

ASX Announcement

16 May 2007

William (Bill) Bloking elected to Chair Norwest

William (Bill) F. Bloking has been elected by the directors to chair the Company. Mr Henry (Dave) Kennedy a founding director of Norwest has stepped down from the chair and will continue as a non-executive director.

Bill (56) was appointed a director of the Company in March 2007. He retired in early 2007 as President, Australia/Asia Gas, BHP Billiton Petroleum. He has more than 32 years of experience in the energy sector, with both ExxonMobil and the BHP Billiton Group, and he has held senior executive positions in Australia, Asia, North America, and South America for more than 20 years.

As President, Australia/Asia Gas BHP Billiton Petroleum, he had overall strategic and commercial accountability for BHP Billiton's international LNG business and its domestic gas business in Australia, including several projects, new gas export developments in China, Japan, and Korea, and new business development initiatives throughout the Asia Pacific region.

From 1999 until 2004, he was the CEO of BHP Billiton Petroleum (North West Shelf) Pty Ltd, where he had full responsibility for BHP Billiton's interests in the North West Shelf Project, the Browse LNG Project, and the Pilbara LNG Project, and was accountable for developing and implementing strategic and commercial plans for more than \$3 billion in assets

Bill has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering (Summa cum Laude) from the University of South Carolina in the USA. He is also Chairman of Cullen Wines (Australia), a Vice Chairman of the Australia China Business Council, a Governor of the American Chamber of Commerce in Australia, an Adjunct Professor at Murdoch University, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also a director of the John Holland Group, Cool Energy, the Lions Eye Institute, and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, and is a member of the UWA Confucius Centre Advisory Board. Until December 2006, he was also a director of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) and the Victorian Energy Networks Corporation (VENCorp), and a member of the UWA Oil/Gas Industry Advisory Board, the WA Energy Research Alliance Industry Advisory Group, and the National Gas Market Leaders' Group.

"I am very pleased that Bill has accepted the role of Chairman of Norwest." said outgoing Chairman Mr HD (Dave) Kennedy. "He has a wealth of experience and contacts in the industry at the highest level that will be invaluable to the Company as it enters into a new phase of corporate growth, with the expected receipt of significant cash flows from the Puffin royalty commencing in the latter part of 2007, and as we continue to develop our assets and relationships in selected parts of the globe."

For further information contact

Mr. Joe Salomon

Telephone: +61 8 9227 3240

Email: info@norwestenergy.com.au