



## Board Appointments LSE – December 2013

### **Oil and Gas Producers**

**BG Group Plc**  
**Bowleven Plc**  
**Northern Petroleum Plc**  
**RusPetro Plc**  
**Soco International Plc**

#### **BG Group Plc**

BG Group has announced changes to its board with the appointment of two Non-Executive Directors and also the succession of a new Senior Independent Director. Pam Daley and Martin Ferguson have joined the board as Non-Executive Directors and Dr. John Hood has succeeded Baroness Hogg as Senior Independent Director.

Miss Daley was Senior Vice-President and Senior Advisor to the Chairman at General Electric Company (GE) in the USA and Mr Ferguson is a former Australian Minister for Resources and Energy.

Commenting on the new Non-Executive Director appointments, BG Group Chairman Andrew Gould said: "I am delighted to welcome both Pam and Martin to the BG Group board. They bring with them a wealth of international expertise that will be of great value to BG Group. Pam's experience from her distinguished career in North America and internationally will bring new insight and perspective to our board. Her renowned expertise in finance and law - especially with mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures and business development arrangements - will be a welcome addition to the board and the company as we continue to pursue our strategy of more active portfolio management, fiscal discipline and monetisation of our assets at different stages of their life-cycles. Martin also brings with him international expertise, particularly in the resources and energy sector. With Australia poised to become one of the world's leading suppliers of LNG, and with BG Group set to deliver the world's first coal seam gas to LNG project in 2014, Martin's insight and experience in the development of Australia's natural gas industry and the growing LNG market in Asia will prove invaluable to the board."

Regarding the change to the Senior Independent Director, Andrew added: "The Board joins me in thanking Sarah for her commitment and invaluable contribution to the Group in the role of Senior Independent Director. Her wisdom has helped guide me and the Board through a period of significant change. John is a highly accomplished Non-Executive Director who will be a strong Senior Independent Director for BG Group."

Baroness Hogg will remain a Non-Executive Director of the Group but, in recognition of her completion of a nine-year tenure as a Director of the Group in

January 2014, she has also stepped down as a member of the Audit and the Nominations Committees with effect from 31 December 2013.

Dr. Hood has been a Non-Executive Director of the Group since 2007 and is Chairman of the Remuneration Committee.

### **Bowleven Plc**

John Brown has given notice of his resignation as Finance Director of Bowleven. It is currently envisaged that the effective date of the resignation will be early in the new year.

Kerry Crawford, aged 42 and currently Deputy Finance Director at Bowleven will replace John as Finance director. Kerry has served on the Group Management Board of Bowleven since joining the Company on 7 January 2008, and in addition to her duties as Deputy Finance Director is responsible for Investor Relations.

Prior to joining Bowleven she worked at Cairn Energy plc for 10 years, latterly in the role as Deputy Finance Director and Head of Investor Relations. Kerry qualified and first worked as a Chartered Accountant at Ernst & Young and is a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland.

Ronnie Hanna, Chairman of Bowleven plc, said: "Bowleven is very fortunate to be able to promote a high quality individual from within its team as its future Finance Director. Kerry has been a key member of the senior management team for many years and is a well-known and respected figure, both in the city and the oil industry at large. John has been an integral member of the Bowleven team and I wish him all the success in his future new role."

John Brown said: "Working for Bowleven for the last 9 years has been a great experience. I'm also delighted that Kerry will succeed me and know that she will be a real success as Finance Director."

### **Northern Petroleum Plc**

Northern Petroleum Plc has announced that Mr Anthony Brewer and Mr Jeremy White have stepped down from their roles as Non-executive Directors of the Board.

Mr Stewart Gibson, former Chief Executive Officer of TSX-V listed Sterling Resources Ltd., has been appointed to Northern's Board of Directors as a new Non-executive Director. Stewart holds a B.Sc. (Hon.) in Geology and a M.Sc. in Petroleum Reservoir Engineering. He has over 40 years of industry experience including periods at BP, Occidental and Bow Valley Energy and as a Director at Sterling Resources Ltd. for over 10 years.

The Company is currently undertaking a recruitment search process to identify one further Non-executive Director to bring the board up to the planned full complement of six directors.

Keith Bush, Chief Executive Officer of Northern, commented: "On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Tony and Jerry for their many years of service to Northern and wish them every success in their future ventures. I also welcome Stewart to the Company. His experience from both the industry and the boardroom will be valuable in helping us to grow the business."

## **RusPetro Plc**

Ruspetro plc has announced the following changes to its management and Board of Directors. Following the management changes announced earlier this year, John Conlin has now been appointed Chief Executive Officer, the position which has been temporarily filled by Tom Reed since July. John is currently on the Board of Ruspetro as an Independent Non-Executive Director.

John is a Petroleum Engineer by training and has almost 40 years of experience in the oil & gas industry, having spent 28 years at Shell in various senior management and operational positions including as President of Sakhalin Energy in Russia in the late nineties. John also has significant experience in developing independent oil & gas companies having been Chairman of Aurelian Oil and Gas plc and Nautical Petroleum plc and a Non-Executive Director of Hardman Resources.

As a result of this appointment, Tom Reed returns to his position as CFO of Ruspetro. Dan Barcelo, who acted as CFO during the transition period becomes Deputy CFO.

As a consequence of John Conlin's appointment he will step down from being a member of the Audit and Remuneration Committees. Robert Jenkins (Chairman) and Jim McBurney remain members of the Audit Committee. Kirill Androsov, a Non-Executive Director, becomes a member of the Remuneration Committee alongside Rolf Stomberg (Chairman) and Frank Monstrey.

Alexander Chistyakov, Executive Chairman of Ruspetro, commented: "We are extremely pleased to welcome John as CEO of Ruspetro. John's high level E&P management experience within both majors and independent operators will be invaluable to us as a young and ambitious business. During the transition period, Tom has achieved strong progress in setting Ruspetro on its new path financially, operationally and strategically. Over the past few months, he has rebuilt a foundation for the business by initiating a number of important processes now underway that will aid John as he puts the business back on the path to growth."

## **Soco International Plc**

SOCO International plc has announced that Rob Gray has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director. Mr Gray will serve as the Senior Independent Director and a member of the Audit and Remuneration Committees.

Rob Gray was a co-founder of RegEnersys, a natural resources investment entity and is currently the principal of ReVysion LLP a financial advisory business in the natural resources sector. Rob has been an advisor to the natural resources sector for more than 30 years, including thirteen years at Deutsche Bank where he was latterly a Senior Advisor having been Chairman of UK Investment Banking for five years and formerly Global Head of Natural Resources. Rob was previously a Director and Head of the Natural Resources Group at Robert Fleming & Co. Ltd for four years, a group which he established. Between 2000 and 2010, Rob was an Advisory Board Member for Heerema Marine Contractors, a substantial private oilfield services company involved in the construction, transportation, installation and removal of oil and gas facilities globally.

In 1987, with Martin Lovegrove, Rob helped to establish James Capel & Co. Petroleum Services, a successful advisory and M&A practice which was

subsequently acquired by Kleinwort Benson. Mr Gray also served as an adviser to the senior UK management of Agip/ENI in the run-up to privatisation. Rob graduated from Cambridge University in 1976 and qualified as a solicitor in 1981 at Allen & Overy. Rob is also one of a number of industry advisers to Bluewater Energy, a substantial and recently established natural resources fund.

Ed Story, SOCO's Chief Executive, commented: "The skills and experience Rob brings compliments, expands and strengthens the Board's range of skills, knowledge and experience. I am delighted to welcome him to the Company."