



State Gas Limited  
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## ASX RELEASE

3 June 2019

### APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD COTTEE AS EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

**State Gas Limited (ASX: GAS) (State Gas, the Company)** is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Richard Cottee as Executive Chairman of the Company.

The appointment of Mr Cottee is a further step in the Company's progress towards the development of the Reid's Dome Gas Project in the Bowen Basin in Central Queensland.

The appointment follows the successful completion of the first dedicated coal seam gas well (Nyanda-4) at Reid's Dome in December 2018, which confirmed the presence of more than 40 metres of net coal from approximately 394 metres depth to its total depth of 1,200 metres, and an average gas content of more than 13 cubic metres per ton in coal seams tested.

Mr Cottee is internationally renowned for his energy experience, commercial strategy and acumen within the energy and utilities sector. As former Managing Director of the Queensland Gas Company (QGC) from 2002 to 2008, he took the company from an early stage explorer to a major non-conventional gas supplier building the market value from \$20 million to \$5.7 billion facilitating the sale of QGC to Britain's BG Group.

Mr Cottee holds a Law Degree from the University of Queensland and was admitted to practice in Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia and has been a Senior Associate of both Allens and Mallesons law firms. During his extensive career, he has also been CEO of Queensland Government-owned electricity generator CS Energy, NRG Europe and Managing Director of petroleum explorer-producers Nexus Energy Limited and Central Petroleum Limited.

State Gas current Chairman, Mr Tony Bellas, said that the Board of Directors was pleased to have Mr Cottee join the Company in the role of Executive Chairman at this important time for the company.

"Richard was one of the first in the industry to warn of the then-impending East Coast gas shortage", Mr Bellas said.

Mr Cottee said that he was pleased to be joining State Gas at this time as he could not see signs of any abatement of the current gas shortage.

"The prospect of introducing a new supply of gas into the domestic market is indeed exciting and any new gas supply at this time is in the national interest", Mr Cottee said.

“I am optimistic about the Reid’s Dome Gas Project being available for delivery during this shortfall period, provided further work is undertaken successfully”, he said.

Mr Bellas said that a number of the State Gas Directors share strong industry ties with Mr Cottee, having worked with, or collaborated with him in various capacities over the past 20 years.

Tony Bellas and Richard Cottee have known each other since the early 2000s when Tony was Deputy Under Treasurer in the Queensland Treasury and Richard was CEO of CS Energy. At that time, Tony’s responsibilities included Energy Policy and he was instrumental in the formulation of the Queensland Government’s 13% gas scheme that gave impetus to the coal seam gas industry in Queensland. That policy assisted in the final investment decision for CS Energy, then headed by Mr Cottee, to proceed to develop Swanbank E 385 MW combined cycle gas fired power station near Ipswich.

Mr Cottee and Mr Bellas later collaborated when Richard became CEO of Queensland Gas Company and supplied gas to CS Energy, where Tony became CEO.

Following those landmark transactions, Richard and Tony are looking forward to working closely together again at State Gas during the gas shortage to realise the enormous potential of the Reid’s Dome Gas project.

Mr Cottee and non-executive Director Ian Paton have also worked together successfully earlier in their careers while at Santos while Mr Cottee worked in gas marketing and Mr Paton was an exploration manager.

As part of the new arrangements, Mr Bellas will move from the role of Non-Executive Chairman to Non-Executive Director with Mr Cottee taking the new role of Executive Chairman.

“The Board members all look forward to working more closely with Richard as we focus on commercialising the Reid’s Dome Gas Project as part of the solution to the current east coast gas shortage and to deliver the best possible outcome for shareholders.” Mr Bellas said.

***Ends.***

## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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## **ABOUT STATE GAS**

**STATE GAS LIMITED** (ASX: **GAS**) is a Queensland-based developer of the Reid's Dome gas field (PL 231), which includes both CSG and conventional gas, originally discovered in 1954 during oil drilling prior to the existence of a pipeline network and an east coast gas market. The Reid's Dome field is located in the Bowen Basin in Central Queensland on the apex of the Springsure-Sericold Anticline. State Gas is sole Operator of PL 231, which is well-located 30 kilometres southwest of Rolleston, approximately 47 kilometres from the Queensland Gas Pipeline.

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## ANNEXURE – Terms of Appointment for Mr Cottee

Mr Cottee's remuneration arrangements are heavily-weighted to share-based performance to align with the interests of State Gas shareholders and are centred on time and performance-based milestones related to the Reid's Dome Gas Project and the Company.

### ***Performance Rights Package***

Mr Cottee will be issued with a maximum of 5,000,000 Performance Rights converting to shares in the Company, with vesting conditions as follows:

Tranche	Vesting Condition	Number of Performance Rights
Sign-on Bonus	Completion of two (2) years of service as Executive Chairman of State Gas Limited.	500,000
Phase 1 Work Program	Executive Chairman to Develop and arrange funding for, and deliver Phase 1 Work Program within the Reid's Dome Gas Project.	1,000,000
Phase 2 Work Program	If required by the Board, Executive Chairman to develop and arrange funding for, and deliver Phase 2 Work Program within the Reid's Dome Gas Project.	1,000,000
Corporate Transaction	Delivery and completion of a change-of-control transaction for State Gas that is recommended to shareholders by the Board of Directors.	2,000,000
Strategic Acquisition	If required by the Board, completion of a material strategic acquisition by State Gas.	500,000

All unvested rights will lapse on termination of the Executive's Position, or three years after the Commencement Date, whichever is earlier.

The Performance Rights will not vest in the event of a change of control, which will be deemed to occur if there is a change in the voting power in State Gas Limited of 50% or more, other than the Corporate Transaction tranche set out in the table above.

The grant of Performance Rights to Mr Cottee will be subject to the approval of State Gas Shareholders at the Company's 2019 Annual General Meeting or an earlier General Meeting of Shareholders.

An Executive Chairman's fee of \$100,000.00 (gross) per annum will also be paid to Mr Cottee.