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## **Confidential**

2 October 2023

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

By email: [AustSingGEA@dfat.gov.au](mailto:AustSingGEA@dfat.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Review of the Singapore Australia Green Energy Agreement (GEA)**

Woodside Energy Group Ltd (Woodside) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the review of the Singapore Australia Green Energy Agreement (GEA).

As you will note below, our principal input to the review is that the terminology in the GEA should focus on low carbon outcomes versus using terms that may describe only a subset of the means by which such outcomes can be achieved. Therefore, we recommend a focus on carbon intensity for categories of goods, rather than labels describing the goods themselves. In addition, we believe that Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) should be included in the GEA services list given the likely significant contribution of this technology to regional and global decarbonisation over coming decades.

Woodside aims to thrive through the energy transition by building a low cost, lower carbon, profitable, resilient and diversified portfolio<sup>1</sup>. Our climate strategy is an integral part of our company strategy and has two key elements: reducing our net equity Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions and investing in the products and services that our customers need as they secure their energy needs and reduce their emissions.

This includes progressing opportunities for producing products such as hydrogen and ammonia, with our current proposed Australian opportunities focused on:

- H2Perth, a proposed liquid hydrogen and ammonia production facility to be located on 130 hectares of industrial land in southern metropolitan Perth. The project includes an electrolysis facility, that will provide hydrogen to an ammonia production unit.
- H2TAS, a proposed renewable energy ammonia and hydrogen production facility to be located in Tasmania's Bell Bay region.

Woodside is also progressing plans for the deployment of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and is a participant in a number of basins across Australia:

- Woodside Energy Limited (Operator), BP Developments Australia Pty Ltd, Japan Australia LNG (MIMI) Pty Ltd, Shell Australia Pty Ltd and Chevron Australia Pty Ltd have formed a joint venture to progress feasibility studies for a large-scale, multi-user CCS project near Karratha in Western Australia.
  - The JV partners are initially focused on delivering an emissions reduction solution for heavy industry in the Pilbara. This could provide a foundation to build a CCS industry in Australia and eventually for the Asia Pacific region.
- We are investigating the potential to store carbon in the Bonaparte Basin, located off the coast of the Northern Territory, in a Joint Venture with Inpex and Total Energy.
- We are also a participant in a feasibility study which is looking into the development of a south-east Australian Carbon Capture hub located in the Gippsland Basin off the coast of Victoria with Esso Australia.

Consistent with our operational experience and relationships in domestic and international energy markets, Woodside offers the following feedback on the GEA:

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<sup>1</sup> For Woodside, a lower carbon portfolio is one from which the net equity scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions, which includes the use of offsets, are being reduced towards targets, and into which new energy products and lower carbon services are planned to be introduced as a complement to existing and new investments in oil and gas. Our Climate Policy sets out the principles that we believe will assist us achieve this aim.

### Goods List

- For hydrogen (2804.10) and ammonia (2814.10, 2814.20), Woodside recommends clarifying the list to ensure that in each case the description of the environmental good and its environmental category refers to a carbon intensity threshold rather than the current language of “clean” or “renewable”. This objective approach would ensure inclusion of hydrogen through gas reforming, avoiding unnecessarily inflating hydrogen production costs at this nascent stage of the industry. Woodside believes this approach would be consistent with the expectations of potential export customers in Singapore.
- For marine fuel and sustainable aviation fuel (2710.19), Woodside recommends that same approach as outlined above – the inclusion of a carbon intensity threshold – where the description of the environmental good and its environmental category currently references “green” fuels.

### Services List

- Consistent with the identification of CCUS under the *Clean Energy, Technology and Decarbonisation* priority area of cooperation within the GEA, Woodside recommends the inclusion of CCS in the GEA services list. Major industrial emitters in Singapore are not expected to have access to CCS sites or facilities of appropriate size and scale. Inclusion in the list could be expected to assist Singapore’s interest in accessing regionally based solutions to support their decarbonisation efforts.

Finally, Woodside notes that the GEA priority areas of cooperation also include “*shaping international development and interoperability of standards and certification schemes for clean energy such as hydrogen, including Guarantee of Origin schemes*”. Woodside strongly supports this objective and encourages the Australian government to continue to make progress on this matter through these GEA commitments.

Woodside shares the aspirations of the Governments of Australian and Singapore as set out in the GEA and we trust our feedback assists in achieving its objectives.

Yours sincerely

**Shaun Gregory**

Executive Vice President New Energy