

**STERLING ENERGY PLC**  
**(the "Company")**

**LIST OF MATTERS RESERVED FOR DECISION BY THE FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Approved by Board of Directors on 24 March 2010**

**1. STRATEGY AND MANAGEMENT**

- 1.1 Responsibility for the overall management of the group.
- 1.2 Approval of the group's long term objectives and commercial strategy.
- 1.3 Approval of the group's annual operating and capital expenditure budgets and any material changes to them.
- 1.4 Oversight of the group's operations ensuring:
  - competent and prudent management
  - sound planning
  - an adequate system of internal control
  - adequate accounting and other records
  - compliance with statutory and regulatory obligations.
- 1.5 Review of performance in the light of the group's strategy, objectives, business plans and budgets and ensuring that any necessary corrective action is taken.
- 1.6 Extension of the group's activities into new business or geographic areas.
- 1.7 Any decision to cease to operate all or any material part of the group's business and any material changes to these licences and / or activities.

**2. STRUCTURE AND CAPITAL**

- 2.1 Changes relating to the group's capital structure including the acceptance or rejection of any approach or bid for the Company, reduction of capital, share issues, share buy backs including the use of treasury shares.
- 2.2 Major changes to the group's corporate structure.
- 2.3 Changes to the group's management and control structure.
- 2.4 Any changes to the Company's listing or its status as a plc.

**3. FINANCIAL REPORTING AND CONTROLS**

- 3.1 Approval of the half-yearly report, interim management statements and any preliminary announcements of final results.
- 3.2 Approval of the annual report and accounts, including the corporate governance statement and remuneration report.
- 3.3 Approval of the dividend policy.
- 3.4 Declaration of the interim dividend and recommendation of the final dividend.
- 3.5 Approval of any significant changes in accounting policies or practices.

3.6 Approval of treasury policies including foreign currency exposure and the use of financial derivatives.

#### 4. **INTERNAL CONTROLS**

4.1 Ensuring maintenance of a sound system of internal control and risk management including:

- receiving reports on, and reviewing the effectiveness of, the group's risk and control processes to support its strategy and objectives;
- undertaking an annual assessment of these processes; and
- approving an appropriate statement for inclusion in the annual report.

#### 5. **CONTRACTS**

5.1 Major capital projects.

5.2 Contracts which are material strategically or by reason of size, entered into by the Company or any subsidiary in the ordinary course of business, for example bank borrowings and acquisitions or disposals of fixed assets.

5.3 Contracts of the Company or any subsidiary not in the ordinary course of business, for example loans and repayments; foreign currency transactions; major acquisitions or disposals.

5.4 Major investments including the acquisition or disposal of interests of more than five per cent. in the voting shares of any company or the making of any takeover offer.

#### 6. **COMMUNICATION**

6.1 Approval of resolutions and corresponding documentation to be put forward to shareholders at a general meeting.

6.2 Approval of all circulars and prospectuses.

6.3 Approval of press releases concerning materially significant matters decided by the board.

#### 7. **BOARD MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

7.1 Changes to the structure, size and composition of the board, following recommendations from the nomination committee.

7.2 Ensuring adequate succession planning for the board and senior management.

7.3 Appointments to the Board, following recommendations by the nomination committee.

7.4 Selection of the chairman of the board and the chief executive.

7.5 Appointment of the senior independent director.

7.6 Membership and chairmanship of board committees.

7.7 Continuation in office of directors at the end of their term of office when they are due to be re-elected by shareholders at the AGM and otherwise as appropriate.

7.8 Continuation in office of any director at any time, including the suspension or termination of service of an executive director as an employee of the company, subject to the law and their service contract.

7.9 Appointment or removal of the company secretary.

- 7.10 Appointment, reappointment or removal of the external auditor to be put to shareholders for approval, following the recommendation of the audit committee.
- 7.11 Appointments to boards of subsidiaries.
8. **REMUNERATION**
- 8.1 Determining the remuneration policy for the directors, company secretary and other senior executives.
- 8.2 Determining the remuneration of the non executive directors, subject to the articles of association and shareholder approval as appropriate.
- 8.3 The introduction of new share incentive plans or major changes to existing plans, to be put to shareholders for approval.
9. **DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**
- 9.1 The division of responsibilities between the chairman, the chief executive and other executive directors.
- 9.2 Approval of terms of reference of board committees.
- 9.3 Receiving reports from board committees on their activities.
10. **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE MATTERS**
- 10.1 Undertaking a formal and rigorous review annually of its own performance, that of its committees and individual directors.
- 10.2 Determining the independence of directors.
- 10.3 Considering the balance of interests between shareholders, employees, customers and the community.
- 10.4 Review of the group's overall corporate governance arrangements.
- 10.5 Receiving reports on the views of the company's shareholders.
11. **POLICIES**
- 11.1 Approval of policies, including:
- Financial operating policy.
  - Code of conduct.
  - Share dealing code.
  - Health and safety policy.
  - Environmental policy.
  - Communications policy.
  - Corporate social responsibility policy.
  - Charitable donations policy.
  - Whistle blowing policy
12. **OTHER**
- 12.1 The making of political or charitable donations.

- 12.2 Approval of the appointment of the group's principal professional advisers.
- 12.3 Prosecution, defence or settlement of litigation
- 12.4 Approval of the overall levels of insurance for the group including Directors' & Officers' liability insurance and indemnification of directors.
- 12.5 Major changes to the rules of the group's pension scheme, or changes of trustees or changes in the fund management arrangements.
- 12.6 This schedule of matters reserved for Board decisions.

**NOTES:**

- 1. Matters which the board considers suitable for delegation are contained in the terms of reference of its committees.
- 2. Items 1.3, 3.6, 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 are dealt with in more detail in the financial operating policy.