abiding, and I am confident that these charges will be dismissed by the courts in India. I expect that I would resume the office of Chairman at an appropriate time."

As a result of Mr Ruia's decision, the Board of Essar Energy has appointed Mr Prashant Ruia as interim Chairman of Essar Energy. Mr Prashant Ruia is currently Vice Chairman of Essar Energy and is fully conversant with the strategy, business and operations of Essar Energy.

Global Petroleum Ltd

The Directors of Global Petroleum Limited have announced the appointment of Mr Peter Dighton and Mr Damien Cronin as Non-Executive Directors of the Company with effect from 31 December 2011.

Mr Dighton is a lawyer who specialises in upstream petroleum and LNG projects. He was previously a Non-Executive Director of Global from 2003-8 and has also served on the board of the listed entities Falkland Oil & Gas Limited and Texon Petroleum Limited. He is currently a director of OSD Pipelines Pty Ltd and is the Australasian representative of the floating LNG developer Flex LNG Limited.

Mr Cronin is a solicitor who has over 25 years experience in the oil and gas, and resources sectors and has held senior legal and commercial roles with Rio Tinto, Shell, Duke Energy and Incitec Pivot. He has previously served as Company Secretary to a number of public companies in the oil and gas sector, including Sunshine Gas Limited and Blue Energy Limited and as Secretary to the Operating Committee of a number of mining joint ventures, including that for the Sonoma Coal Mine.

Following these new appointments, Mr Ian Middlemas and Mr Clint McGhie have resigned as Directors effective 31 December 2011. Mr Cronin will also replace Mr McGhie as Company Secretary from the same date.

Petroceltic International Plc

Petroceltic International Plc, the independent oil & gas exploration company focussed on the Middle East, North Africa (MENA) and Mediterranean region, has announced the appointment of Hugh McCutcheon as a Non-Executive Director. Mr McCutcheon (58), formerly Head of Corporate Finance at Davy ("Davy"), will join the Board with immediate effect.

Hugh joined Davy in 1989 after a successful career in PriceWaterhouse, where he qualified as a chartered Accountant. He has been Head of Corporate Finance at Davy since 2001 where he was involved in numerous privatisations, IPOs, other fund raisings, debt raising and debt restructuring, public takeover bids as well as private

M&A transactions across a large number of sectors. Throughout this period he has maintained a continuous focus on and interest in the natural resources sector and has advised oil and gas companies including Tullow Oil Plc, Dragon Oil Plc, Providence Resources Plc, Aminex Plc and Petroceltic International plc.

Hugh has an honours degree in Economics from Trinity College Dublin, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

Rob Arnott, Chairman of Petroceltic, commented: "Hugh McCutcheon brings a wide range of skills and experience in deal-making and corporate governance to Petroceltic and on behalf of the board and our shareholders I am delighted to welcome him to the team".

Westmount Energy Ltd

The Board of Westmount has announced the appointment of David Richard King, aged 53, as a director of the Company. He is currently a director of Dominion Corporate Services Limited, which is being appointed by the Company to perform corporate secretarial functions, replacing Bedell Secretaries Limited.

Woburn Energy Plc

On 11 October 2011 the Board of Woburn Energy Plc announced that Dr John Cubitt would step down as Managing Director no later than the end of 2011, to pursue other interests. Dr John Cubitt ceased to be a director on 31 December 2011. Kamran Ahmed, an existing director of the Company, has been appointed as acting Managing Director from the same date.

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