

# WOODSIDE ENTERS INTO EXCLUSIVE OPTION ON PANCONTINENTAL'S STRATEGIC DEEP WATER NAMIBIAN BLOCK PEL 87 PROJECT

- Woodside and Pancontinental have signed an Option Deed providing Woodside a future election to enter the deep-water Namibia PEL 87 exploration project
- Woodside will fully fund an estimated US\$ 35 million, minimum 5,000 sq km 3D seismic survey and pay Pancontinental US\$1.5 million in cash
- In exchange, Woodside will have an exclusive option to enter the PEL 87 licence and Joint Venture with 56% and Operatorship
- To ensure Pancontinental retains at least a 20% interest in the project if Woodside exercises its option, Pancontinental has, for a consideration of US\$1.5 million, entered into an option agreement with Custos Investments (Pty) Ltd (Custos) to acquire a 1% interest from Custos by paying Custos a further US\$1million
- If Woodside exercises its option to farmin to the PEL 87 licence, Woodside will drill the first exploration well, through which it will carry Pancontinental at 20% interest
- If the PEL 87 parties elect to drill a second well Pancontinental will have the right to either fund its 20% interest, or elect to have a 10% interest in the well carried by Woodside in exchange for transferring an additional 10% interest in the PEL 87 licence to Woodside
- Pancontinental has a "back-up" right to convert its interest to a 1.5% overriding royalty interest on revenue derived from the sale of oil or gas produced from PEL 87
- Upon Woodside's election to exercise its option, Woodside will pay Pancontinental approximately US\$ 2.5 million, of which approximately US\$1.5 million is reimbursement of a portion of Pancontinental's past costs.

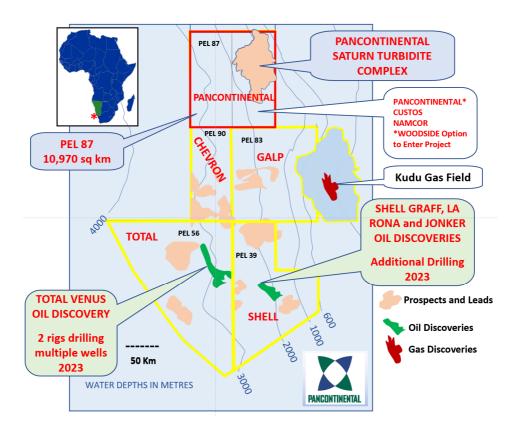
### **Background**

PEL 87, covering a very large area of 10,970 sq km, hosts the very large Saturn turbidite complex mapped by Pancontinental, on-trend to recent major oil discoveries made in 2022; Total's Venus-1 discovery and Shell's Graff-1 and La Rona-1 and recent Jonker-1 (2023) discoveries have proven a working light oil system offshore Namibia.

Shell has now commenced a multi-well drilling program with Jonker-1 near the Graff discovery, and Total is reported to be contracting two rigs to drill appraisal wells on, and nearby, the Venus discovery.

Chevron in 2022 announced an entry to the PEL 90 project (approximately 5,000 sq km) adjacent to Pancontinental's PEL 87 area.

The Minister of Mines and Energy recently granted to the PEL 87 Joint Venture a second, one-year extension of the Initial Exploration Period (see ASX release of 5 December 2022).



## **Woodside's Exclusive Option to PEL 87 Exploration**

Pancontinental is pleased to announce that its wholly owned subsidiary Pancontinental Orange Pty Ltd has entered into an Option Deed with Woodside Energy (GOM), Inc, a wholly owned subsidiary of Woodside Energy Group Ltd whereby Pancontinental has granted Woodside an exclusive option to acquire a 56% Participating Interest in PEL 87, in consideration for Woodside paying for a 3D seismic survey covering an area of at least 5,000 square kilometres within the area the subject of PEL 87 ("Licence Area") at an estimated cost of US\$ 35 million and also paying Pancontinental US\$1.5 million.

Woodside will have a period of at least 180 days after the delivery of the seismic survey data to exercise that option.

If Woodside exercises the option then Woodside and Pancontinental have agreed to enter into a farmout agreement whereby Woodside will carry the existing joint venture during the drilling of the first exploration well to be drilled on the Licence Area after the completion of the seismic survey.

To ensure Pancontinental retains at least a 20% interest in the project if Woodside exercises its option, Pancontinental has, for a consideration of US\$1.5 million, entered into an option agreement with Custos Investments (Pty) Ltd (Custos) to acquire a 1% interest from Custos by paying Custos a further US\$1million. This option is exercisable by Pancontinental within a similar time period as Woodside's option. Pancontinental will retain a 20% interest during the drilling of the well.

If the joint venture decides to drill a second well then Pancontinental may:

- (i) retain its 20% interest but must pay its share of that well;
- (ii) reduce its interest to a 10% Participating Interest and have Woodside carry Pancontinental through the cost of the second well; or
- (iii) at any time up to 60 days after the approval of any Development Plan, convert its interest to a 1.5% gross overriding revenue royalty interest.

Upon Woodside's election to exercise its option, Woodside will pay Pancontinental approximately US\$ 2.5 million, of which approximately US\$1.5 million is reimbursement of a portion of Pancontinental's past costs.

#### **3D Seismic Survey**

Planning is well advanced for the minimum 5,000 sq km 3D seismic survey to be operated by Pancontinental under an agreement in which Woodside will fully fund the survey and will act as adviser to Pancontinental. Further details of the survey will be announced in due course.

#### **Director's Comment**

Pancontinental's Director Mr Barry Rushworth commented:

"Energy giants are jockeying for position after major oil discoveries by Shell and Total offshore Namibia.

Multi-well drilling recently re-started on these discoveries with Shell's Jonker-1 discovery and Total is reported to be bringing in two deep-water rigs for drilling on, and nearby Venus. Ontrend, Pancontinental's PEL 87 has very high potential, with contiguous geology to the discoveries.

Woodside has the exclusive option to join Pancontinental and partners Custos and Namcor in exploring the huge Saturn Turbidite Complex mapped by Pancontinental in PEL 87.

Exploration is moving ahead quickly, with 3D seismic acquisition planned to start later in March this year.

Saturn has been independently assessed to have multi-billion-barrel potential, as first reported by Pancontinental in September 2018.

The deal with Woodside is a very good one for both Pancontinental and Woodside. The planned 3D survey covers a large area over Saturn and we expect very interesting results mid-2023.

If Woodside exercises its option to drill, Pancontinental will, including as a result of the option agreement we have entered into with Custos, retain a very healthy 20% carry in the first well, at no cost to Pancontinental. If a discovery is made, Pancontinental can continue with a 20% interest.

Pancontinental has strategic optionality, so that we can either fund 20% of a second well and carry on with a 20% contributing interest, or be fully carried in the well at the 10% level and retain a 10% contributing interest in the project thereafter by transferring an additional 10% participating interest to Woodside.

We have negotiated a further built-in "insurance policy" right for Pancontinental to convert its interest to take 1.5% of "sales point" oil and/or gas production revenue, with no production expenditure exposure up to the "sales point". Pancontinental has no current plan to invoke this right.

Saturn is similar to Total's huge Venus oil discovery. They are interpreted to have the same age reservoir rocks and similar depositional character, the same mature oil source rocks and the same regional sealing rocks at about the same depth below the sea floor.

PEL 87 and Saturn need further exploration, including drilling, to prove any commercial viability.

Pancontinental is an ASX listed energy company with a large strategic position in this major, emerging energy play alongside Shell, Total, Chevron, and Qatar Energy.

#### **About PEL 87**

PEL 87 was awarded to a Joint Venture led by Pancontinental on 23 January 2018 for a possible total of 3 terms spread over 8 years, plus possible extensions. PEL 87 can be converted to a Production Licence under pre-agreed terms.

PEL 87 covers a very large area of 10,970 sq km, subject to periodic relinquishments which may be waived by the Government of Namibia at its discretion.

Pancontinental has mapped the very large Saturn Turbidite Complex, with a core area of some 2,400 sq km and an overall area of about 4,000 sq km. This very large and complex feature may host numerous large internal hydrocarbon traps, some of which have already been mapped on 2D seismic. None has yet been drilled.

Very good oil source, reservoir and sealing rocks have been identified regionally, and now proven by recent discoveries.

Pancontinental and Woodside plan 3D seismic over Saturn in partnership with Namibian partners Custos and Namcor, to define targets for drilling.

#### **About Woodside**

Woodside Energy Group Ltd (WDS) (formerly Woodside Petroleum Ltd, WPL) is a global energy company, founded in Australia. Woodside is an experienced oil, gas and LNG producer and has a global portfolio including quality oil and gas assets in Australia and internationally.

#### **About Pancontinental**

Pancontinental Energy NL is an energy exploration company with exploration assets in Namibia and Australia.

Pancontinental's market capitalisation is approximately A\$ 83 million (1 March 2023).

Pancontinental is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) under code PCL.

#### **PEL 87 Joint Venture**

The participants in the PEL 87 joint venture are currently:

Pancontinental Orange Pty Ltd (Operator) 75%\*
Custos Investments (Pty) Ltd 15%\*\*
National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (NAMCOR) 10%

- \*Woodside has an exclusive option over a 56% Participating Interest to be derived from Pancontinental's 75%
- \*\* Pancontinental has an option over a 1% Participating Interest to be derived from Custos' Participating Interest

This announcement is authorised for release by the Board of Pancontinental Energy NL.

Pancontinental Energy NL Vesna Petrovic Company Secretary and Executive Director

#### **PANCONTINENTAL ENERGY**

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