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New directors to expand company horizons

Two new directors with the experience to help New World Energy develop into one of Australia's leading geothermal energy companies, have been added to the company's board.

The directors, Bret Mattes, who will become non-executive chairman and Mervyn Davies, a new non-executive director, are, respectively, among Australia's most experienced geothermal energy and electricity industry executives.

The appointments add significant depth to New World Energy's board, which is led by managing director and geothermal energy geologist John Libby who is also secretary of the Australian Geothermal Energy Association.

Mr Mattes will take over as chairman from Ted Ellyard, New World Energy's founding chairman, who guided the company to its current dominant position in the Western Australian geothermal energy sector. Mr Ellyard has retired after a significant contribution to the company and remains a significant and supportive shareholder in the company

Bret Mattes

Bret Mattes is managing director and CEO of the Star Group of companies, which owns and operates the 227MW (expanding to 360MW) Wayand Windu geothermal project and is developing the 500MW Halmahera geothermal project, both in Indonesia.

A geologist, with a highly successful career in the global energy and resources sector, Mr Mattes brings significant technical and management depth to New World Energy, particularly in the areas of resource exploration, project commercialisation and mergers and acquisitions.

His knowledge of geothermal exploration, development and operation, combined with his strong background in petroleum exploration and commercialisation will be crucial as New World Energy moves to on-ground exploration in Australia and expands into conventional geothermal projects in south-east Asia.

Mr Mattes was previously Vice President Australia/Asia Gas and Power for BHP Billiton, a Director of North West Shelf Gas Pty Ltd, Vice President Australian LNG Pty Ltd and Vice President BHP Japan. He has also held the positions of Chairman of the Australian Energy Alliance - APEC Energy Business Network, Chairman of APGAS Limited and Director of the Australian Member Committee of the World Energy Council.

In addition to his direct industry experience, Mr Mattes has held a number of directorships and voluntary positions in the arts and the renewable energy sector, including positions as: Director of the Research Institute for Sustainable Energy (WA); Chairman of the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA); WA State Library Custodians Board; and, Director of the Berndt Museum of Anthropology (UWA).

He is currently Chairman of the WA Ballet and ChemCentre WA (a renowned provider of chemical and forensic services). Mr Mattes resides in Perth, Western Australia

Mr Mervyn Davies

Mr Davies has over 35 years senior management experience in the Australian electricity supply industry. He is a director of WA Government electricity utility, Western Power, the NSW electricity utility Country Energy, and is Deputy Chairman of the Power and Water Corporation (A Northern Territory government utility). He was formerly General Manager - Network at Energy Australia, which controls Australia's largest electricity distribution network.

Mr Davies has a vast knowledge of the Australian electricity industry, particularly in the operation and regulation of electricity markets. His knowledge of the WA electricity market will be invaluable as New World Energy seeks to develop geothermal projects in the Pilbara and Mid West regions of the state.

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About New World Energy

New World Energy is a dedicated geothermal energy exploration and development company focussed on Australia and southeast Asia. The company is the largest geothermal energy landholder in WA with permits covering the majority of prospective areas in the Pilbara region. It also holds highly prospective Perth Basin exploration permits. The Perth Basin's geothermal energy potential could ultimately be a major contributor to the rapidly growing Perth regional and metropolitan electricity market.

More information regarding the company can be found at www.newworldenergy.com.au

The locations of New World Energy's geothermal permits in Western Australia

