

# Riverstone Energy Limited (the "Company")

Registered Number: 56689

#### **Riverstone Energy Limited**

#### **Audit Committee Terms of Reference**

| Primary<br>responsibility          | To assist the Board in carrying out its responsibilities relating to overseeing the Company's financial reporting and audit processes, internal controls and risk matrix.  |
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| Membership                         | The Committee shall comprise at least three members. The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board, on the recommendation of the Nomination Committee, from amongst the independent directors of the Company. At least one member shall have recent and relevant financial experience.                      |
|                                    | The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board. In the absence of the Committee Chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members of the Committee present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting.   |
|                                    | Any member who is determined by the Board no longer to be independent shall cease to be a member of the Committee.   |
| Frequency and location of meetings | Meetings shall be held at least three times a year. Additional ad hoc meetings or informal discussions shall be convened, at any other times during the year that the Committee determine appropriate. Any member of the Committee or the external auditors may request additional meetings if they consider it necessary. |
|                                    | Meetings of the Committee shall be held in Guernsey or elsewhere outside of the United States and any other country in which REL or any of its portfolio companies operate.  |
| Quorum and attendance at meetings  | The quorum necessary at a meeting of the Committee for the transaction of business shall be two members of the Committee.  |
|                                    | Representatives of the Investment Manager, the Administrator, the external auditors and other interested persons may be invited by the Committee to attend all or part of any meeting, as and when appropriate.  |
|                                    | At least once a year the Committee will meet the Company's external auditors without the presence of any representative of the Investment Manager.   |
| Secretary                          | The Administrator shall act as the secretary to the Committee.   |
| Training                           | An induction programme is provided by the Investment Manager for new Audit Committee members and ongoing training is available for existing members of the Committee.  |

#### Authority

The Committee is authorised by the Board to:

- investigate and undertake any activity within these terms of reference;
- seek any information it requires from the Investment Manager and/or the Administrator in order to perform its duties;
- obtain, at the Company's expense, outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of outsiders with relevant experience and expertise if it considers this necessary;
- have the right to publish in the Company's Annual Report details of any issues that cannot be resolved between the Committee and the Board; and
- delegate any of its powers to one or more of its members or the Secretary.

#### **Duties**

The duties of the Committee shall be:

#### **Financial Reporting**

- to monitor the integrity of the financial statements of the Company and any formal announcements relating to the Company's financial performance before submission to the Board, in particular, to review and challenge, where necessary:
  - o significant financial reporting issues and judgements which they contain;
  - the clarity and completeness of disclosures in the Company's financial reports and the context in which statements are made;
  - compliance with the Disclosure Rules and the Transparency Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority and any Guernsey law requirements;
  - significant adjustments resulting from the audit;
  - o the "going concern" assumption;
  - the consistency of, and any changes to, accounting and treasury policies;
  - whether the Company has followed appropriate accounting standards and practices and made appropriate estimates and judgements, taking into account the views of the external auditors; and
  - o all material information presented with the financial statements.
- where requested by the Board, to review the Annual Report and Financial Statements and advise the Board on whether, taken as a whole, they are fair, balanced and understandable and provide the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and strategy.

#### **Internal Controls, Risk Matrix and Internal Audit**

- to keep under review the scope and effectiveness of the Company's financial and non-financial internal controls and risk matrix;
- to review and approve the statements to be included in the Annual Report concerning internal controls and risk management; and
- to consider annually whether there is a need for an internal audit function and to explain the reasons for the absence of such a function in the Annual Report.

#### **External Audit**

- to consider and make appropriate recommendations to the Board, to be put to the shareholders to consider at the Company's annual general meeting, in relation to the appointment, re-appointment, resignation or removal of the Company's external auditors;
- to oversee the selection process for new external auditors and, if an external auditor resigns, investigate the issues leading to this and decide whether any action is required;
- to oversee the relationship with the external auditors, including:
  - approval of the auditors' terms of engagement and remuneration, including any engagement letter issued at the start of each audit and the scope of the audit;
  - reviewing and monitoring the auditor's independence and objectivity and the effectiveness of the audit process, taking into consideration relevant UK and Guernsey professional and regulatory requirements;
  - o reviewing any representation letters requested by the external auditors; and
  - o developing and implementing a policy on the engagement of the external auditors to supply non-audit services.
- to discuss and review the findings of the audit with the external auditors.

### Reporting procedures

The Secretary shall circulate the minutes of meetings of the Committee to all members of the Board.

The Committee Chair shall communicate as necessary to the Board after each meeting, identifying any matters in respect of which the Committee considers that action or improvement is needed and making recommendations as to the steps to be taken. The Committee Chair shall also communicate to the Board on how the Committee has discharged its responsibilities.

A report on the Committee's activities shall be disclosed in the Annual Report.

The Committee Chair shall attend the annual general meeting of the Company prepared to respond to any shareholder questions on the Committee's activities.

#### Self-evaluation

The Committee shall arrange for periodic review of its own performance and, at least annually, review these terms of reference and recommend any changes it considers necessary to the Board for approval.



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#### **Non-audit Services and Audit Fee Policy**

The Company has appointed Ernst & Young LLP to act as its external auditor ("EY" or "Auditor"). The objectivity of the Auditor is reviewed by the Audit Committee which also reviews the terms under which the external Auditor may be appointed to perform non-audit services.

Although the Company does not meet the definition of a European Public Interest Entity ("**FU PIE**"), under the new Crown Dependency Rules the definition of a Public Interest Entity ("**PIE**") is now extended to include a Market Traded Company ("**MTC**"). Moreover, the new IESBA Code Provisions, applicable from 15 December 2022, have now broadened the definition of a PIE to include more categories of entities, including MTCs. As the Company meets the definition of an MTC the Audit Committee has applied the FRC Revised Ethical Standard 2019. The Audit Committee notes that this includes a general prohibition on non-audit services, with a narrow list of permitted services that are closely related to the audit and /or required by law / regulations.

As a result, in order to safeguard Auditor independence and objectivity, the Audit Committee ensures that any non-audit services provided by the Auditor do not conflict with its statutory audit responsibilities. Permissible non-audit services will generally only cover work closely associated with the Auditor's role, such as:

- reviews of interim financial statements;
- reporting on regulatory requirements;
- reporting on internal financial controls e.g. SOX 404 reporting;
- reporting accountant services (including comfort letters);
- iXBRL tagging of financial statements for annual financial reports;
- assurance work on material included in the Annual Report; and
- generic subscriptions providing factual updates of changes to applicable law, regulation or accounting and auditing standards.

For the avoidance of doubt, any non-audit services conducted by the Auditor will require the consent of the Audit Committee before being initiated.

There will be an absolute prohibition on contingent fees, and the Auditor may not undertake any work for the Company in respect of the following matters:

- generic advice on accounting standards and preparation of the financial statements;
- technical training;
- legal Services;
- forensic Services;
- provision of investment advice;
- taking management decisions;
- advocacy work in adversarial conditions;
- provision of personal tax, tax advocacy and tax compliance services;

- promotion of, dealing in, or underwriting the Company's shares;
- design or implementation of internal control or risk management or financial information technology systems;
- provision of valuation services or actuarial valuation services;
- provision of services related to internal audit;
- provision of human resources functions, including global immigration, payroll services and remuneration advisory services;
- provision of corporate secretarial services;
- secondment/loan staff arrangements;
- members voluntary liquidations;
- due diligence services;
- model advisory services;
- any other services prohibited by the FRC Revised Ethical Standard 2019 (or subsequent update).

The Audit Committee will review and monitor the levels of audit versus non-audit fees annually, as well as on a 3-year cumulative basis. Where possible, the Company will endeavour to ensure that, on a 3-year cumulative basis, the level of non-audit fees does not exceed 70% of the total audit fees incurred by the Company. Furthermore, the Audit Committee notes that, inter alia, there will be an enhanced level of external reporting in respect of all fees paid to its auditor.

Last reviewed on 20 May 2024