

## NEW STANDARD ENERGY LIMITED

### SECURITIES TRADING POLICY

#### **1. Introduction**

These guidelines set out the policy on the sale and purchase of securities in the Company by its Directors and employees.

Directors of the Company (Directors) and employees are encouraged to be long-term holders of the Company's securities. However, it is important that care is taken in the timing of any purchase or sale of such securities.

The purpose of these guidelines is to assist Directors and employees to avoid conduct known as 'insider trading'. In some respects, the Company's policy extends beyond the strict requirements of the Corporations Act.

#### **2. What types of Transactions are covered by this Policy?**

This policy applies to both the sale and purchase of any securities of the Company and its subsidiaries on issue from time to time.

#### **3. What is Insider Trading?**

##### **3.1 Prohibition**

Insider trading is a criminal offence. It may also result in civil liability. In broad terms, a person will be guilty of insider trading if:

- a) that person possesses information which is not generally available to the market and, if it were generally available to the market, would be likely to have a material effect on the price or value of the Company's securities (i.e. information that is 'price sensitive');
- b) and that person:
  - i. buys or sells securities in the Company; or
  - ii. procures someone else to buy or sell securities in the Company; or
  - iii. passes on that information to a third party where that person knows, or ought reasonably to know, that the third party would be likely to buy or sell the securities or procure someone else to buy or sell the securities of the Company.

##### **3.2 Examples**

To illustrate the prohibition described above, the following are possible examples of price sensitive information which, if made available to the market, may be likely to affect materially the price of the Company's securities:

- a) the Company considering a major acquisition or disposal of assets;
- b) the threat of major litigation against the Company;
- c) the Company's sales and profit results materially exceeding (or falling short of) the market's expectations;
- d) a material change in debt, liquidity or cash flow;
- e) a significant new development proposal ie, new product or technology;
- f) the granting (or loss) of a major contract;
- g) management or business restructuring proposal;
- h) a share issue proposal;
- i) an agreement or option to acquire an interest in an exploration permit, or to enter into a joint venture or farm-in or farm-out arrangement in relation to an exploration permit; and
- j) significant discoveries, exploration results, or changes in reserve/resource estimates from exploration permits in which the Company has an interest.

### **3.3 Dealing through third parties**

A person does not need to be a Director or employee of the Company to be guilty of insider trading in relation to securities in the Company. The prohibition extends to dealings by Directors and employees through nominees, agents or other associates, such as family members, family trusts and family companies (referred to as "Associates" in these guidelines).

### **3.4 Information however obtained**

It does not matter how or where the person obtains the information – it does not have to be obtained from the Company to constitute inside information.

### **3.5 Employee share schemes**

The prohibition does not apply to acquisitions of shares or options by employees made under employee share or option schemes, nor does it apply to the acquisition of shares as a result of the exercise of options under an employee option scheme. However, the prohibition does apply to the sale of shares acquired under an employee share scheme and also to the sale of shares acquired following the exercise of an option granted under an employee option scheme.

## **4. Guidelines for trading in the Company's Securities**

### **4.1 General rule**

Directors and employees, including Key Management Personnel, must not trade in the Company's securities, or in financial products issued or created over or in respect of the Company's securities, during a Closed Period.

Closed Period means:

- the period that is within two weeks prior to the publication of the Company's annual results (or, if shorter, the period from its financial year end to the time of publication);
- the period that is within two weeks prior to the publication of the Company's half year results (or, if shorter, the period from its half year end to the time of publication);
- the period that is within two weeks prior to the announcement of its quarterly results (or, if shorter, the period from the relevant financial period end up to and including the time of the announcement);

The Company may at its discretion vary this rule in relation to a particular period by general announcement to all employees either before or during the period.

However, if a Director or employee of the Company is in possession of price sensitive information which is not generally available to the market, then he or she must not deal in the Company's securities at any time.

#### **4.2 Exceptions**

- (a) Directors and all employees may at any time:
- i. acquire ordinary shares in the Company by conversion of securities giving a right of conversion to ordinary shares;
  - ii. acquire Company securities under a bonus issue made to all holders of securities of the same class;
  - iii. acquire Company securities under a dividend reinvestment, or top-up plan that is available to all holders of securities of the same class;
  - iv. acquire, or agree to acquire or exercise options under a Company Share Option Plan;
  - v. withdraw ordinary shares in the Company held on behalf of the employee in an employee share plan where the withdrawal is permitted by the rules of that plan;
  - vi. acquire ordinary shares in the Company as a result of the exercise of options held under an employee option scheme;
  - vii. transfer securities of the Company already held into a superannuation fund or other saving scheme in which the restricted person is a beneficiary;
  - viii. make an investment in, or trade in units of, a fund or other scheme (other than a scheme only investing in the securities of the Company) where the assets of the fund or other scheme are invested at the discretion of a third party;
  - ix. where a restricted person is a trustee, trade in the securities of the Company by that trust provided the restricted person is not a beneficiary of the trust and any decision to trade

during a prohibited period is taken by the other trustees or by the investment managers independently of the restricted person;

- x. undertake to accept, or accept, a takeover offer;
- xi. trade under an offer or invitation made to all or most of the security holders, such as, a rights issue, a security purchase plan, a dividend or distribution reinvestment plan and an equal access buy-back, where the plan that determines the timing and structure of the offer has been approved by the board. This includes decisions relating to whether or not to take up the entitlements and the sale of entitlements required to provide for the take up of the balance of entitlements under a renounceable pro rata issue;
- xii. dispose of securities of the Company resulting from a secured lender exercising their rights, for example, under a margin lending arrangement;
- xiii. exercise (but not sell securities following exercise) an option or a right under an employee incentive scheme, or convert a convertible security, where the final date for the exercise of the option or right, or the conversion of the security, falls during a prohibited period and the Company has been in an exceptionally long prohibited period or the Company has had a number of consecutive prohibited periods and the restricted person could not reasonably have been expected to exercise it at a time when free to do so; or
- xiv. trade under a non-discretionary trading plan for which prior written clearance has been provided in accordance with procedures set out in this Policy.

(b) In respect of share or option plans, it should be noted that:

- i. it is not permissible to reimburse the exercise price of options by selling the shares acquired on the exercise of these options unless the sale of those shares occurs outside a Closed Period; and
- ii. where the exercise price of options is being provided by a margin loan or other form of lending arrangement then there may be a risk that the employee or Director may need to sell shares to avoid providing additional capital or security to the lender in the event of a decrease in the value of the shares.

Were this to occur at a time when the person possessed inside information then the sale of Company securities would be a breach of insider trading laws, even though the person's decision to sell was not influenced by the inside information that the person possessed and the person may not have made a profit on the sale.

Where Company securities are provided to a lender as security by way of mortgage or charge a sale that occurs under that mortgage or charge as a consequence of default would not breach insider trading laws.

## **5. Approval and Notification Requirements**

### **5.1 Approval Requirements – Directors**

- a) Any Director wishing to buy, sell or exercise rights in relation to the Company's securities must obtain the prior approval of the Chairman of the Board before doing so; or
- b) If the Chairman wishes to buy, sell or exercise rights in relation to the Company's securities the Chairman must obtain the prior approval of the Managing Director or Company Secretary before doing so.

### **5.2 Approval Requirements – Key Management Personnel**

- a) Any Key Management Personnel wishing to buy, sell or exercise rights in relation to the Company's securities must obtain the prior written approval of the Managing Director before doing so.
- b) For the purpose of this policy, "Key Management Personnel" are defined as:
  - i. any first line reports of the Managing Director and their direct reports; and
  - ii. any other person designated by the Managing Director as key management personnel on the basis that they have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Company either directly or indirectly.

### **5.3 Notification**

Any Director or employee who (or through his or her Associates) buys, sells, or exercises rights in relation to Company securities must notify the Company Secretary in writing of the details of the transaction within five (5) business days of the transaction occurring.

### **5.4 Approvals to buy or sell securities**

All requests to buy or sell securities must include the intended volume of securities to be purchased or sold and an estimated time frame for the sale or purchase.

Copies of written approvals must be forwarded to the Company Secretary prior to the approved purchase or sale transaction.

### **5.5 Exemption from Trading Window restriction due to exceptional circumstance**

A Director, employee or contractor who is not in possession of inside information in relation to the Company, may be given prior written clearance by the Chairman (or in the case of the Chairman all of the other members of the board) to sell or otherwise dispose of Company securities outside of a trading window where the person is in severe financial hardship or where there are exceptional circumstances as set out in this policy.

### **5.6 Severe Financial Hardship or Exceptional Circumstances**

The determination of whether a Director, employee or contractor is in severe financial hardship will be made by the Chairman (or in the case of the Chairman all of the other members of the board).

A financial hardship or exceptional circumstances determination can only be made by examining all of the facts and if necessary obtaining independent verification of the facts from banks, accountants or other like institutions.

### **5.7 Financial Hardship**

A Director, employee or contractor may be in severe financial hardship if they have a pressing financial commitment that cannot be satisfied other than by selling the securities of the Company.

Any exemption, if issued, will be in writing and shall contain a specified time period during which the sale of securities can be made.

### **5.8 Exceptional Circumstances**

Exceptional circumstances may apply to the disposal of Company securities by a Director, employee or contractor if the person is required by a court order, a court enforceable undertaking for example in a bona fide family settlement, to transfer or sell securities of the Company or there is some other overriding legal or regulatory requirement to do so.

Any application for an exemption allowing the sale of Company securities outside of the Trading Window based on exceptional circumstances must be made in writing and be accompanied by relevant court and/or supporting legal documentation.

Any exemption, if issued, will be in writing and shall contain a specified time period during which the sale of securities can be made.

## **6. ASX Notification for Directors**

The ASX Listing Rules require the Company to notify the ASX within 5 business days after any dealing in securities of the Company (either personally or through an Associate) which results in a change in the relevant interests of a Director in the securities of the Company. The Company has made arrangements with each Director to ensure that the Director promptly discloses to the Company Secretary all the information required by the ASX which includes a director entering into a margin loan or similar funding arrangement.

### ***7. Effect of Compliance with this Policy***

Compliance with these Guidelines for trading in the Company's securities does not absolve that individual from complying with the law, which must be the overriding consideration when trading in the Company's securities.