# Management's Discussion and Analysis For the three months and year ended December 31, 2015

The following management discussion and analysis ("MD&A") of SAHARA ENERGY LTD. (the "Company" or "Sahara") for the three months and year ended December 31, 2015 contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete financial statements of the Company. It should be read in conjunction with the Company's December 31, 2015 audited financial statements and related notes thereto. Additional information is available on SEDAR at <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>. The financial information presented herein has been prepared based on International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). All references to dollar amounts are in Canadian dollars. This MD&A includes events up to **April 27, 2016**.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

The matters discussed in this MD&A include certain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements. Forward-looking statements may be identified, without limitation, by the use of such words as "anticipates", "estimates", "expects", "intends", "plans", "predicts", "projects", "believes", or words or phrases of similar meaning. In addition, any statement that may be made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects and possible future corporate action, is also a forward-looking statement. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and projections about future general economic, political and relevant market factors, such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equity and capital markets, and the general business environment, in each case assuming no changes to applicable tax or other laws or government regulation. Expectations and projections about future events are inherently subject to, among other things, risks and uncertainties, some of which may be unforeseeable. Accordingly, assumptions concerning future economic and other factors may prove to be incorrect at a future date. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by the Company. Any number of important factors could contribute to these digressions, including, but not limited to, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government relations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings and catastrophic events. We stress that the above-mentioned list of important factors is not exhaustive. We encourage you to consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions and we urge you to avoid placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Company disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required under applicable securities laws.

#### **BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

Certain financial measures referred to in this discussion, such as funds from (used by) operations and funds from (used by) operations per share, are not prescribed by IFRS. Funds from (used by) operations is a key measure used by management that demonstrates the ability to generate cash to fund capital expenditures. Funds from (used by) operations is calculated by taking the cash flow from (used by) operating activities as presented in the statement of cash flows and adding back the change in non-cash working capital. Funds from (used by) operations per share is calculated using the same methodology for determining net income per share. These non-IFRS financial measures may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. These financial measures are not intended to represent operating profits for the period nor should they be viewed as an alternative to cash flow from (used by) operating activities, net income or other measures of financial performance calculated in accordance with IFRS.

The reconciliation between funds from (used by) operations and cash flow from (used by) operating activities for the three months and year ended December 31, 2015 and 2014 is presented in the table below:

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	Three mo Dece 2015				Year Decer 2015		
Cash flow used by operating activities Change in non-cash working capital	\$ (309,840) (14,228)	\$	(296,549) (200,200)	\$		\$	(1,115,307) (18,189)
Funds used by operations	\$ (324,068)	\$	(496,749)	\$	(1,016,760)	\$	(1,133,496)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding - Basic	289,684,072	ф.	289,684,072	ф.	289,684,072	æ	217,355,305
Funds used by operations per share	\$ (0.00)	\$	(0.00)	\$	(0.00)	\$	( 0.0

Management uses certain industry benchmarks such as field netback to analyze financial and operating performance. Field netback has been calculated by taking oil and natural gas sales revenue less royalties and production and operating expenses. This benchmark does not have a standardized meaning prescribed by IFRS and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. Management considers field netback as an important measure to demonstrate profitability relative to commodity prices.

All barrels of oil equivalent (boe) conversions in this report are derived by converting natural gas to oil at the ratio of six thousand cubic feet (mcf) of natural gas to one barrel (bbl) of oil. Certain financial values are presented on a boe basis and such measurements may not be consistent with those used by other companies. Boe may be misleading, particularly if used in isolation. A boe conversion of six mcf to one boe is based on an energy equivalency conversion method primarily applicable at the burner tip and does not necessarily represent a value equivalency at the wellhead.

#### CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND PRINCIPAL BUSINESS RISKS

Sahara Energy Ltd. was incorporated under the Business Corporations Act (Alberta) and is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange ("the Exchange"), under the symbol 'SAH'. The Company is a junior resource exploration company engaged in the acquisition, exploration and development of natural resource properties (primarily oil and gas). The Company's business is the evaluation, exploration and development of various oil and gas properties in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

As at December 31, 2015, JF Investment (Hong Kong) Co., Limited (the "Investor") owned and controlled 69% of the Company's issued and outstanding shares.

## **OUTLOOK**

During 2014, the Company commenced the drilling of two heavy oil development wells in the Bodo area of central Alberta and acquired 384 hectares of undeveloped land in Alberta. Equipping and tie-in activities were suspended in 2015 due to low commodity prices.

Sahara intends to drill up to nine further wells, complete three perforation wells to increase the production of Sahara's existing wells on Sahara's existing oil and gas concessions and acquire new lands for exploration and drilling. Sahara is also actively looking for assets with considerable production volume to purchase in order to increase the cash flows of the Company and to maximize shareholder value.

The Company will proceed with its exploration, development and acquisition plans in due course.

# Management's Discussion and Analysis For the three months and year ended December 31, 2015

## **OVERVIEW AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

During the three months and year ended December 31, 2015, the Company earned net revenues of \$24,094 and \$104,160, respectively, and incurred net losses of \$291,018 and \$1,486,852, respectively. During 2015, the Company recognized an impairment charge of \$440,000 and incurred \$140,414 of capital expenditures. There were no dispositions.

As at December 31, 2015, the Company reported a cash and cash equivalents balance of 6,682,584 (December 31, 2014 – 9,019,033), short-term deposits of 5,090,069 (December 31, 2014 – 5,025,068) and a working capital surplus of 1,2014 (December 31, 2014 – 1,2014 –

Summary Information	As at December 31 2015	As at December 31 2014	As at December 31 2013
Working capital	\$ 11,964,151	\$ 13,121,325	\$ 238,543
Exploration and evaluation assets	193,054	180,922	41,287
Property, plant and equipment	3,744,698	4,056,568	2,740,269
Total assets	16,422,115	18,727,491	3,448,220
Total liabilities	1,403,570	2,223,409	1,195,011
Total shareholders' equity	15,018,545	16,504,082	2,253,209
Net revenue	104,160	362,885	413,577
Net loss and comprehensive loss	(1,486,852)	(1,252,421)	(925,194)
Net loss per share	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)

## **HEAVY OIL - BODO, ALBERTA**

Equipping and tie-in activities in the Bodo area of central Alberta will commence when it makes economic sense based on crude oil prices.

## **OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

#### Field netback

	Three m	onths embe		Yea Dec	ded er 31	
Per boe	2015		2014	2015		2014
Revenue	\$ 37.81	\$	60.25	\$ 40.60	\$	68.37
Royalties	(2.09)		(6.96)	(2.12)		(5.85)
Production and operating expenses	(89.50)		(76.01)	(66.34)		(68.39)
Field netback	\$ (53.78)	\$	(22.72)	\$ (27.86)	\$	(5.87)

The decline in the Company's field netback is due to shut-in heavy oil production in the first half of 2015 and reduced light-medium oil production combined with lower commodity prices.

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Variances in the Company's field netbacks are explained in more detail by changes in the following components:

# (a) Production volumes and revenues

· ·		Three mo				Yea Dece	r enc	
		2015		2014		2015		2014
Production Oil (bbls) Oil (bbls/d)		675 7		1,188 13		2,707 7		5,805 16
Composition of production Light-medium oil Heavy oil		52% 48%		23% 77%		37% 63%		20% 80%
Revenue, before royalty Oil Oil (\$/bbl)	\$ \$	25,504 37.81	\$ \$	71,545 60.25	\$ \$	109,897 40.60	\$ \$	396,861 68.37

Total oil production in the three months ended December 31, 2015 is lower than the 2014 comparative period due to decreases in both heavy oil and light-medium oil volumes.

Total oil production in the year ended December 31, 2015 is lower than the 2014 comparative period due to the shut-in of heavy oil production for the first six months of 2015 due to low oil prices and natural declines in the Company's light-medium oil wells. The Company recommenced production on two heavy oil wells in the third guarter of 2015 to generate cash flow.

The combined average price of oil earned by the Company in the three months and year ended December 31, 2015 is lower than the 2014 comparative periods due to the decrease in industry prices.

The following table provides benchmark industry pricing for the current and comparative periods:

	Three m	onths embe		Year ended December 31				
Benchmark oil prices	2015		2014		2015		2014	
Cdn Light Sweet (\$/bbl)	\$ 52.55	\$	75.11	\$	57.45	\$	93.99	
Cdn Heavy Hardisty (\$/bbl)	\$ 30.89	\$	61.41	\$	40.42	\$	76.40	

# (b) Royalties

		-	ns ended er 31		ar end embe	
	2015		2014	2015		2014
Royalties As a % of oil and natural gas revenue	\$ 1,410 5.5%	\$	8,264 11.6%	\$ 5,737 5.2%	\$	33,976 8.6%
Per boe (6:1)	\$ 2.09	\$	6.96	\$ 2.12	\$	5.85

Royalties as a percentage of revenue are lower in the 2015 periods due to the lack of heavy oil revenue in the first six months of 2015, which bear a higher royalty rate than light-medium oil royalties as well as to overall low production volumes and revenues for which some wells were below the crown royalty threshold.

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(c) Production and operating expens	ses							
		Three m	onth	s ended	Yea	ar en	ded	
		Dec	embe	er 31	Dec	embe	er 31	
		2015		2014	2015		2014	
Production and operating expenses	\$	60,379	\$	90,257	\$ 179,570	\$	396,994	
Per boe (6:1)	\$	89.50	\$	76.01	\$ 66.34	\$	68.39	

Operating costs per boe are higher in the three months ended December 31, 2015 due to the decrease in production for the quarter and the resulting effect of allocating fixed costs over lower volumes. In addition, operating costs per boe were higher in both the 2015 and 2014 three-month periods as compared to the year-to-date periods due to fourth quarter repair and maintenance work.

## General and administrative expenses

	Three m Dece 2015	-		Yea Dece 2015	r end embe	
Salaries and benefits Office and general Consulting and professional fees Travel and business promotion Shareholder and regulatory	\$ 90,509 69,117 82,517 32,467 5,017	\$	132,845 47,293 102,950 52,560 2,758	\$ 396,888 267,531 202,464 111,415 23,624	\$	444,652 185,443 213,790 86,631 26,473
Total	\$ 279,627	\$	338,406	\$ 1,001,922	\$	956,989

Salaries and benefits are lower in the three months and year ended December 31, 2015 compared to the 2014 periods due to staff reductions made at the end of February 2015.

Office and general expenses are higher in the three months and year ended December 31, 2015 compared to the 2014 periods due mainly to an increase in office rent following the move to new office premises in the early part of 2015.

Consulting and professional fees are lower in the three months and year ended December 31, 2015 compared to the 2014 periods due to reductions in fees for financial reporting services, the year-end audit and the reserve report.

Travel and business promotion fees are higher in the year ended December 31, 2015 due to the cost travel between Canada and China for Investor and management meetings. Travel and business promotion fees are lower in the three months ended December 31, 2015 than the comparative 2014 period due to the timing of management travel between Canada and China.

Shareholder and regulatory expenses are lower in the year ended December 31, 2015 due to a reduction in activity. Shareholder and regulatory expenses are higher in the three months ended December 31, 2015 than the 2014 comparative period due to the timing of expenses, including holding the Company's annual meeting in the fourth quarter of 2015.

#### **Depletion and depreciation**

		nonth embe	s ended er 31		ar en embe	ded er 31	
	2015		2014	2015		2014	
Depletion and depreciation	\$ 19,974	\$	212,095	\$ 84,610	\$	295,140	
Per boe (6:1)	\$ 29.61	\$	178.61	\$ 31.26	\$	50.85	

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Depletion and depreciation expense per boe is higher in the 2014 periods due depreciation on field vehicles acquired in the last half of 2014 combined with an increase in the depletable base associated with drilling activity in the fourth guarter of 2014.

Depletion and depreciation expense per boe decreased in the three months ended December 31, 2015 due to an increase in the estimated proved plus probable reserves reported at December 31, 2015 which were 659,000 barrels compared to 639,000 barrels estimated at December 31, 2014.

## **Impairment**

During the quarter ended June 30, 2015, the Company identified certain business risks related to its cash generating unit ("CGU") such as a decline in forward commodity prices. As a result, the Company performed an impairment test at June 30, 2015 and recognized an impairment charge of \$440,000. Management estimated the recoverable amount of the Company's CGU based on the 'fair value less costs to sell' using 15% discounted cash flows expected to be derived from the CGU's proved plus probable reserves as reported in the Company's December 31, 2014 externally prepared reserve report updated for June 30, 2015 commodity price estimates.

The Company tested its petroleum and natural gas cash generating unit ("CGU") for impairment at December 31, 2015 due the business risks such as the continued decline in forward commodity prices. The impairment test was based on the net present value of cash flows from oil and natural gas reserves of the Company's CGU at a discount rate of 15% as estimated by the Company's independent reserves evaluator. As at December 31, 2015, the estimate of the 'fair value less costs to sell' of the Company's petroleum and natural gas assets was sufficiently in excess of the carrying value of the CGU and therefore the Company did not recognize any additional impairment.

#### **Share-based compensation**

Share-based compensation measures the implicit cost of compensating key personnel through the issuance of stock options. During the three months and year ended December 31, 2015, the Company recognized \$nil and \$1,315, respectively, of share-based compensation expense (three months and year ended December 31, 2014 – \$1,681 and \$8,653, respectively).

# **Taxes**

Sahara does not have current income tax payable for 2015. As at December 31, 2015, the Company has approximately \$3.7 million (2014 – \$4.3 million) of tax pools available for deduction against future taxable income. The Company also has non-capital tax losses of approximately \$11.9 million (2014 – \$10.4 million) available for deduction against future taxable income that begin to expire in 2027.

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## **Capital Expenditures**

		_	nded
	Dece	mb	er 31
	2015		2014
Office equipment	\$ 10,645	\$	7,091
Vehicles	_		100,575
Land and lease rentals	3,266		419
Field and equipment	30,233		25,488
Drilling and completion	84,138		1,157,278
	128,282		1,290,851
Exploration and evaluation assets	 12,132		130,003
Total capital expenditures	\$ 140,414	\$	1,420,854

During the first quarter of 2015, the Company continued drilling and completion activities on two wells in the Bodo area of central Alberta prior to halting activities due to low oil prices. The Company incurred minor expenditures in the second quarter of 2015 and in the third quarter, the Company capitalized geological fees directly related to the evaluation of recompletion targets and future drilling locations.

Office equipment expenditures incurred during the Year ended December 31, 2015, are primarily comprised office furniture and computer purchases.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

As at December 31, 2015, the Company had a working capital surplus of \$11,964,151 compared to \$13,121,325 at December 31, 2014. The decrease in working capital is due to \$1,016,760 of funds used by operations and \$140,414 of capital expenditures.

The Company's December 31, 2015 working capital surplus includes \$6,682,584 of cash and cash equivalents and a \$5,090,069 six-month term deposit, ensuring that the Company has sufficient cash resources to meet its financial obligations, comprised of trade and other payables of \$520,212, on standard payment terms.

# **KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company considers its directors and executives to be key management personnel. As at December 31, 2015, key management personnel included nine individuals (2014 – nine individuals).

Key management personnel compensation is comprised of the following:

	2015	2014
Salaries and wages	\$ 133,600	\$ 120,000
Short-term employee benefits	10,730	9,326
Share-based payments	1,315	8,653
	\$ 145,645	\$ 137,979

Other than key management compensation, the Company did not engage in any related party transactions in 2015 and 2014.

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## **COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

Premises lease: The Company is committed to lease rental payments and a proportionate share of operating costs pursuant to the terms of an office lease agreement in the amount of \$16,357 per month from January 1, 2016 to August 31, 2019.

The Company has not entered into any off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no reportable events subsequent to December 31, 2015.

# **SHARE CAPITAL**

#### Common shares

As at December 31, 2015, December 31, 2014 and the date of this MD&A, the Company had 289,684,072 common shares outstanding.

## Stock options

As at December 31, 2015 and 2014, the Company had 2,400,000 stock options outstanding, all of which are exercisable at a weighted average exercise price of \$0.10 per share.

In January 2016, 1,700,000 stock options expired leaving 700,000 stock options outstanding as of the date of this MD&A.

## **QUARTERLY SUMMARY**

Below is a summary of the Company's financial results for the past eight quarters prepared in accordance with IFRS. This information should be read in conjunction with the unaudited quarterly and audited annual financial statements of the Company available at www.sedar.com.

	4th Quarter		3rd Quarter		2nd Quarter	1st Quarter
	2015		2015	]	2015	2015
Net Revenue	\$ 24,094		\$ 54,451		\$ 15,382	\$ 10,233
Net Loss	(291,018)		(260,272)		(677,247)	(258,315)
Loss per share						
Basic and fully diluted Weighted Average	(0.001)		(0.001)		(0.002)	(0.001)
Number of Shares In	289,684		289,684		289,684	289,684
Thousands						
		1		1		
	4th Quarter		3rd Quarter		2nd Quarter	1st Quarter
	4th Quarter 2014		3rd Quarter 2014		2nd Quarter 2014	1st Quarter 2014
Net Revenue			· ·		· ·	·
Net Revenue Net Loss	2014		2014		2014	2014
	2014 \$ 63,281		2014 \$ 84,963		2014 \$ 103,834	2014 \$ 110,807
Net Loss	2014 \$ 63,281		2014 \$ 84,963		2014 \$ 103,834	2014 \$ 110,807

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- The decrease in net revenue for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2015 is due to a decrease in production combined with a decline in commodity prices. The increase in net loss is due primarily to lower net revenues and higher general and administrative costs offset by a decrease in depletion and depreciation expense.
- The increase in net revenue for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2015 is due to an increase in production. The Company did not recognize any further impairment in the 3<sup>Rd</sup> Quarter which, combined with higher revenue, resulted in a lower net loss.
- The increase in net revenue for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2015 is due to an increase in production combined with an increase in commodity prices. The increase in net loss is due to the recognition of \$440,000 of impairment offset by the increase in net revenue combined with a decrease in general and administrative expenses.
- The decrease in net revenue for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2015 is due to a decrease in production following the shut-in of the Company's wells due to low oil prices. The decrease in net loss compared to the previous quarter is due to a decrease in expenses, particularly operating expenses and depletion due to reduced production.
- The decrease in net revenue for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2014 is due to a decrease in production and commodity prices. The increase in the net loss compared to previous 2014 quarters is due to an increase in general and administrative expenses and depletion expense.
- The decrease in net revenue for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2014 is due to a decrease in production. The decrease in net loss compared to previous 2014 quarters is due to a decrease in general and administrative expenses.
- The increase in net revenue for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2014 is due to an increase in oil prices combined with a decrease in royalty rates. The increase in the net loss compared to the previous quarter is due to an increase in general and administrative expenses offset by the increase in net revenue and a decrease in production and operating costs.
- The increase in net revenue for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2014 is due to an increase in production and oil prices compared to the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2013. The decrease in net loss compared to the previous quarter is due to an increase in net revenue and a decrease in general and administrative expenses.
- The decrease in net revenue for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2013 is due to a decrease in both production and oil prices compared to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter. The increase in net loss is due to the decrease in net revenue combined with increases in operating costs and general and administrative expenses.
- The increase in net revenue for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2013 is due to an increase in both production and oil prices over the previous quarter. The decrease in the net loss is due to the increase in net revenue.

# **CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

As the Company is classified as a Venture Issuer under applicable securities legislation, it is required to file basic Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Certifications, which it has done for the three months and year ended December 31, 2015. The Company makes no assessment relating to establishment and maintenance of disclosure controls and procedures as defined under National Instrument 52-109 as at December 31, 2015.

#### **BUSINESS RISKS**

The Company is engaged in the exploration and development of crude oil. The Company's business is

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inherently risky and there is no assurance that hydrocarbon reserves will be discovered and economically produced.

# **Environment risks**

All phases of the oil business present environmental risks and hazards and are subject to environmental regulation pursuant to a complex blend of federal, provincial, and municipal laws and regulations. Although the Company believes that it is in material compliance with current applicable environmental regulations, no assurance can be given that environmental laws will not result in a curtailment of production or materially increase the costs of production, development, and exploration activities or otherwise adversely affect the Company's financial condition, results from operations and or prospects.

## Operational risks

Operational risks include competitive environmental factors, reservoir performance uncertainties and dependence upon third parties for commodity transportation and processing and a complex regulatory environment. The Company closely follows the applicable government regulations. The Company carries insurance coverage to protect itself against those potential losses that could be economically insured against.

## Financial risks

Financial risks associated with the petroleum industry include fluctuation in commodity prices, interest rates, and currency exchange rates. Other financial risks include, but are not limited to, the availability of funds through equity markets and or debt to invest in capital projects to support the Company's growth.

- Commodity price risk Due to the volatility of commodity prices, the Company is exposed to adverse
  consequences in the event of declining prices. The Company does not have any contracts in place
  to protect against commodity price changes.
- Interest rate risk The Company does not have any debt subject to floating rates and is therefore not exposed to fluctuations in the market rate of interest.
- Foreign currency exchange risk The Company is exposed to foreign currency fluctuations as crude oil to be received are referenced in United States dollar denominated prices.

It is management's opinion that the Company is not currently exposed to commodity price risk, credit risk or interest rate risk except as described above. The Company does not use derivative instruments to reduce exposure to commodity price or foreign currency exchange risk.

## Credit risk

The Company is also exposed to credit risk. Substantially all of the Company's trade and other receivables are with customers and joint venture partners in the petroleum and gas industry and are subject to normal industry credit risks. The Company generally extends unsecured credit to these customers and therefore, the collection of accounts receivable may be affected by changes in economic or other conditions. Management believes the risk is mitigated by entering into transactions with long-standing, reputable, counterparties and partners. Wherever possible, the Company requires cash calls from its partners on capital projects before they commence. Receivables related to the sale of the Company's petroleum and natural gas production are from major marketing companies who have excellent credit ratings. These revenues are normally collected on the 25th day of the month following delivery. The Company does not anticipate any default or non-performance with respect to its receivables. As such a provision for doubtful accounts has not been recorded. As at December 31, 2015, all of the Company's trade and other receivables are less than 60 days old except for approximately \$37,400 which is greater than 60 days old.

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## Liquidity risk

As at December 31, 2015, the Company has a working capital surplus of \$11,694,151 (2014 – \$13,121,325). The Company has sufficient cash resources to ensure its financial obligations at December 31, 2015, comprised of trade and other payables of \$520,212 are met on a current basis. It is management's opinion that the Company is not currently exposed to liquidity risk.

#### FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, term deposits, trade and other receivables, deposits and trade and other payables. Management has utilized valuation methodologies available as at the period end and has determined that the carrying amounts of such financial instruments approximate their fair value in all cases due to the short-term maturity of these instruments.

## **USE OF JUDGMENTS AND ESTIMATES IN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amount of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ materially from estimated amounts. Estimates and their underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the year in which the estimates are revised and for any future years affected.

# Critical judgments in applying accounting policies

The following are critical judgments that management has made in the process of applying accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements.

#### Cash-generating units

The Company's assets are aggregated into a single cash-generating unit ("CGU") for the purpose of calculating impairment. CGUs are based on an assessment of a unit's ability to generate independent cash inflows. The determination of the Company's CGU was based on management's judgment in regards to shared infrastructure, geographical proximity, exposure to market risk and materiality.

## Joint arrangements

Judgment is required to determine when the Company has joint control over an arrangement. In establishing joint control, the Company considers whether unanimous consent is required to direct the activities that significantly affect the returns of the arrangement, such as the capital and operating activities of the arrangement.

Once joint control has been established, judgment is also required to classify as a joint arrangement. The type of joint arrangement is determined through analysis of the rights and obligations arising from the arrangement by considering its structure, legal form, and terms agreed upon by the parties sharing control. An arrangement where the controlling parties have rights to the assets and revenues and obligations for the liabilities and expenses is classified as a joint operation.

# Impairment indicators

Judgments are required to assess when impairment indicators exist and impairment testing is required. In determining the recoverable amount of assets, in the absence of quoted market prices, impairment tests

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are based on estimates of reserves, production rates, future oil and natural gas prices, future costs, discount rates, market value of land and other relevant assumptions.

#### **Provisions**

Judgments are required to assess the existence of obligations requiring a probable outflow of funds to settle the obligation and the requirement to recognize a related provision.

#### Deferred taxes

Judgments are made by management to determine the likelihood of whether deferred income tax assets at the end of the reporting period will be realized from future taxable earnings.

#### Contingencies

Judgments are made by management to determine the existence of contingencies and the outcome of future events.

# **Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

The following are key estimates and their assumptions made by management affecting the measurement of balances and transactions in these consolidated financial statements.

# Recoverability of asset carrying values

The recoverability of development and production asset carrying values are assessed at the CGU level. Determination of what constitutes a CGU is subject to management judgments. The asset composition of a CGU can directly impact the recoverability of the assets included therein. The key estimates used in the determination of cash flows from oil and natural gas reserves include the following:

- Reserves Assumptions that are valid at the time of reserve estimation may change significantly
  when new information becomes available. Changes in forward price estimates, production costs or
  recovery rates may change the economic status of reserves and may ultimately result in reserves
  being restated.
- Oil and natural gas prices Forward price estimates are used in the cash flow model. Commodity
  prices can fluctuate for a variety of reasons including supply and demand fundamentals, inventory
  levels, exchange rates, weather, and economic and geopolitical factors.
- Discount rate The discount rate used to calculate the net present value of cash flows is based on
  estimates of an approximate industry peer group weighted average cost of capital. Changes in the
  general economic environment could result in significant changes to this estimate.

#### Depletion and depreciation

Amounts recorded for depletion and depreciation and amounts used for impairment calculations are based on estimates of total proved and probable oil and natural gas reserves and future development capital. By their nature, the estimates of reserves, including the estimates of future prices, costs and future cash flows, are subject to measurement uncertainty. Accordingly, the impact to the financial statements in future periods could be material.

#### Decommissioning obligation

The amount recorded for the decommissioning obligation and the related accretion expense requires the use of estimates with respect to the amount and timing of decommissioning expenditures. Actual costs and cash outflows can differ from estimates because of changes in laws and regulations, public expectations, market conditions, discovery and analysis of site conditions and changes in technology. Other provisions

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are recognized in the period when it becomes probable that there will be a future cash outflow.

## Share-based compensation

Compensation costs recognized for share based compensation plans are subject to the estimation of what the ultimate payout will be using pricing models such as the Black-Scholes pricing model which is based on significant assumptions such as volatility, dividend yield and expected term.

#### Deferred taxes

Tax interpretations, regulations and legislation in the various jurisdictions in which the Company operates are subject to change. As such income taxes are subject to measurement uncertainty. Deferred income tax assets are assessed by management at the end of the reporting period to determine the likelihood that they will be realized from future taxable earnings.

## Contingencies

By their nature, contingencies will only be resolved when one or more future events occur or fail to occur. Management must make estimates of amounts related to the outcome of future events.

#### **FUTURE ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

The Company has reviewed new and amended accounting pronouncements that have been issued but are not yet effective and determined that the following may have an impact on the Company:

#### IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

In July 2014, the IASB issued the final version of *IFRS 9 Financial Instruments* which replaces *IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. IFRS 9* includes requirements for recognition and measurement, impairment, de-recognition and general hedge accounting. *IFRS 9* is effective for annual period beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

# IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements

Amendments to *IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements* clarify the accounting for acquisitions of interests in joint operations. The amendments are effective for annual period beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

#### IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In May 2014, the International Accounting Standards Board issued *IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* which specifies how and when an entity will recognize revenue as well as requiring entities to provide users of financial statements with more informative, relevant disclosures. *IFRS 15* is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018.

## IFRS 16 Leases

In January 2016, the IASB issued *IFRS 16 Leases* which replaces the previous leases standard, *IAS 17 Leases*. *IFRS 16* eliminates the classification of leases as either operating leases or finance leases as is required by IAS 17 and, instead, introduces a single lessee accounting model. Lessors continue to classify leases as operating leases or finance leases, and account for those two types of leases differently. *IFRS 16* is effective for periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

The Company is currently assessing the impact of these standards and amendments on its financial statements.