

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

In fulfilling its obligations and responsibilities to its various stakeholders, the Board of New Standard is a strong advocate of corporate governance.

The Board has adopted corporate governance policies and practices consistent with the ASX Corporate Governance Council's "Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations" (Recommendations) where considered appropriate for a company of New Standard's size and complexity.

The 3rd edition of the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations was introduced on 27 March 2014 and took effect for a listed entity's first full financial year ending on or after 1 July 2014. Accordingly this Corporate Governance Statement has been prepared on the basis of disclosure under the 3rd edition of these principles with a table included at the back of this statement detailing the Company's compliance with these principles during the period.

This statement describes how New Standard has addressed the Council's guidelines and eight corporate governance principles and where the Company's corporate governance practices depart from a recommendation, the Company discloses the reason for adoption of its own practices on an "if not, why not" basis.

Given the size and stage of development of the Company and the cost of strict compliance with all the recommendations, the Board has adopted a range of modified procedures and practices which it considers appropriate to enable it to meet the principles of good corporate governance. At the end of this statement is a checklist setting out the recommendations with which the Company does or does not comply. The information in this statement is current as at 27 September 2019.

The following governance-related documents can be found on the Company's website at www.newstandard.com.au under the section marked "Governance".

CHARTERS

- Board

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Code of Conduct
- Shareholder Communications
- Continuous Disclosure Policy
- Securities Trading Policy
- Diversity Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Environment Policy
- Indigenous and Community Policy

Principle 1: Lay solid foundations for management and oversight

Role and Responsibilities of the Board and Management

The main function of the Board is to lead and oversee the management and strategic direction of the Company. The Board regularly measures the performance of Management in implementation of the strategy through Board meetings and/or regular informal meetings.

New Standard has adopted a formal board charter delineating the roles, responsibilities, practices and expectations of the Board collectively, the individual directors and senior management.

The Board of New Standard ensures that each member understands its roles and responsibilities and ensures regular meeting so as to retain full and effective control of the Company.

Role of the Board

The Board responsibilities are as follows:

- Setting the strategic aims of New Standard and overseeing management's performance within that framework;
- Making sure that the necessary resources (financial and human) are available to the company and its senior executives to meet its objectives;
- Overseeing management's performance and the progress and development of the company's strategic plan;
- Selecting and appointing a suitable Managing Director with the appropriate skills to help the Company in the pursuit of its objectives;
- Determining the remuneration policy for the Board and Key Management Personnel;
- Controlling and approving financial reporting, capital structures and material contracts;
- Ensuring that a sound system of risk management and internal controls is in place;

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Principle 1: Lay solid foundations for management and oversight (cont'd)

Role of the Board (cont'd)

- Setting the Company's values and standards;
- Undertaking a formal and rigorous review of the Corporate Governance policies to ensure adherence to the ASX Corporate Governance Council principles;
- Ensuring that the Company's obligations to shareholders are understood and met;
- Ensuring the health, safety and well-being of employees in conjunction with the senior management team, developing, overseeing and reviewing the effectiveness of the Company's occupational health and safety systems to assure the well-being of all employees;
- Ensuring an adequate system is in place for the proper delegation of duties for the effective operative day to day running of the Company without the Board losing sight of the direction that the Company is taking.
- Establishing a diversity policy and setting objectives for achieving diversity.

Delegation to Management

Other than matters specifically reserved for the Board, responsibility for the operation and administration of the Company has been delegated to the Managing Director. This responsibility is subject to an approved delegation of authority which is reviewed regularly and at least annually.

Internal control processes are designed to allow management to operate within the parameters approved by the Board and the Managing Director cannot commit the Company to additional activities or obligations in excess of these delegated authorities without specific approval of the Board.

Election of Directors

The Board is responsible for overseeing the selection process of new directors, and will undertake appropriate checks before appointing a new director, or putting forward a candidate for election as a director. All relevant information is to be provided in the Notice of Meeting seeking the election or re-election of a director including:

- biographical details including qualifications and experience;
- other directorships and material interests;
- term of office;
- statement by the board on independence of the director;
- statement by the board as to whether it supports the election or re-election; and
- any other material information.

Terms of appointment

Non-Executive Directors

To facilitate a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities all non-executive directors have signed letter of appointment. This letter of appointment letter includes acknowledgement of:

- director responsibilities under the Corporations Act, Listing Rules, the Company's Constitution and other applicable laws;
- corporate governance processes and Company policies;
- board and board committee meeting obligations;
- conflicts and confidentiality procedures;
- securities trading and required disclosures;
- access to independent advice and employees;
- confidentiality obligations;
- directors fees;
- expenses reimbursement;
- directors and officers insurance arrangements;
- other directorships and time commitments; and
- board performance review.

Managing Director

The Managing Director has a signed executive services agreement. For further information refer to the audited Remuneration Report.

Role of Company Secretary

The Company Secretary is accountable to the Board for:

- advising the Board and committees on corporate governance matters;
- the completion and distribution of board and committee papers;
- completion of board and committee minutes; and
- the facilitation of director induction processes and ongoing professional development of directors.

All directors have access to the Company Secretary who has a direct reporting line to the Chairman.

Principle 1: Lay solid foundations for management and oversight (cont'd)

Diversity

The Board values diversity in all aspects of its business and is committed to creating a working environment that recognises and utilizes the contribution of its employees. The purpose of this is to provide diversity and equality relating to all employment matters. The Company's policy is to recruit and manage on the basis of ability and qualification for the position and performance, irrespective of gender, age, marital status, sexuality, nationality, race/cultural background, religious or political opinions, family responsibilities or disability. The company opposes all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination.

The Board acknowledges the absence of female participation on the Board of Directors. However, the Board has determined that the composition of the current Board represents the best mix of Directors that have an appropriate range of qualifications and expertise, can understand and competently deal with current and emerging business issues and can effectively review and challenge the performance of management.

The Company has not set or disclosed measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity. Due to the size of the Company, the Board does not deem it practical to limit the Company to specific targets for gender diversity as it operates in a very competitive labour market where positions are sometimes difficult to fill. However, every candidate suitably qualified for a position has an equal opportunity of appointment regardless of gender, age, ethnicity or cultural background.

The Company currently only has two full-time employee, being the Managing Director and a finance manager who are males. The Company contracts consultants who consists of both female and male.

Performance review

Board and board committees

A review of the Board's performance and effectiveness is conducted annually and the performance of individual directors is undertaken regularly. The Board has the discretion for these reviews to be conducted either independently or on a self-assessment basis.

The review focuses on:

- strategic alignment and engagement;
- board composition and structure;
- processes and practices;
- culture and dynamics; Relationship with management; and
- personal effectiveness.

A formal review of the Board's performance and effectiveness in respect of the financial year ended 30 June 2019 did not occur.

Managing Director and senior executives

Performance evaluation of the Managing Director, senior executives and employees is undertaken annually through a performance appraisal process which involves reviewing and assessment of performance against agreed corporate and individual key performance indicators and deliverables.

For further information refer to the audited Remuneration Report.

Retirement and rotation of directors

Retirement and rotation of directors are governed by the *Corporations Act 2007* and the Constitution of the Company. Each year, one third of directors must retire and may offer themselves for re-election. Any casual vacancy filled will be subject to shareholder vote at the next Annual General Meeting.

Four directors were elected in the 2018 Annual General Meeting. It is intended for all current directors appointed during the year to stand for election and for two directors to be re-elected at the Company's 2019 Annual General Meeting.

Independent Professional Advice

Each director of the Company or a controlled entity has the right to seek independent professional advice at the expense of the Company or the controlled entity; however prior approval of the Chairman is required which will not be unreasonably withheld.

Access to employees

Directors have the right of access to any employee. Any employee shall report any breach of corporate governance principles or Company policies to the Managing Director who shall remedy the breach. If the breach is not rectified to the satisfaction of the employee, they shall have the right to report any breach to an independent director without further reference to senior executives of the Company.

Directors' and officers' liability insurance

The Company is responsible for maintaining the Directors' and officers' liability insurance for the Directors and senior executives at the Company's expense. The directors' and officers' liability insurance lapsed in prior years and the Company is committed to ensure the insurance policy is organised as soon as practical.

Board meetings

The frequency of board meetings and the extent of reporting from management at board meetings are as follows:

- scheduled meetings are to be held per year;
- other meetings will be held as required;
- meetings can be held where practicable by electronic means;
- information provided to the Board includes all material information related to the operations of the Company including exploration, development and production operations, budgets, forecasts, cash flows, funding requirements, investment and divestment proposals, business development activities, investor relations,
- financial accounts, taxation, external audits, internal controls, risk assessments, people and health, safety and environmental reports and statistics;
- the Chairman of the appropriate board committee reports to the next subsequent board meeting the outcomes of that meeting and the minutes of those committee meetings are also tabled.

The number of directors' meetings (including meetings of committees of directors) and the number of meetings attended by each of the directors of the Company during the financial year are set out in the Directors' Report.

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Principle 2: Structure the Board to add value

Composition of the Board

The names of the directors of the Company and their qualifications are set out in the section headed "Information on Directors" in the current financial year's Directors' Report.

The composition of the Board has been structured so as to provide New Standard with an adequate mix of directors with industry knowledge, technical, commercial and financial skills together with integrity and judgment considered necessary to represent shareholders and fulfil the business objectives of the Company and its stakeholders. The Board is directed on the principles of transparency, accountability and responsibility.

The ASX Corporate Governance Council guidelines recommend that the Board should constitute of a majority of independent directors and that the Chairperson should be independent. The Board currently consists of five (5) directors of whom three (3) are considered independent, Messrs Kunfang Liu, Peng Zhang and Ms Xiaoning Lin. Mr Ming Li holds ordinary securities in the Company and does not meet the criteria for an independent director. Mr Xiaofeng Liu serves in an executive roles from 27 November 2017 and therefore does not meet the criteria for an independent director.

The detailed skills matrix of the Board for a company of New Standard's size and complexity is not considered necessary.

The principal business of the Company at present is exploration and new business opportunities, therefore requiring a skillset of geological and geophysical expertise, executive management, financial and commercial skills.

Given the significant transformation the Company has recently undergone the Board composition is under review to better align with the new direction of the Company.

Independence of Chair of the Board

The Current Chair of the Company, Mr Liu, is an independent director. The Board considers Mr Liu's role as Non-Executive Chairman essential to the success of the Group in its current stage, wherein the Group continues to refine its focus on the strategic development of the business.

Nomination of other Board Members

Membership of the Board of Directors is reviewed on an on-going basis by the Chairperson of the Board to determine if additional core strengths are required to be added to the Board in light of the nature of the Company's businesses and its objectives. The Board does not have a separate Nomination Committee and does believe it is necessary in a Company of New Standard's size.

Director induction and ongoing professional development

The Company does not have a formal induction program for Directors but does provide Directors with information pack detailing policies, corporate governance and various other corporate requirements of being a director of an ASX Listed company. Due to the size and nature of the business, Directors are expected to already possess a level of both industry and commercial expertise before being considered for a directorship of the Company. Directors are provided with the opportunity to access employees of the business and any information as they require about the business including being given access to regular news articles and publications where considered relevant.

Principle 3: Act ethically and responsibly

Code of Conduct

Directors, officers, employees and consultants to the Company are required to observe high standards of behavior and business ethics in conducting business on behalf of the Company and they are required to maintain a reputation of integrity on the part of both the Company and themselves. The Company does not contract with or otherwise engage any person or party where it considers integrity may be compromised.

New Standard's ethical rules demands high standards of integrity, fairness, equity and honesty from all Directors and Key Management Personnel and Employees. New Standard expects its employees to understand that the Company acts morally and that the main goal of the Company is to maximise shareholders value.

The Code of Ethics and Conduct include the following issues:

- The avoidance of conflicts of interest;
- Employees behaviour towards the use of Company property;
- Confidentiality;
- Fair dealing with customers, suppliers, employees and competitors;
- Protection and proper use of the Company's assets;
- Compliance with laws and regulations;

- Encouraging the reporting of illegal and unethical behavior;
- Provide a framework for the Company to achieve a diverse and skilled workforce.

Conflicts of Interest

Directors are required to disclose to the Board actual or potential conflicts of interest that may or might reasonably be thought to exist between the interests of the director or the interests of any other party in so far as it affects the activities of the Company and to act in accordance with the Corporations Act if conflict cannot be removed or if it persists. That involves taking no part in the decision making process or discussions where that conflict does arise.

Trading in Company Securities

Directors are required to make disclosure of any share trading. The Company policy in relation to share trading is that officers are prohibited to trade whilst in possession of unpublished price sensitive information concerning the Company or within a period of the release of results i.e. the blackout period. That is information which a reasonable person would expect to have a material affect on the price or value of the Company's shares. An officer must receive authority to acquire or sell shares with the directors or the Company Secretary prior to doing so to ensure that there is no price sensitive information of which that officer might not be aware. The undertaking of any trading in shares must be notified to the ASX.

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Principle 4: Safeguard integrity in financial reporting

New Standard has a financial reporting process which includes half year and full-year results which are signed off by the Board before they are released to the market.

The whole Board of directors is tasked with fulfilling its corporate governance and oversight responsibilities, as well as advise on the modification and maintenance of the Company's financial reporting, internal control structure, external audit functions, and appropriate ethical standards for the management of the Company.

In discharging its oversight role, the Board is empowered to investigate any matter brought to its attention with full access to all books, records, facilities, and personnel of the Company and the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisers as it determines necessary to carry out its duties.

The Managing Director reports on the propriety of compliance on internal controls and reporting systems and ensures that they are working efficiently and effectively in all material respects.

The Company has established procedures for the selection, appointment and rotation of its external auditor. The Board is responsible for the initial appointment of the external auditor and the appointment of a new external auditor when any vacancy arises. Candidates for the position of external auditor must demonstrate complete independence from the Company through the engagement period. The Board may otherwise select an external auditor based on criteria relevant to the Company's business and circumstances. The performance of the external auditor is reviewed on an annual basis.

The Company's external auditor attends each Annual General Meeting and is available to answer questions from shareholders relevant to the conduct of the external audit, the preparation and content of the Auditor's Report, the accounting policies adopted by the Company and the independence of the auditor.

Principle 5: Make timely and balanced disclosure

New Standard has adopted a formal policy dealing with its disclosure responsibilities. The Board has designated the Company Secretary as the person responsible for overseeing and coordinating disclosure of information to the ASX as well as communicating with the ASX. In accordance with the ASX Listing Rules the Company immediately notifies the ASX of information:

- concerning the Company that a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the Company's securities; and
- that would, or would be likely to, influence persons who commonly invest in securities in deciding whether to acquire or dispose of the Company's securities.

The policy also addresses the Company's obligations to prevent the creation of a false market in its securities. New Standard ensures that all information necessary for investors to make an informed decision is available on its website.

The Managing Director has ultimate authority and responsibility for approving market disclosure which, in practice, is exercised in consultation with the Board and Company Secretary.

In addition, the Board will also consider whether there are any matters requiring continuous disclosure in respect of each and every item of business that it considers.

Principle 6: Respect the rights of shareholders

The Board's fundamental responsibility to shareholders is to work towards meeting the Company's objectives so as to add value for them. The Board maintains an investor relation program which will inform shareholders of all major developments affecting the Company by:

- preparing half yearly and yearly financial reports;
- preparing quarterly cash flow reports and reports as to activities;
- making announcement in accordance with the listing rules and the continuous disclosure obligations;
- posting all of the above on the Company's website;
- annually, and more regularly if required, holding a general meeting of shareholders and forwarding to them the annual report, if requested, together with notice of meeting and proxy form; and
- voluntarily releasing other information which it believes is in the interest of shareholders.

The Annual General Meeting enables shareholders to discuss the annual report and participate in the meetings either by attendance or by written communication. The Company provides all shareholders with a Notice of Meeting so they can be fully informed and be able to vote on all resolutions at the Annual General Meeting. Shareholders are able to discuss any matter with the directors and/or the auditor of the Company who is also invited to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Shareholders have the option to receive all Company and share registry communications electronically, and may also communicate with the Company by emailing the Company via its website. All shareholders have the ability to request copies of ASX releases, all of which are published and available on the Company's website immediately after they are released to ASX.

The Company regularly reviews its stakeholder communication policy and endeavours to maintain a program appropriate for a company of its size and complexity.

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Principle 7: Recognise and manage risk

The Board has adopted a Risk Management Policy, which sets out the Company's risk profile. Under the policy, the Board is responsible for approving the Company's policies on risk oversight and management and satisfying itself that management has developed and implemented a sound system of risk management and internal control.

Under the policy, the Board delegate's day-to-day management of risk to the Managing Director, who is responsible for identifying, assessing, monitoring and managing risks. The Managing Director is also responsible for updating the Company's material business risks to reflect any material changes, with the approval of the Board.

In fulfilling the duties of risk management, the Managing Director may have unrestricted access to Company employees, contractors and records and may obtain independent expert advice on any matter they believe appropriate, with the prior approval of the Board.

The Board does not have a separate Risk Management Committee. The Board monitors and reviews the integrity of financial reporting and the Company's internal financial control systems. A report by management on the effectiveness of the internal financial control is provided to the Managing Director on an annual basis.

In addition, the following risk management measures have been adopted by the Board to manage the Company's material business risks:

- Establishment of financial control procedures and authority limits for management;
- Approval of an annual budget;
- Adoption of a compliance procedure for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Company's continuous disclosure obligations; and
- Adoption of a corporate governance manual which contains other policies to assist the Company to establish and maintain its governance practices.
- Maintenance and review of a risk register to identify the Company's material business risks and risk management strategies for these risks. The risk register is reviewed half yearly and updated as required. Management reports to the Board on material business risks at each Board meeting.

The Board has required management to design, implement and maintain risk management and internal control systems to manage the material business risks of the Company. The Board also requires management to report to it confirming that those risks are being managed effectively. The Board has received a report from management as to the effectiveness of the Company's management of its material business risks for the Reporting Period.

The Managing Director has provided a declaration to the Board in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act and has assured the Board that such declaration is founded on a sound system of risk management and internal control and that the system is operating effectively in all material respects in relation to financial risks.

Internal Audit

The Company does not have an internal audit function as the Board believes the business is neither the size nor complexity that requires such a function. The whole Board is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of internal controls, risk management procedures and governance.

Sustainability Risks

The Company has a detailed risk matrix which it regularly reviews and which highlights critical risk factors the Company faces at any particular time. The principal risks highlighted are what would typically be expected for a small listed exploration company and include:

- Reliance on key executives
- Inability to access new exploration capital
- Volatility in oil prices and applicable exchange rates (mainly USD)
- Unsuccessful exploration results
- Exposure to other operators, be it through Joint Venture agreements or actions of those operators in an operational sense
- Legislature changes in jurisdictions the Company operates in (e.g. hydraulic fracturing ban in France)

As the Company expands its activities either within existing projects or with the addition of new projects, it is expected that the sustainability risks will change accordingly. These Board reviews the overall sustainability of both the oil and gas exploration business and more specifically, the Company, in its normal course of business and therefore does not produce a separate sustainability report.

Principle 8: Remunerate fairly and responsibly

The whole Board forms the Remuneration Committee.

Details of remuneration, including the Company's policy on remuneration, are contained in the "Remuneration Report" which forms part of the Directors' Report. The Company's policy is to remunerate non-executive directors at a fixed fee for time, commitment and responsibilities. Remuneration for non-executive directors is not linked to individual performance. From time-to-time the Company may grant options to non-executive directors. The grant of options is designed to recognise and reward efforts as well as to provide non-executive directors with additional incentive to continue those efforts for the benefit of the Company. The maximum aggregate amount of fees (including superannuation payments) that can be paid to non-executive directors is subject to approval by the shareholders at general meeting.

Pay and rewards for executive directors and senior executives consists of a base salary and performance incentives. Long term performance incentives may include options and/or performance rights granted at the discretion of the Remuneration Committee and subject to obtaining

the relevant approvals. The grant of options and/or performance rights is designed to recognise and reward efforts as well as to provide additional incentive and may be subject to the successful completion of performance hurdles. Executives are offered a competitive level of base pay at market rates (for comparable companies) and are reviewed annually to ensure market competitiveness.

There are no termination or retirement benefits for non-executive directors (other than for superannuation).

The Company's Remuneration Committee Charter includes a statement regarding the Company's policy on prohibiting transactions in associated products which limit the risk of participating in unvested elements under any equity based remuneration schemes.

New Standard is committed in providing the right remuneration structure so that Board and Key Management Personnel are not unaware to shareholder value. The structure provides long and short term incentives designed to retain and motivate Board and Key Management Personnel in bringing more value to the Company.