

**Petro Australis Energy Limited**  
**ACN 623 085 263**  
**(Company)**

**Corporate Governance Policies**

**Board Charter**

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# **1. Board Charter**

## **1.1 Role of the Board**

The Board of Directors is responsible for guiding and monitoring the Company on behalf of shareholders by whom they are elected and to whom they are accountable.

The Board is responsible for, and has the authority to determine all matters relating to the strategic direction, policies, practices, establishing goals for management and the operation of the Company.

The monitoring and ultimate control of the business of the Company is vested in the Board. The Board's primary responsibility is to oversee the Company's business activities and management for the benefit of the Company's shareholders. The specific responsibilities of the Board include:

- (a) overseeing the Company, including its control and accountability systems;
- (b) appointment, evaluation, rewarding and if necessary the removal of the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, executives and the Company Secretary. The Board will be consulted in the appointment of other senior management personnel;
- (c) ratifying the appointment, and where appropriate, the removal, of senior executives;
- (d) in conjunction with members of the senior management team, develop corporate objectives, strategies and operations plans and approve and appropriately monitor plans, new investments, major capital and operating expenditures, use of capital, acquisitions, divestitures and major funding activities;
- (e) establishing appropriate levels of delegation to the executive Directors to allow them to manage the business efficiently;
- (f) monitoring actual performance against planned performance expectations and reviewing operating information at a requisite level, to understand at all times the financial and operating conditions of the Company, including the reviewing and approving of annual budgets;
- (g) monitoring the performance of senior management, including the implementation of strategy, and ensuring appropriate resources are available to them;
- (h) identifying areas of significant business risk and ensuring that the Company is appropriately positioned to manage those risks through a risk management framework (for both financial and non-financial risks) which adequately deals with contemporary and emerging risks such as digital disruption, cyber-security, privacy and data breaches, sustainability and climate change;
- (i) setting the risk appetite within which the Board expects management to operate;

- (j) overseeing the management of safety, occupational health and environmental matters;
- (k) satisfying itself that the financial statements of the Company fairly and accurately set out the financial position and financial performance of the Company for the period under review;
- (l) satisfying itself that there are appropriate reporting systems and controls in place to assure the Board that proper operational, financial, compliance, and internal control processes are in place and functioning appropriately;
- (m) ensuring that appropriate internal and external audit arrangements are in place and operating effectively;
- (n) having a framework in place to help ensure that the Company acts legally and responsibly on all matters consistent with the code of conduct;
- (o) reporting accurately to shareholders, on a timely basis;
- (p) defining the Company's purpose and approving and instilling the Company's statement of values and code of conduct to underpin the desired culture within the Company; and
- (q) monitoring material breaches of the Company's code of conduct and Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy and any material incidents reported under the Company's Whistleblower Policy to determine whether they are indicative of issues with the culture of the Company and ensuring any such issues are adequately addressed.

While at all times the Board retains full responsibility for guiding and monitoring the Company, in discharging its stewardship it may make use of committees. The Board has not established any committees at this time. Until such time as the Board determines that it is appropriate to establish separate committees, the function of the

- (a) Audit Committee,
- (b) Nomination Committee, and
- (c) Remuneration Committee,

as set out in this Charter, or as set out in separate Charters, will be performed by the Board.

Each Director has the right to seek independent professional advice on matters relating to his position as a Director of the Company at the Company's expense, subject to the prior approval of the Chair, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

In the event of a conflict of interest or where a potential conflict of interest may arise, involved Directors will, unless the remaining Directors resolve otherwise, withdraw from deliberations concerning the matter.

In accordance with the constitution of the Company, directors (other than the Managing Director) must offer themselves for re-election by shareholders at least every 3 years. The constitution does not specify a maximum term for which a Director may hold office.

The Board may not delegate its overall responsibility for the matters listed above. However, the responsibility for the day-to-day operation and administration of the Company may be delegated by the Board to the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent). The Board will ensure that the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent) and the management team is appropriately qualified and experienced to discharge their responsibilities and has in place procedures to assess the performance of the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer and executive Directors.

While there is a clear division between the responsibilities of the Board and management, the Board is responsible for ensuring that management's objectives and activities are aligned with the expectations and risks identified by the Board. The Board has a number of mechanisms in place to ensure this is achieved including:

- (a) Board approval and monitoring of a strategic plan;
- (b) approval of annual and semi-annual budgets and monitoring actual performance against budget; and
- (c) procedures are in place to incorporate presentations at each Board meeting by financial, operations and marketing management, as appropriate.

## **1.2 Independent Directors**

The Board has accepted the following definition of an Independent Director:

An Independent Director is a Director who is not a member of management, is a non-executive Director and who;

- (a) is not, and has not within the last three years, been employed in an executive capacity by the Company or another group member, and there has been a period of at least three years between ceasing such employment and serving on the Board;
- (b) is not, and has not within the last three years been, a principal of a material professional adviser or a material consultant to the Company or another group member, or an employee materially associated with the service provided;
- (c) is not, and has not within the last three years, a material supplier or customer of the Company or another group member, or an officer of or otherwise associated directly or indirectly with a material supplier or customer;
- (d) is not a substantial shareholder of the Company or an officer of, or otherwise associated directly with, a substantial shareholder of the Company;
- (e) has no material contractual relationship with the Company or another group member other than as a Director of the Company;
- (f) has no close family ties with any person who fall within any of the categories described above; or
- (g) has been a Director of the entity for such a period that his or her independence may have been compromised.

If a Director's independent status changes, this should be disclosed to the market in a timely manner.

### **1.3 Director Independence:**

The Board shall ensure its fiduciary role by having in place a policy to disclose conflicts of interest, and to require recusal in matters where such conflicts prevent or may prevent a mindset of independence with respect to any matter to be decided. Directors shall put the interests of the corporation above their own, exercising an independent mindset.

### **1.4 Role of the Chair**

The Chair is responsible for the leadership of the Board, for the efficient organisation and conduct of the Board's functioning and for the briefing of all Directors in relation to issues arising at Board meetings. The Chair is also responsible for overall shareholder communication, chairing shareholder meetings, arranging Board performance evaluation, and presides over meetings of the Board. The Chair is responsible for leading and managing the Board in the discharge of its duties.

The Chair should facilitate the effective contribution of all Directors and promote constructive and respectful relations between directors and between the Board and management.

Any other position which the Chair may hold either within, or outside, the Company should not hinder the effective performance of the Chair in carrying out their role as Chair of the Company.

### **1.5 Role of the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer**

The roles of the Chair and Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer should not be combined except in particular circumstances, in particular where the size of the company necessitates the combining of the roles and is approved by the Board.

The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer's duties are to:

- (a) have the overall responsibility for running the affairs of the Company under delegated authority from the Board including undertaking and assessing risk management and internal control effectiveness and to implement the policies and strategies set by the Board. In carrying out his/her responsibilities, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer must report to the Board in a timely manner and ensure all reports to the Board present a true and fair view of the Company's financial condition and operational results;
- (b) devote the whole of his or her time, attention and skill during normal business hours and at other times as reasonably necessary, to the duties of the office;
- (c) be accountable for planning, coordinating and directing the operations of the company;
- (d) promote the interests of the Company; and
- (e) faithfully and diligently perform the duties and exercise the powers consistent with the position of a Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and assigned by the Board.

In fulfilling his or her duties, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer:

- (a) reports directly to the Board;
- (b) provides prompt and full information to the Board regarding the conduct of the business of the Company; and
- (c) complies with reasonable directions given by the Board.

## **1.6 Role of the Company Secretary**

The Company Secretary supports the effectiveness of the Board by monitoring that board policy and procedures are being followed, and by coordinating the timely completion and despatch of board agenda and briefing papers. The Company Secretary is accountable directly to the Board, through the Chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board.

## **1.7 Roles of Directors and Officers**

Individual Directors should devote the necessary time to the tasks entrusted to them. All Directors should consider the number and nature of their directorships and calls on their time from other commitments.

Directors and officers should be aware of their legal obligations.

This policy is reviewed annually.

## **1.8 Frequency and Conduct of Board and Committee Meetings:**

Typically, one regularly scheduled meeting of the Board shall be held each quarter, plus special meetings as required by the needs of the Company. The Chair of the Board shall generally establish the agenda in collaboration with the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for each board meeting and determine invitations to board meetings of non-directors. In planning for meetings, the Chair shall invite the other directors to suggest agenda items, requesting invitees, or raising matters for discussion not on the agenda at the board meeting.