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APAC Outlook (AO): Could you introduce us to Empire Energy?

Alex Underwood, Managing Director (AU):

Empire Energy is an Australian oil and gas company. We have assets in the US and Australia, but our key focus is in Australian, in the Beetaloo Basin one of the largest shale gas deposits on Earth. Our focus is on moving these assets from the exploration and appraisal phase into the production phase over the next 12 to 18 months.

AO: What are some of the ongoing or recent projects that you are most interested in showcasing?

AU: We have a very large asset base in Australia where we own nearly 29,000,000 acres of leases. Over the last five years since I started running the company, we have moved our

assets forward significantly. We have carried out two seismic surveys and drilled four wells, two of which were horizontally drilled and fracture stimulated.

We have identified a resource that we believe exceeds the economic thresholds to move into development and are now in the process of moving into the production phase. We have acquired a gas processing plant from another Australian company, AGL, and subject to approvals will be installing that facility in the field later this year. The plant is fit for purpose for our pilot project, where we are looking to produce up to 25,000,000 cubic feet per day. This plant has a design capacity of 42,000,000 cubic feet per day so it's a great acquisition for us.

We will then look to drill up to another three development wells with the gas processed and transported into an existing pipeline that runs





through our tenements. We are targeting 'first gas' in 2025.

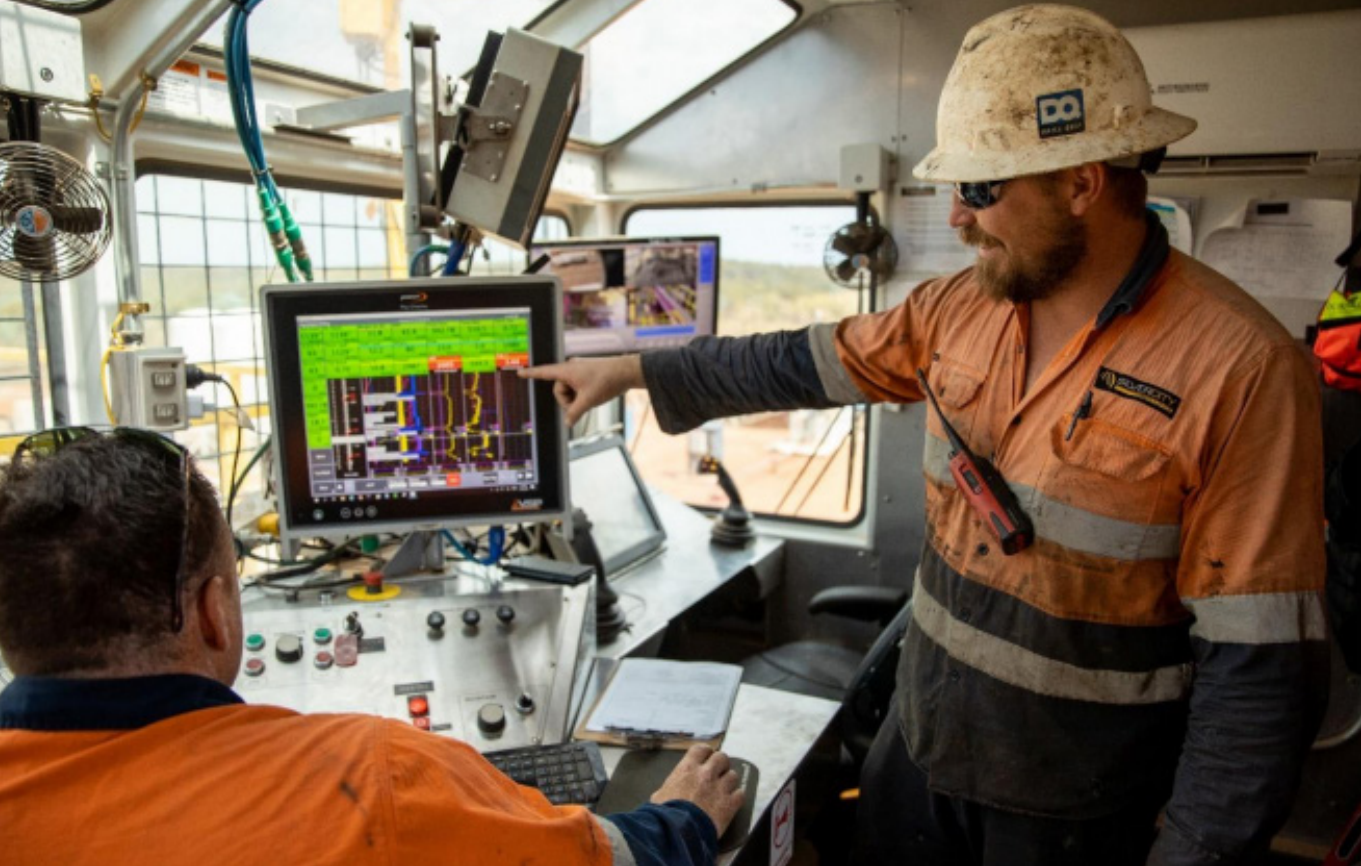
It's been a lot of hard work to get to this point and we are very pleased with the results we have achieved. The gas market conditions in Australia and the Northern Territory specifically are currently in a dire state. We are experiencing very high gas prices in Australia, and significant looming shortfalls on Australia's East Coast. It's a very good time to be bringing production into the market.

AO: What, for you, differentiates your business from the competition?

AU: If you look at Empire's results to date, we

have been very focused as a small company on delivering our projects successfully in terms of technical goals but doing so in a cost-effective manner. To date, we have executed our work programmes for around two-thirds of the cost of some of our neighbours in the Beetaloo basin. We also have a very strong focus on moving into production and cash flow, which tends to differentiate smaller companies from bigger companies in this industry.

We believe we've carried out these activities in quite a capital-efficient manner while also working in an entrepreneurial way to get up the technical learning curve, with the goal of commercial success on all projects.



AO: What are your major ambitions going forward and how will these goals be achieved?

AU: We are a very focused company, and we are focused on our project in the Beetaloo Basin. Given the scale of this resource and the market demand-supply outlook not only in the near term but also in the medium to long term, we see this site as a critical source of gas for Australia. Furthermore, the Beetaloo has very low concentrations of resident CO₂ gas. Empire has less than one percent CO₂ in our reservoir and we believe that as the world becomes increasingly carbon-constrained, this will be a competitive advantage for this basin.



AO: What are you most proud of in terms of the company overall?

AU: I'm extremely proud of the way in which our hard-working and dedicated team, go about the process of bringing all the key stakeholders along with us.

We recognise that we operate as guests on the land owned and operated by others, farmers and the traditional owners. Both are very important stakeholder groups in the Northern Territory.

We also believe that to be a good corporate citizen, we need to ensure that the benefits of this project can spread widely to all the people of the Northern Territory and ultimately Australia as a whole. We have a very significant focus on local content in our contracting, which means working with local companies. We have invested more than \$100 million in the Northern Territory over the last five years with our projects and we foresee a very significant future for the people of the area going forward.

It is great to see the approach that our team brings working in partnership with all stakeholders.



AO: Could you tell us more about any environmental initiatives that you have in place?

AU: I'm very proud of our environmental track record as a company.

We operate under one of the strictest regulatory regimes in the world for shale gas development. The Northern Territory government has put a very robust regulatory system in place. Australia has some of the strictest environmental regulations around gas development in the world and is a significant trading partner with some of the major Asian economies that rely on our gas to power their growth. To that end, this gas deposit that we are developing is likely to be one of the most environmentally robust gas projects in the world.

As we move into production, our project will be net zero for scope one emissions from day one, and we believe that this gives us an advantage in terms of the environmental impact of our gas.

AO: How important are people to the success of the company?

AU: It's safe to say that without a good team working for us, we wouldn't have progressed to where we are today.

More broadly, regarding the stakeholders that we work with, whether it's local pastoralists, local traditional owners, or the people of the surrounding communities, all these groups remain critical to our success.

We have been going through consultation with the traditional owners for over 12 years now and have scheduled meetings with them at least once a year. Every time I meet with them, the first thing I say is, "this is your land, and we are operating as guests". I think that this approach demonstrates to them that we do respect them and that we have a responsibility to act in a professional and environmentally appropriate way.

AO: How do you empower your staff and reward the valuable contributions that they make?

AU: We have a great workforce and we've seen very little turnover over the last few years. It's vital to have a team that is fundamentally aligned with the corporate goals of the company, our people are motivated and take ownership of their roles. The nation-building potential of this project has resulted in great outcomes so far and I think that ultimately, to have an effective team we need to be able to give our people the ability to maximise their level of responsibility.

AO: What does the next 12 months look like for the business?

AU: We have a very busy schedule ahead of us. We are in the process of moving towards a final investment decision on our pilot project by the middle of this year and we will shortly be lodging all the regulatory approval documentation. We are in the process of negotiating our first gas sales agreement now, marking our entrance into a market that is very attractive. We are working through the various financing options that we have at our disposal, and in the event that we can pull all that together and reach a final investment decision at the board level by the middle of this year, that would see a very active work programme in the second half of this year and deliver gas in 2025.





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