

# **Australis Oil & Gas Limited**

ACN 609 262 937

# Notice of Annual General Meeting and Explanatory Memorandum to Shareholders

#### **Date of Meeting**

Thursday 4 May 2017

#### **Time of Meeting**

11.00am (AWST)

#### **Place of Meeting**

BDO Building, Ground Floor, 38 Station Street, Subiaco, Western Australia

#### A Proxy Form is enclosed

Please read this Notice and Explanatory Memorandum carefully.

If you are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting please complete and return the enclosed Proxy Form in accordance with the specified directions.

# Australis Oil & Gas Limited ACN 609 262 937

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of Australis Oil & Gas Limited ACN 609 262 937 (Company) will be held at BDO Building, Ground Floor, 38 Station Street, Subiaco, Western Australia on Thursday 4 May 2017 at 11.00am (AWST) for the purpose of transacting the business referred to in this Notice of Annual General Meeting.

## **AGENDA**

#### **Financial Reports**

To receive and consider the financial report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2016, together with the Directors' Declaration and the Auditor's Report.

#### 1 Resolution 1 – Non-Binding Resolution to adopt Remuneration Report

To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following resolution as a **non-binding resolution**:

"That the Remuneration Report of the Company as set out in the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2016 be adopted."

Note: The vote on this Resolution is advisory only and does not bind the Directors or the Company. Shareholders are encouraged to read the Explanatory Memorandum for further details on the consequences of voting on this Resolution.

**Voting exclusion statement:** The Company will disregard any votes cast on Resolution 1 by or on behalf of a member of the Key Management Personnel whose remuneration details are included in the Remuneration Report, or their Closely Related Parties. However, the Company need not disregard a vote if:

- (a) it is cast by a person as a proxy appointed by writing that specifies how the proxy is to vote on the proposed Resolution or the proxy is the Chair of the Meeting and the appointment of the Chair as proxy does not specify the way the proxy is to vote on the resolution and expressly authorises the Chair to exercise the proxy even if the resolution is connected directly or indirectly with the remuneration of a member of the Key Management Personnel; and
- (b) it is not cast on behalf of a member of the Key Management Personnel whose remuneration details are included in the Remuneration Report, or their Closely Related Parties.

Further, a Restricted Voter who is appointed as a proxy will not vote on Resolution 1 unless:

- (a) the appointment specifies the way the proxy is to vote on Resolution 1; or
- (b) the proxy is the Chair of the Meeting and the appointment expressly authorises the Chair to exercise the proxy even though the Resolution is connected directly or indirectly with the remuneration of a member of the Key Management Personnel.
   Shareholders should note that the Chair intends to vote any undirected proxies in favour of Resolution 1.

Shareholders may also choose to direct the Chair to vote against Resolution 1 or to abstain from voting.

If you purport to cast a vote other than as permitted above, that vote will be disregarded by the Company (as indicated above) and you may be liable for breaching the voting restrictions that apply to you under the Corporations Act.

#### 2 Resolution 2 – Re-election of Jonathan Stewart as a Director

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution as an **ordinary resolution**:

"That, Jonathan Stewart, who retires in accordance with clause 6.1(f) of the Constitution and, being eligible for reelection, be re-elected as a Director."

## 3 Resolution 3 – Election of Steve Scudamore as a Director

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution as an **ordinary resolution**:

"That, Steve Scudamore, who ceases to hold office in accordance with clause 6.1(e) of the Constitution, and being eligible, offers himself for election, be elected a Director."

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

To deal with any other business which may be brought forward in accordance with the Constitution and the Corporations Act.

Details of the definitions and abbreviations used in this Notice are set out in the Glossary to the Explanatory Memorandum.

By order of the Board

Graham Dowland
Finance Director

Dated: 30 March 2017

#### How to vote

Shareholders can vote by either:

- attending the Meeting and voting in person or by attorney or, in the case of corporate Shareholders, by appointing a corporate representative to attend and vote; or
- appointing a proxy to attend and vote on their behalf using the Proxy Form accompanying this Notice of Meeting and by submitting their proxy appointment and voting instructions in person, by post or by facsimile.

#### Voting in person (or by attorney)

Shareholders, or their attorneys, who plan to attend the Meeting are asked to arrive at the venue 15 minutes prior to the time designated for the Meeting, if possible, so that their holding may be checked against the Company's share register and their attendance recorded. To be effective a certified copy of the Power of Attorney, or the original Power of Attorney, must be received by the Company in the same manner, and by the same time as outlined for proxy forms below.

#### Voting by a Corporation

A Shareholder that is a corporation may appoint an individual to act as its representative and vote in person at the Meeting. The appointment must comply with the requirements of section 250D of the Corporations Act. The representative should bring to the Meeting evidence of his or her appointment, including any authority under which it is signed.

#### Voting by proxy

- A Shareholder entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint not more than two proxies.
   Each proxy will have the right to vote on a poll and also to speak at the Meeting.
- The appointment of the proxy may specify the proportion or the number of votes that the proxy may exercise. Where more than one proxy is appointed and the appointment does not specify the proportion or number of the Shareholder's votes each proxy may exercise, the votes will be divided equally among the proxies (i.e. where there are two proxies, each proxy may exercise half of the votes).
- A proxy need not be a Shareholder.
- The proxy can be either an individual or a body corporate.
- If a proxy is not directed how to vote on an item of business, the proxy may generally vote, or abstain from voting, as they think fit. However, where a Restricted Voter is appointed as a proxy, the proxy may only vote on Resolution 1 in accordance with a direction on how the proxy is to vote or, if the proxy is the Chair of the Meeting and the appointment expressly authorises the Chair to

- exercise the proxy even if the Resolution is connected directly or indirectly with the remuneration of a member of the Key Management Personnel.
- Should any resolution, other than those specified in this Notice, be proposed at the Meeting, a proxy may vote on that resolution as they think fit.
- If a proxy is instructed to abstain from voting on an item of business, they are directed not to vote on the Shareholder's behalf on the poll and the Shares that are the subject of the proxy appointment will not be counted in calculating the required majority.
  - Shareholders who return their Proxy Forms with a direction how to vote, but who do not nominate the identity of their proxy, will be taken to have appointed the Chair of the Meeting as their proxy to vote on their behalf. If a Proxy Form is returned but the nominated proxy does not attend the Meeting, the Chair of the Meeting will act in place of the nominated proxy and vote in accordance with any instructions. Proxy appointments in favour of the Chair of the Meeting, the secretary or any Director that do not contain a direction how to vote will be used, where possible, to support each of the Resolutions proposed in this Notice, provided they are entitled to cast votes as a proxy under the voting exclusion rules which apply to some of the proposed Resolutions. These rules are explained in this Notice.
- To be effective, proxies must be received by 11.00am (AWST time) on Tuesday 2 May 2017. Proxies received after this time will be invalid.
- Proxies may be lodged using any of the following methods:
  - by returning a completed Proxy Form in person or by post using the pre-addressed envelope provided with this Notice to:

Australis Oil & Gas Ltd Suite 20, Level 2, 22 Railway Road, Subiaco, Western Australia

Or

- by email to jfoster@australisoil.com
- by faxing a completed Proxy Form to +61 (0) 8 93802799

The Proxy Form must be signed by the Shareholder or the Shareholder's attorney. Proxies given by corporations must be executed in accordance with the Corporations Act. Where the appointment of a proxy is signed by the appointer's attorney, a certified copy of the Power of Attorney, or the power itself, must be received by the Company at the above address, or by facsimile, and by 11.00am (AWST) on Thursday 4 May 2017. If facsimile transmission is used, the Power of Attorney must be certified.

#### Shareholders who are entitled to vote

In accordance with paragraphs 7.11.37 and 7.11.38 of the Corporations Regulations, the Board has determined that a person's entitlement to vote at the Annual General Meeting will be the entitlement of that person set out in the Register of Shareholders as at 5pm (AWST) on Wednesday 3 May 2017.

# Australis Oil & Gas Limited ACN 609 262 937

# EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Explanatory Memorandum is intended to provide Shareholders with sufficient information to assess the merits of the Resolutions contained in the accompanying Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Company.

Certain abbreviations and other defined terms are used throughout this Explanatory Memorandum. Defined terms are generally identifiable by the use of an upper case first letter. Details of the definitions and abbreviations are set out in the Glossary to the Explanatory Memorandum.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The first item of the Notice deals with the presentation of the consolidated annual financial report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2016, together with the Directors' Declaration and report in relation to that period and the Auditor's Report on the financial report, which are available on the Company's website (www.australisoil.com). Shareholders should consider these documents and raise any matters of interest with the Directors when this item is being considered.

No resolution is required to be moved in respect of this item.

Shareholders will be given a reasonable opportunity at the Annual General Meeting to ask questions and make comments on the accounts and on the management of the Company.

The Chair will also give Shareholders a reasonable opportunity to ask the Auditor or the Auditor's representative questions relevant to:

- (a) the conduct of the audit;
- (b) the preparation and content of the independent audit report;
- (c) the accounting policies adopted by the Company in relation to the preparation of the financial statements;
- (d) the independence of the Auditor in relation to the conduct of the audit.

The Chair will also allow a reasonable opportunity for the Auditor or their representative to answer any written questions submitted to the Auditor under section 250PA of the Corporations Act.

#### **RESOLUTION 1 - NON-BINDING RESOLUTION TO ADOPT REMUNERATION REPORT**

Section 250R(2) of the Corporations Act requires the Company to put to its Shareholders a resolution that the Remuneration Report as disclosed in the Company's 2016 Annual Report be adopted. The Remuneration Report is set out in the Company's 2016 Annual Report and is also available on the Company's website (www.australisoil.com.au).

The vote on Resolution 1 is advisory only and does not bind the Directors or the Company.

However, if at least 25% of the votes cast are against adoption of the Remuneration Report at this Annual General Meeting, and then again at the 2018 annual general meeting, the Company will be required to put a resolution to the 2018 annual general meeting (**Spill Resolution**), to approve calling a general meeting (**Spill Meeting**). If more than 50% of Shareholders vote in favour of the Spill Resolution, the Company must then convene a Spill Meeting within 90 days of the 2018 annual general meeting. All of the Directors who were in office when the 2018 Directors' Report was approved, other than the Managing Director, will need to stand for reelection at the Spill Meeting if they wish to continue as Directors.

This is the Company's first annual general meeting since becoming a publically listed company. As such, it has not had to put a remuneration report before its shareholders and has therefore never received a vote of more than 25% against the adoption of its remuneration report. Accordingly, if at least 25% of the votes cast on Resolution 1 are **against** adoption of the Remuneration Report it will not result in the Company putting a Spill Resolution to Shareholders.

The Remuneration Report explains the Board policies in relation to the nature and level of remuneration paid to Directors, sets out remuneration details for each Director and any service agreements and sets out the details of any equity based compensation.

Shareholders will be given reasonable opportunity at the Meeting to ask questions, or make comments on, the Remuneration Report.

#### Voting

Note that a voting exclusion applies to Resolution 1 in the terms set out in the Notice.

Shareholders are urged to carefully read the Proxy Form and provide a direction to the proxy on how to vote on this Resolution.

#### **RESOLUTION 2 – RE-ELECTION OF JONATHAN STEWART AS A DIRECTOR**

Pursuant to Clause 6.1(f) of the Constitution, Jonathan Stewart, being a Director, retires by way of rotation and being eligible, offers himself for re-election as a Director.

Jonathan Stewart is one of the founding Directors of Australis and is the Chairman.

Jonathan Stewart was appointed as the Non-Executive Chair of Australis on 1 December 2015. Jonathan Stewart was a founder of Aurora Oil & Gas Limited (**Aurora**) and was the Executive Chairman of Aurora from 22 February 2005 until the acquisition of Aurora by Baytex Energy Australia Pty Ltd on 11 June 2014. He was Executive Chairman and CEO of Aurora until separating from the role of CEO in 2012. An experienced oil & gas executive, Jonathan Stewart has held a number of executive management positions in listed and unlisted companies in Australia, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the former Soviet Union. He has considerable experience in the management of oil and gas exploration and production companies, structuring and financing of transactions and the broader strategic development of companies. He has also been involved helping list a number of companies in Australia, the United Kingdom and Canada. Based in Europe during the 1990s, Jonathan Stewart helped establish a number of oil and gas ventures, particularly in the former Soviet Union, including two new oil and gas companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. He has been involved in raising significant capital from international equity markets to enable the successful development of these projects.

Jonathan Stewart is a qualified chartered accountant.

Jonathan Stewart does not currently hold any other listed company directorships.

The Directors (apart from Jonathan Stewart) recommend that Shareholders vote in favour of the re-election of Jonathan Stewart.

#### **RESOLUTION 3 – ELECTION OF STEVE SCUDAMORE AS A DIRECTOR**

Resolution 3 seeks approval for the election of Steve Scudamore as a Director.

Clause 6.1 of the Constitution provides that the Directors may at any time appoint a person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy, or as an addition to the existing Directors, but so that the total number of Directors does not at any time exceed the maximum number specified by the Constitution. Any Director so appointed holds office only until the next following annual general meeting and is then eligible for election, but shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors who are to retire by rotation (if any) at that meeting.

Pursuant to Clause 6.1(e) of the Constitution, Steve Scudamore, being a Director, retires and being eligible, offers himself for election as a Director.

Steve Scudamore was appointed as an independent Non-Executive Director of Australis on 30 November 2016.

Steve Scudamore is an experienced Australian company director. His distinguished career includes more than three decades with KPMG, including senior roles in Australia, London and PNG including Chairman of Partners WA, Head of Corporate Finance in WA and National Head of Valuations, KPMG Australia. He joined the Australia Board as an independent, non-executive Director and chairman of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Since 2012, Steve Scudamore has been a non-executive Director and Chairman of MDA National Insurance Pty Ltd, the insurance arm of a mutual medical defence organisation founded in Perth in 1925. He was previously Non-Executive Director of Aquila Resources Limited and is currently a non-executive Director of Altona Mining Limited and Pilbara Minerals Limited.

His involvement in community organisations includes roles as Chairman of Amana Living, Member of Council and Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee at Curtin University and Trustee at the Western Australian Museum.

Steve Scudamore is a chartered accountant with a Master of Arts from Oxford University, a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, England, Wales and Australia (FCA), a Fellow of the Institute of Company Directors (FAICD) and a Senior Fellow of the Financial Services Institute of Australia (SF Fin).

The Directors (apart from Steve Scudamore) recommend that Shareholders vote in favour of the election of Steve Scudamore.

#### **GLOSSARY**

**Accounting Standards** has the meaning given to that term in the Corporations Act.

**Annual Report** means the annual report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2016.

**Auditor** means the Company's auditor from time to time (if any).

**Auditor's Report** means the report of the Auditor contained in the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Australis means the Company.

**AWST** means western standard time as recognised in Perth, Western Australia.

Board means the Directors.

**Chair or Chairman** means the individual appointed under clause 5.5 of the Constitution to chair any meeting of the Company from time to time.

**Closely Related Party** has the meaning given to that term in the Corporations Act.

Company means Australis Oil & Gas Limited ACN 609 262 937

**Constitution** means the Company's constitution, as amended from time to time.

**Corporations Act** means *Corporations Act* 2001 (Cth).

**Corporations Regulations** means *Corporations Regulations 2001* (Cth).

**Directors** means the directors of the Company.

**Explanatory Memorandum** means the explanatory memorandum accompanying this Notice.

**Key Management Personnel** has the meaning given to that term in the Accounting Standards.

**Meeting** means the Annual General Meeting convened by the Notice.

Notice means this Notice of General Meeting.

**Notice of Meeting** means this Notice of General Meeting.

**Proxy Form** means the proxy form accompanying the Notice.

**Remuneration Report** means the remuneration report set out in the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2016.

**Resolution** means a resolution contained in the Notice.

**Restricted Voter** means Key Management Personnel and their Closely Related Parties as at the date of the Meeting.

**Shareholder** means a member of the Company from time to time.

**Shares** means fully paid ordinary shares in the capital of the Company.

**Spill Meeting** has the meaning set out on page 6. **Spill Resolution** has the meaning set out on page 6.

# **PROXY FORM**

# **AUSTRALIS OIL & GAS LIMITED**

# ACN 609 262 937

**Contact Name** 

#### Appointment of Proxy

| Appointment of 1 Toxy  |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| If appointing a proxy to attend the Annual General M on the reverse side of this page.   | leeting on your behalf, please comple   | te the form and su                  | bmit it in a               | ccordance with th  | ne directions |
| I/We   | of  |                                     |                            |                    | , being       |
| a Shareholder/Shareholders of Australis Oil & Gas L  | imited, pursuant to my/our right to ap  | point not more tha                  | n two proxi                | es, appoint:       | _             |
| The Chair of the  Meeting OR  (mark with an "X")   | Write here the name of the person you are appointing if this person is someone other than the Chair of the Meeting.  Write here the name of the person you are appointing as a second proxy (if any). |                                     |                            |                    |               |
| or failing him/her, (if no proxy is specified above), General Meeting to be held on Thursday 4 May 20 Australia and at any adjournment of that Meeting.  This proxy is to be used in respect of  | 017 at 11.00am (AWST) at the BDO E  | =                                   |                            | -                  |               |
| Voting directions to your Proxy  |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |
| Important for Resolution 1 – If the Chair of   | the Meeting is your proxy or is   | s appointed as                      | vour pro                   | kv bv default      |               |
| Where I/we have appointed the Chair of the Meeting Chair of the Meeting to vote in accordance with the (intention) even though Resolution 1 is connected dir includes the Chair of the Meeting.  The Chair of the Meeting intends to vote all available.                                 | Chair's voting intentions on Resolution rectly or indirectly with the remuneration  | n 1 (except where on of a member of | I/we have i<br>Key Mana    | ndicated a differe | ent voting    |
| RESOLUTION   |   |                                     | For                        | Against            | Abstain*      |
| Non-Binding Resolution to adopt Remuneration Report  |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |
| Re-election of Jonathan Stewart as a director  |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |
| Election of Steve Scudamore as a director  |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |
| If no directions are given my proxy may vote as a *If you mark the Abstain box for a particular item, yo votes will not be counted in computing the required to PLEASE SIGN HERE  This section must be signed in accordance with the If executed by a company, executed in accordance of | ou are directing your proxy not to vote majority on a poll.  instructions overleaf to enable your di  | on your behalf on                   |                            | nands or on a po   | ll and your   |
| Individual or Shareholder 1 Joint Shareholder 2  |   |                                     | Joint Shareholder 3        |                    |               |
|  |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |
| Sole Director and Sole Company Secretary   | Director  |                                     | Director/Company Secretary |                    |               |
| Date: 2017   |   |                                     |                            |                    |               |

Contact Business Telephone/Mobile

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING PROXY FORM

- Completion of a Proxy Form will not prevent individual Shareholders from attending the Annual General Meeting in
  person if they wish. Where a Shareholder completes and lodges a valid Proxy Form and attends the Annual General
  Meeting in person, then the proxy's authority to speak and vote for that Shareholder is suspended while the
  Shareholder is present at the Annual General Meeting.
- 2. A Shareholder of the Company entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint not more than two proxies. Where more than one proxy is appointed, each proxy must be appointed to represent a specified proportion of the Shareholder's voting rights. If the Shareholder appoints two proxies and the appointment does not specify this proportion, each proxy may exercise half of the votes.
- 3. A proxy need not be a Shareholder of the Company.
- 4. If you mark the abstain box for a particular item, you are directing your proxy not to vote on that item on a show of hands or on a poll and that your Shares are not to be counted in computing the required majority on a poll.
- 5. Should any resolution, other than those specified in this Notice, be proposed at the Meeting, a proxy may vote on that resolution as they think fit.
- 6. If a representative of a company Shareholder is to attend the Meeting, a properly executed original (or certified copy) of evidence of appointment is required. The appointment must comply with section 250D of the Corporations Act. The representative should bring to the Meeting evidence of his or her appointment to including any authority under which it is signed.
- 7. If a representative as power of attorney of a Shareholder is to attend the Meeting, a certified copy of the Power of Attorney, or the original Power of Attorney, must be received by the Company in the same manner, and by the same time as outlined for proxy forms in paragraph 9 below.

#### 8. Signing Instructions

You must sign this form as follows in the spaces provided:

**Individual:** Where the holding is in one name, the holder must sign.

**Joint Holding:** Where the holding is in more than one name, all of the Shareholders should sign.

Power of Attorney: If you are signing under a Power of Attorney, you must lodge an original or certified

photocopy of the appropriate Power of Attorney with your completed Proxy Form.

Companies: Where the company has a Sole Director who is also the Sole Company Secretary, this

Proxy Form must be signed by that person.

If the company (pursuant to section 204A of the Corporations Act) does not have a

Company Secretary, a Sole Director can also sign alone.

Otherwise this Proxy Form must be signed by a Director jointly with either another Director or a Company Secretary. Please indicate the office held by signing in the

appropriate place.

## 9. Lodgement of a Proxy

This Proxy Form (and any Power of Attorney under which it is signed) must be received at the address below not later than 11.00am (AWST) on Tuesday 2 May 2017 (48 hours before the commencement of the Meeting). Any Proxy Form received after that time will not be valid for the scheduled meeting.

Hand deliveries: Suite 20, Level 2, 22 Railway Road, Subiaco, Western Australia

**Postal address:** Suite 20, Level 2, 22 Railway Road, Subiaco, Western Australia

Email: jfoster@australisoil.com

**Fax number:** +61 (0) 8 93802799