

### CERTIFICATION BY AUDITOR IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have examined the attached special purpose information disclosure statements of NGC Holdings Limited Wholesale Gas (Information Disclosure) Business and dated 19 November 2008 for the purposes of regulation 6 of the Gas (Information Disclosure) Regulation 1997.

We certify that, having made all reasonable enquiry, to the best of our knowledge, those financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Gas (Information Disclosure) Regulations 1997.

**KPMG** 

19 November 2008

### CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DISCLOSED BY DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION

We, alison fater and lichael strassing

directors of NGC Holdings Limited ("the Corporation"), certify that, having made all reasonable enquiry, to the best of our knowledge, the attached audited financial statements of the Corporation, prepared for the purposes of regulation 6 of the Gas (Information Disclosure) Regulations 1997, comply with the requirements of that regulation.

Director

Date: 19 November 2008

Director

Date: 19November 2008

# NGC HOLDINGS LIMITED

(A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF VECTOR LIMITED)

# GAS WHOLESALING ACTIVITIES 2008

INFORMATION FOR DISCLOSURE

PURSUANT TO THE
GAS (INFORMATION DISCLOSURE) REGULATIONS 1997

#### **INCOME STATEMENT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	NOTE	2008 \$000	2007 \$000
Operating revenue		277,352	313,427
Gas purchases		(231,306)	(265,743)
Indirect expenses		(1,936)	(2,260)
Operating expenditure		(233,242)	(268,003)
Earnings before interest, income tax, depreciation and amortisation		44,110	45,424
Depreciation and amortisation		(199)	(138)
Operating surplus before income tax	1	43,911	45,286
Income tax expense	2	(14,493)	(15,277)
Net surplus for the year		29,418	30,009

#### **BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 30 JUNE 2008** 

	NOTE	2008 \$000	2007 \$000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Notional cash		49,783	48,158
Prepaid gas	4	-	4,210
Receivables and prepayments	6	15,960	17,882
Total current assets		65,743	70,250
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	10	388	354
Intangible assets	11	280	140
Deferred tax	3	1,345	881
Total non-current assets		2,013	1,375
Total assets		67,756	71,625
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Income tax		14,893	15,518
Dividend payable		29,418	30,009
Payables and accruals	7	21,824	25,998
Provisions	8	1,521	-
Total current liabilities		67,656	71,525
Total liabilities		67,656	71,525
EQUITY			
Notional reserves	5	100	100
Total equity		100	100
Total equity and liabilities		67,756	71,625

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

#### **ENTITIES REPORTING**

These financial information disclosure statements comprise the gas wholesaling business activities of NGC Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries. The gas wholesaling activities involves the sale of gas to persons for the purpose of resupply by the other person (other than those wholesaling activities involving the supply of gas to refuellers).

NGC Holdings Limited is a company registered under the Companies Act 1993. NGC Holdings Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vector Limited. NGC Holdings Limited has adopted New Zealand International Financial Reporting Standards, as such these financial information disclosure statements follow the same accounting policies as that of Vector Limited and comply with New Zealand equivalents to IFRS. The accounting policies as they relate to the gas wholesaling business are detailed below.

These financial information disclosure statements for the gas wholesaling business activities of the Vector group are Special Purpose Financial Reports.

#### STATUTORY BASE

The financial information disclosure statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Gas (Information Disclosure) Regulations 1997.

#### **MEASUREMENT BASE**

The financial information disclosure statements are prepared on the basis of historical cost and should be read in conjunction with the accounting policies in the Vector group annual report for the year ended 30 June 2008.

The policy to apply the avoidable cost allocation methodology (ACAM) described in the Electricity Information Disclosure Handbook 31 March 2004 has been adopted, for the allocation of revenues, costs, assets and liabilities between the regulated businesses and other activities of the Vector group. Under the Gas (Information Disclosure) Regulation 1997, there is no specific requirement to apply the ACAM methodology, thus the Electricity Information Disclosure Handbook in allocating costs has been applied.

Allocations have been carried out on the following basis:

- Direct allocation of all components of financial statement items which are directly attributable to the specific businesses.
- For any components of financial statement items that are not directly attributable to a specific business:
  - By assessing the proportions of those components which are avoidable and non-avoidable; and
  - Allocating those components amongst the businesses on the basis of those proportions using an appropriate cost allocator.

The two main allocators used are the number of employees and the book value of property, plant and equipment. Some costs like integration costs, IT costs and non-system asset depreciation are separately analysed and are allocated using allocators specific to those costs.

In applying the principles of ACAM, businesses have been split into two categories – businesses potentially subject to limited or no competition and businesses that operate in a competitive market. ACAM is intended to show that no more than standalone costs have been allocated to the businesses in potentially non-competitive markets. The 'not directly attributable' costs are initially allocated to the businesses potentially subject to limited or no competition. Avoided costs are allocated to incremental businesses. The gas wholesaling activities are treated as an incremental business as it operates in a competitive market.

All financial statement items not allocated to the gas wholesaling business, are allocated to other businesses within the Vector group. Other businesses are not disclosed within these financial information disclosure statements.

#### **GOING CONCERN**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors believe is appropriate.

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

#### SPECIFIC ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following specific accounting policies that materially affect the measurement of profit or loss and balance sheet items have been applied.

#### A) INCOME RECOGNITION

Income from the provision of gas wholesaling services is recognised as services are delivered.

#### B) GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

The income statement has been prepared so that all components are stated exclusive of GST. All items in the balance sheet are stated net of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables, which include GST invoiced.

#### C) RECEIVABLES

Receivables are carried at estimated realisable value after providing against debts where collection is doubtful.

#### D) GAS CONTRACTS AND PREPAID GAS

The gas wholesaling activities may from time to time prepay for gas and these payments may entitle the gas wholesaling activities to delivery of gas in subsequent years without further payment. Gas prepayments are capitalised as an asset and are expensed to cost of goods sold in the income statement as the prepaid gas is utilised. The amortisation rate per unit of gas is based on the amount of prepaid gas which the gas wholesaling activities expects to access over the term of the contract.

Where the gas wholesaling activities recognises an estimated liability for future obligations to provide gas at a later date, fees associated with those gas advances are amortised to the income statement over the expected life of the contract.

#### E) INCOME TAX

Income tax expense comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax expense is recognised in the income statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Income tax assets and liabilities are the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance date, and any adjustment to tax payable or receivable in respect of previous years. During the financial period, the income tax liability or asset is estimated based on the forecast effective tax rate for that entire financial period.

Deferred tax is recognised using the balance sheet method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to the temporary differences when they reverse, based on the laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance date.

Deferred tax assets including unutilised tax losses are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which temporary differences can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each balance date and are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

#### F) IDENTIFIABLE INTANGIBLE ASSETS

#### Software

Software that is not integral to the functionality of the related hardware is treated as an intangible asset. It is amortised on a straight line basis over its useful life, commencing on the date it is brought into use. Software assets which are integral to the operation of the related hardware are classified as computer equipment within property, plant and equipment. Software has a useful life of between 2 and 10 years.

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

#### **G) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets expected to be used during more than one financial period and include spares held for the servicing of other property, plant and equipment.

The initial cost of purchased property, plant and equipment is the value of the consideration given to acquire the property, plant and equipment and the value of other directly attributable costs, which have been incurred in bringing the property, plant and equipment to the location and condition necessary for the intended service.

The initial cost of self-constructed property, plant and equipment includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project, financing costs that are attributable to the project, costs of ultimately dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located (where an obligation exists to do so) and an appropriate proportion of the other directly attributable overheads incurred in bringing the items to working condition for their intended use. Financing costs that would have been avoided if the expenditure on qualifying assets had not been made are capitalised while the construction activities are in progress. Costs cease to be capitalised as soon as the property, plant and equipment is ready for productive use and do not include any costs of abnormal waste.

Uninstalled property, plant and equipment are stated at the lower of cost and estimated recoverable amount. Estimated recoverable amount is the greater of the estimated amount from the future use of the property, plant and equipment and its ultimate disposal, and its fair value less costs to sell.

Property, plant and equipment is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The costs of distribution systems, distribution land and distribution buildings forming part of property, plant and equipment at 1 July 2006, the date of transition to NZ IFRSs, are measured on the basis of deemed historic cost in accordance with the exemption available on transition under NZ IFRS 1.

Subsequent expenditure relating to an item of property, plant and equipment is added to its gross carrying amount when such expenditure can be measured reliably and either increases the future economic benefits beyond its existing service potential, or is necessarily incurred to enable future economic benefits to be obtained, and that expenditure would have been included in the initial cost of the item had the expenditure been incurred at that time. The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in the income statement as incurred.

#### H) DEPRECIATION

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment is calculated on a straight line or diminishing value basis so as to expense the cost, or revalued amount, less any expected residual value of the property, plant and equipment to the income statement over its useful economic life.

ESTIMATED USEFUL LIVES YEARS

Plant, vehicles and equipment

3 - 40 years

#### I) PROVISIONS

#### **Employee entitlements**

Employee entitlements to salaries and wages, annual leave, long-term leave and other benefits are recognised when they accrue to employees.

#### Other provisions

A provision is recognised as a liability where a constructive or legal obligation exists to settle items in the foreseeable future. A provision is recognised where the likelihood of a resultant liability is considered more probable than not. Where the likelihood of a resultant liability is more than remote but insufficient to warrant a provision, such events are disclosed as contingent liabilities.

#### **CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The Vector group elected to adopt 1 July 2006 as its transition date to the requirements of NZ IFRS in accordance with NZ IFRS 1, First-time Adoption of New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards. An explanation of how the transition to NZ IFRS has affected the reported financial position and financial performance of the Vector group is provided in detail in its annual report for the year ended 30 June 2008.

All accounting policies that applies to the Vector group after transition to NZIFRS have been applied to these financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2008 and comparative year ended 30 June 2007.

#### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

1. OPERATING SURPLUS BEFORE INTEREST AND INCOME TAX		2008 \$000	2007 \$000
Operating surplus before income tax includes:			
Audit fees		10	10
Depreciation - plant, vehicles and equipment		45	56
Operating leasing costs		42	11
Employee benefits		637	394
Amortisation of software intangibles		154	82
. INCOME TAX	NOTE	2008 \$000	2007 \$000
Operating surplus before income tax		43,911	45,286
Tax at current rate of 33%		14,491	14,944
Prior period adjustment		-	162
Adjustment to deferred tax for change in company tax rate		-	128
Other		2	43
Income tax expense		14,493	15,277
Current income tax		14,893	15,280
Deferred income tax	3	(400)	(3)
Total		14,493	15,277

3. DEFERRED TAX	PROPERTY, PLANT AND	PROVISIONS AND	
	EQUIPMENT	ACCRUALS	TOTAL
2008	\$000	\$000	\$000
Balance at the beginning of the year	(31)	912	881
Relating to current period	(5)	405	400
Prior period adjustment	-	64	64
Balance at the end of the year	(36)	1,381	1,345
Deferred tax assets	-	1,381	1,381
Deferred tax liabilities	(36)	-	(36)
Net deferred tax (liability) / asset	(36)	1,381	1,345

The tax charge is notional, therefore no actual tax payments are made and as a result there are no imputation credits available to the gas wholesaling activities.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

3. DEFERRED TAX (continued)	PROPERTY, PLANT AND	PROVISIONS AND	
2007	EQUIPMENT	ACCRUALS	TOTAL \$000
Balance at the beginning of the year	<b>\$000</b> (26)	<b>\$000</b> 904	878
	(20)		
Decrease relating to change in company tax rate	- (E)	(128) 136	(128) 131
Relating to current period	(5)		
Balance at the end of the year	(31)	912	881
Deferred tax assets	-	912	912
Deferred tax liabilities	(31)	-	(31)
Net deferred tax (liability) / asset	(31)	912	881
Current Maui propaid gas		\$000	<b>\$000</b> 4,210
Maui prepaid gas		<u> </u>	
Total		<del>-</del>	4,210
5. NOTIONAL RESERVES		2008	2007
		\$000	\$000
		100	100
Balance at the beginning of the year			
Balance at the beginning of the year  Net surplus for the year		29,418	30,009
		29,418 (29,418)	30,009 (30,009)

The gas wholesaling activities is not a company and therefore has no share capital. A provision has been made for a notional dividend of \$29 million (30 June 2007:\$30 million) payable for the current year.

6. RECEIVABLES AND PREPAYMENTS	2008	2007
	\$000	\$000
Current		
Trade receivables	4,647	4,955
Trade receivables - gas retailing activities (related party)	9,295	11,817
Prepayments and other receivables	2,018	1,110
Total	15,960	17,882

All trade receivables are expected to be realised therefore no doubtful debts have been provided for.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

7. PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS	2008	2007
	\$000	\$000
Current		
Trade payables and other creditors	21,824	25,998
Total	21,824	25,998

8. PROVISIONS	2008 \$000	2007 \$000
Balance at the beginning of the year	-	-
Additions:		
Provision for onerous contracts	1,425	-
Provision for employee entitlements	96	-
Balance at the end of the year	1,521	-

The provision for onerous contracts relates to a historic loss making contract.

#### 9. COMMITMENTS

There is no capital expenditure committed for and not recorded in these financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2008 (30 June 2007: nil).

Operating lease commitments	2008	2007
Non cancellable operating lease payments are as follows:	\$000	\$000
Within one year	42	17
One to five years	69	42
Beyond five years	-	6
Total	111	65

The majority of the operating lease commitments relate to premises.

10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT 2008	COST / VALUATION \$000	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION \$000	NET BOOK VALUE \$000
Plant, vehicles and equipment	708	(320)	388
Total	708	(320)	388
_2007	COST / VALUATION \$000	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION \$000	NET BOOK VALUE \$000
2007 Plant, vehicles and equipment	VALUATION	DEPRECIATION	VALUE

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS	COST / VALUATION	ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION	CARRYING AMOUNT
2008	\$000	\$000	\$000
Software	1,035	(755)	280
Total	1,035	(755)	280
2007	COST / VALUATION \$000	ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION \$000	CARRYING AMOUNT \$000
Software	551	(411)	140
Total	551	(411)	140

#### 12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

A comprehensive treasury policy approved by the board of directors is used to manage the risks of financial instruments. The policy outlines the objectives and approach that will be adopted in the treasury management processes. The policy covers, among other things, management of credit risk, interest rate risk, funding risk, liquidity risk, currency risk and operational risk.

#### INTEREST RATE RISK

The interest rate exposure is actively managed in accordance with treasury policy. In this respect, at least forty percent of all debt must be at fixed interest rates or effectively fixed using interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements, options and other derivative instruments. The main objectives are to minimise the cost of total debt, control variations in the interest expense of the debt portfolio from year to year and to match where practicable the interest rate risk profile of debt with the risk profile of the assets. The treasury policy sets parameters for managing the interest rate maturity profile. The parameters depend upon the Standard and Poor's credit rating and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand continuing to implement monetary policy through adjustments to the official cash rate.

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE RISK

Transactions are conducted in foreign currencies for the purpose of protecting the NZD value of capital expenditure. The outstanding forward exchange contracts are used to hedge forecasted foreign currency exposure arising out of the capital expenditure program. Hence at balance date no significant exposure to foreign currency risk exists.

#### CREDIT RISK

In the normal course of business, there is exposure to credit risks from energy retailers, financial institutions and customers. Credit policies are in place, which are used to manage the exposure to credit risks. As part of these policies, exposures are limited to financial institutions having at least a credit rating of A+ long term from Standard & Poor's (or equivalent rating). In addition, limits on exposures to financial institutions have been set by the board of directors and are monitored on a regular basis. In this respect, credit risk is minimised by spreading such exposures across a range of institutions. Non-performance by any of these financial institutions is not anticipated.

There exists some concentration of credit exposures with a few large energy retailers and large energy customers. To minimise this risk, credit evaluations are performed on large energy customers and requirement of a bond or other form of security where deemed necessary is made. Cash deposits with a small number of banking institutions are placed. There are limits to the amount deposited with each institution. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the fair value of each financial instrument.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

#### 12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

#### **CREDIT RISK (continued)**

	2008 CARRYING AMOUNT \$000	2007 CARRYING AMOUNT \$000
Notional cash	49,783	48,158
Receivables and prepayments	15,960	17,882

#### LIQUIDITY RISK

Liquidity risk is the risk of difficulty in raising funds at short notice to meet financial commitments as they fall due. In order to reduce the exposure to liquidity risk, access to undrawn committed lines of credit is maintained. Cash flow reporting systems are maintained to monitor the forecast liquidity position over an outlook of five years.

The day-to-day liquidity exposure is managed by ensuring that sufficient levels of liquid assets and committed facilities are maintained for the next four to five weeks based on daily rolling operational cash flow forecasts. Short term liquidity crisis management is managed by ensuring sufficient borrowing capacity and liquid assets are available as determined from a monthly rolling 18 month cash flow forecast.

The long term liquidity exposure is managed by ensuring estimated deficits in net cash flow are able to be met as determined by the yearly rolling five year cash flow forecast.

A detailed disclosure of the financial instruments is available under Note 27 of Vector group's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2008.

#### 13. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The directors are aware of claims against entities within the Vector group and, where appropriate, have recognised provisions for these within the financial statements. No material contingencies requiring disclosure have been identified. (30 June 2007: nil).

#### 14. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

NATURE OF THE TRANSACTION	RELATED PARTY	2008 \$000	2007 \$000
Sale of gas based on actual amounts billed and notional revenue charged based on gas wholesale's cost of gas.	Gas Retailing Activities	249,657	277,157
Sale of gas by products based on standard terms and conditions.	Kapuni Gas Treatment Plant	7,482	6,600
Purchase of gas transmission services based on notional revenue charged to gas wholesaling activities.	Gas Transmission Activities	468	316
Received allocation of share of the processing fees costs.	Kapuni Gas Treatment Plant	2,242	6,688
Operational gas swap arrangements.	Gas Transmission Activities	25	198

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

#### 15. EXPLANATION OF TRANSITION TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

A detailed disclosure on the explanation of transition to IFRSs of the Vector group's New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (NZ IFRS) is available under Note 32 of the Vector group's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2008. The restatement of comparatives under IFRS has no impact on these financial statements.