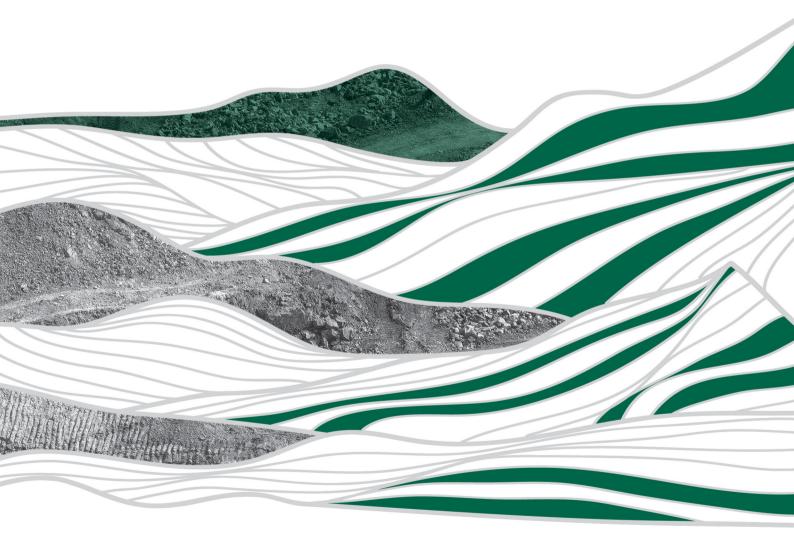


MONGOLIA ENERGY CORPORATION

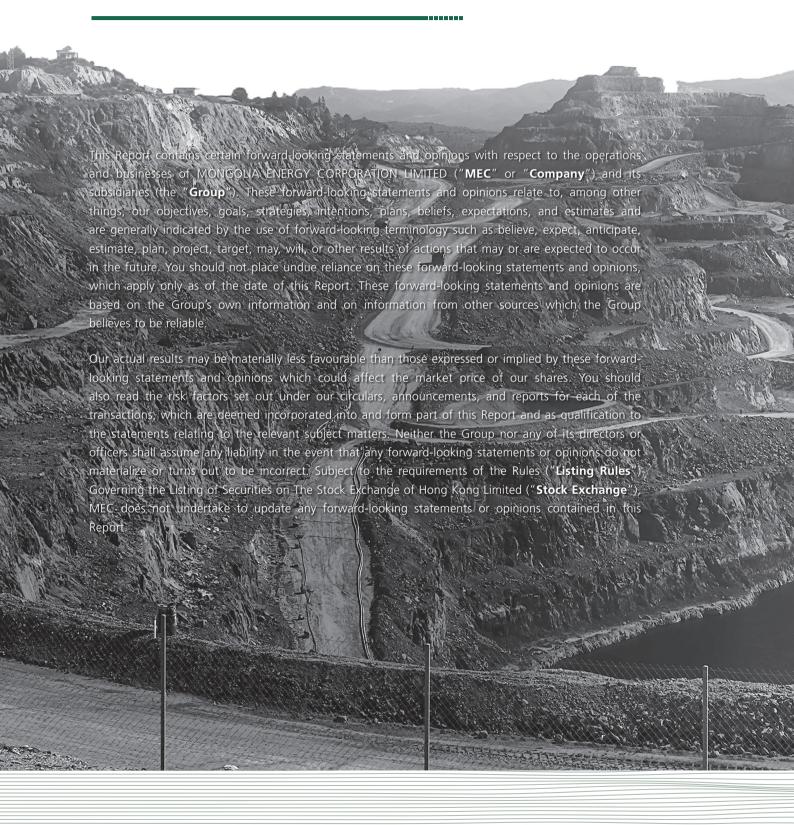
#### 蒙古能源有限公司

Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability Stock Code: 276



**ANNUAL REPORT 2024** 

# CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS



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Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board, I hereby present the annual report for the financial year ended 31 March 2024 (the "Financial Year") and report to you our performance during this period.

The year of 2023 marked the end of the closures under the Covid-19 and the gradual resumption of global trades. However, the impacts of wars and conflicts in Eastern Europe and the Middle East were still raging. Shortage of energy, supply disruption and inflation problems were clouded throughout 2023. Nevertheless, global economy showed better resilience than expected. In particular, the better-than-expected economic performance of the United States, several large emerging markets and developing economies, as well as the fiscal support in the People's Republic of China ("China" or "PRC"), all helped to stabilise the global economic environment. Inflation continued to fall in most of the world, signalling the possible cuts of interest rate in 2024. But risks remain as interest rates are particularly sensitive to uncertain market developments. Geopolitical tension also poses threat to the global economic rebound.

According to the International Monetary Fund ("**IMF**"), the world's gross domestic product growth was 3.2% in 2023. The United States was the country with the largest gross domestic product ("**GDP**"), followed by China, Japan, Germany and India. China had a strong economic performance last year. According to the National Bureau of Statistics of China ("**NBS**"), due to the rebound in the industry and services sectors, as well as a surge in consumption, China recorded a 5.2% GDP growth in 2023, which was better than the target set by the government.

China remained top of the world crude steel producer in 2023, producing 1,019 million tonnes and accounting for 54% of the world's crude steel production. It was virtually no change compared with that of 2022 due to the weakness of the property sector. Liquidity crunches and falling sales of major developers still continued. Fortunately, the downside effects were absolved by the surge in demand of steel by China's automobile production.

According to the World Bank's estimation, Mongolia had an economical growth of 7.1% in 2023 and it was projected to grow by 4.8% in 2024 after it came out from Covid-19. Its economic performance demonstrated a huge rebound in various aspects, according to the National Statistics Office of Mongolia. Its imports and exports surged 54% in 2023 compared with that of 2022. The growing trend is anticipated to stay on as the mining sector continues to expand, with the rapid recovery of the private consumption, as well as the strong fiscal expansion. Mongolia's economy exhibited robust growth, primarily propelled by the mining sector through its strong coal export. However, other sectors did not perform evenly. This heightens an uneven reliance of its economy on the mining sector. China remained the major trade partner to Mongolia in 2023 with the total trade amount of approximately US\$17.6 billion, accounting for 72% of total trade amount of Mongolia, and a surge of 29% compared with 2022. Risks may persist if the economic growth of China is lower than expected, which may result in lower minerals demand and export from Mongolia to the neighbouring country.

Mongolia produced around 81 million tonnes of coal in 2023, representing a surge of 118% year-on-year, according to the data of the National Statistics Office of Mongolia. 66.38 million tonnes of coal were exported to China in 2023, a surge of 123% compared with that of 2022. Coking coal demand in China remained strong last year. A total of 100 million tonnes of coking coal were imported to China in 2023, representing a surge of 60.6% year-on-year. Mongolia was China's top overseas coking coal supplier in 2023. It exported 54 million tonnes of coking coal to China last year. The increase of coking coal imports from the landlocked Mongolia was mainly attributed to the newly expanded road links enabling flows of more truck traffic, and the simplified customs clearance procedures to bolster coal imports.

# **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### **OUR PERFORMANCE**

We continued to expand in our coal production and export during the Financial Year in response to our market demand. Under our team's efforts and the facilitating governmental policies, we achieved a significant increase of coal export of 2,707,100 tonnes in the Financial Year which was a new milestone. Though we have set a new export record, our revenue only increased slightly due to the fall of the average coking coal selling price per tonne from HK\$2,123.4 in the financial year of 2023 to HK\$1,796.5 in the Financial Year.

We produced approximately 7,112,200 tonnes of run-of-mine ("**ROM**") coal during the Financial Year, which was a surge of 164.95% from 2,864,400 tonnes in the last corresponding period. Our sales of coal achieved approximately 1,873,600 tonnes in the Financial Year, including approximately 1,742,900 tonnes of clean coking coal, 76,900 tonnes of thermal coal and 53,800 tonnes of raw coal. Comparing with 1,630,000 tonnes of coal sold to our customers in the last corresponding period, our performance was increased by 14.94% in the Financial Year.

### **OUTLOOK**

Though the global economy was steady last year, the outlook is still rocky in 2024. It could be weakened if any of the downside factors escalate or emerge. The IMF projected 3.2% growth in global economy both in 2024 and 2025. This was partly due to the announcement of China's growth target of about 5% in 2024. The growth in Asia will be the main driver and will contribute roughly 60% of global economic growth this year. However, risks remain high under the high interest rates, increased energy prices and the slowdown of the two world's top economies. Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, if escalates, could further worsen the world's food and energy supply, casting shadow on the global economic outlook.

Although China has announced its GDP growth target of 5% in 2024, this is not without challenge, particularly, the stresses in the property sector still exists. Last year, the growth of China was mainly attributed to consumption, contributing to approximately 80% of the growth. However, the overall trade fell by 5% in 2023, with exports contracting 4.6% and imports declining 5.5%. While China's consumption expenditure will continue to play a stabilizing role in the country's economic development, the manufacturing activities also begin to show signs of continued strengthening. The Caixin manufacturing purchasing managers index indicated a seventh straight month of expansion in May this year. To achieve the target set, China needs a strong policy to support its growth and to restore confidence in the property market, and with the continuous expansion in consumption, infrastructure and the automobile manufacturing sectors.

The steel industry is an indispensable measuring stick to the global economy. Global steel demand is forecasted to grow again in the year of 2024, though at 1.7%, and demand is forecasted to grow by 1.2% in 2025, according to the World Steel Association. The International Stainless Steel Forum anticipated that the global consumption of stainless steel will grow by 3.6% in 2024. According to Mysteel report, the manufacturing industry is poised to be the focal point of China's economic development in 2024, which will also offer substantial support to the country's domestic steel demand as many local governments of China have designated manufacturing as the core sector to drive economic growth for the current year, focusing on key fields of emerging industries, energy, and transportation and water conservancy. With China's policy support, steel structure demand in China is optimistic in 2024.

Last year, coal import sets a new record for China. The surge in imports was largely due to the continuing price advantage over its domestic coal, slow domestic coal production and excess international coal supply as many western countries are shifting away from coal and relying on renewable energy. In 2024, coal imports to China will remain elevated as the energy security is still the core policy of China's central government.

Due to expansion of the mining industry in Mongolia, we anticipate the exports of its coking coal will continue to rise in the year of 2024. As China's domestic high-quality coking coal resources are facing supply continuity problems, high-quality imported coking coal is still in need. We anticipate China's coking coal imports in 2024 will remain high.

In order to cope with the increased production, competitiveness and developments of our mine, we are going to build a new dry coal processing plant ("**DPP**") with a processing capacity of five million-tonne per annum to replace the existing set up. The new DPP is expected to commence operation in the second half of 2025. In addition, we will also relocate our mine office, administrative complex and a series of supporting facilities ("**Support Facilities**") to a new location of the mine. The current location will be used as a soil dumping site under our mining plan. The building of the new DPP and relocation of the Support Facilities will facilitate our mine production in a more efficient manner and save costs.

Though we achieved a satisfactory result in the Financial Year, unforeseeable challenges may come up at any time against the backdrop of global uncertainties. We will continue to adopt a prudent and flexible strategy in our operation and production planning in response to the ever-changing internal and external conditions.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I take this special opportunity to show my appreciation to our staff members, both Chinese and Mongolian as a team, for their dedication and contributions to the Group last year, in particular, during the most challenging period. In addition, I would like to thank our shareholders and stakeholders who have been very supportive to us throughout.

**Lo Lin Shing, Simon** *Chairman*19 June 2024



#### **OVERVIEW**

The Company is an investment holding company. The Group's principal business is coal mining and exploration which is operated by our indirect wholly-owned subsidiary in Mongolia, MoEnCo LLC ("MoEnCo").

Our principal project is the Khushuut Coking Coal Project in Western Mongolia. We sell coking coal and thermal coal to our customers in China and Mongolia. The Khushuut Coal Mine is located approximately 1,350 km west of Ulaanbaatar in the Khovd Province of Western Mongolia. It is about 311 km from the Xinjiang Takeshiken border, connecting by the Khushuut Road we built.

During the Financial Year, approximately 7,112,200 tonnes (2023: 2,864,400 tonnes) of ROM coal were produced and approximately 1,873,600 tonnes (2023: 1,630,000 tonnes) of coal, including clean coking coal, thermal coal and raw coal, were sold to our customers.

#### **RESULTS ANALYSIS**

#### Revenue

MEC achieved a record-breaking sales result in the Financial Year. The management of MEC deliberately increased the sales volume of clean coking coal to counteract the fall in the average coal selling price trend. During the Financial Year, the Group sold approximately 1,742,900 tonnes (2023: 1,351,600 tonnes) of clean coking coal and approximately 76,900 tonnes (2023: 247,500 tonnes) of thermal coal and approximately 53,800 tonnes (2023: 30,900 tonnes) of raw coal. The average selling prices of clean coking coal, thermal coal and raw coal net of sales tax were approximately HK\$1,796.5 (2023: HK\$2,123.4), HK\$24.4 (2023: HK\$55.4) and HK\$695.3 (2023: HK\$544.0) per tonne respectively.

#### Cost of Sales

Cost of sales includes mining costs, coal processing costs, transportation costs, costs on disposal of coal refuse and other relevant operating expenses. The cost of sales for the Financial Year was HK\$1,986.3 million (2023: HK\$1,820.2 million). The overall increase reflected the increase in sales activities. It was divided into cash costs of HK\$1,930.4 million (2023: HK\$1,741.5 million) and non-cash costs of HK\$55.9 million (2023: HK\$78.7 million).

#### **Gross Profit**

Gross profit margin was approximately 37.4% (2023: 37.3%) at around the same level of 2023.

#### Other gains and losses

The net losses mainly comprised a fair value loss of HK\$20.7 million arising from an investment in a Hong Kong listed company (2023: Gain of HK\$0.8 million) and net exchange loss of HK\$30.1 million (2023: Gain of HK\$30.4 million). The weakening of RMB during the Financial Year accounted for the net exchange loss.

#### Administrative expenses

The significant increase in administrative expenses during the Financial Year was mainly due to the provision of tax penalty and undue loss arising from the tax audit conducted by the Mongolian General Tax Office for the tax period from 2017 to 2020. For details, please refer to the Company's announcements dated 21 August 2023, 28 February 2024, 7 May 2024 and 23 May 2024.

# Changes in Fair Value on Derivative Component of Convertible Notes

The convertible notes issued by the Company in 2020 (the "2020 Convertible Notes") contain both debt and derivative components. The conversion option derivative of the 2020 Convertible Notes requires remeasurement at the end of each reporting period and a resulting gain in fair value change amounting to HK\$959.3 million was recognised in the Financial Year (2023: Loss of HK\$303.3 million). The major inputs into the binomial valuation model to work out the valuation of the conversion option derivative for the Financial Year were stated in Note 30(a) to the consolidated financial statements.

# Recoverable Amount Assessment on Khushuut Related Assets ("Mine Assets")

At the end of the Financial Year, an independent qualified professional valuer was engaged by the Group to determine the recoverable amount of the Mine Assets. The recoverable amount of the Mine Assets is based on the discounted cash flow model that incorporates best estimates made by the management of the Group on price trend of coking coal, coking coal grades, production capacity and rates, future capital expenditure, inflation rate and production costs over the mine life of the Khushuut mine, etc. The cash flow projection covers the expected life of the whole operation. Major assumptions including selling prices trend, operating and capital costs, sales volume, inflation rates and discount rate are particularly important; and the determination of the recoverable amount is relatively sensitive to changes in these important assumptions.

Key changes in assumptions used in the discounted cash flow model as at 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2023 are set out below:

	Notes	2024	2023
Discount rate	(a)	35.06%	34.75%
Average current coking coal price per tonne	(b)	US\$213	US\$244
Inflation rate	(c)	2.22%	2.00%
Predicted average annual growth rate of the coking			
coal price for the forthcoming four-year period			
since year ended	(d)	-4.26%	-6.97%
Annual projected sales quantity (tonnes)		1.9 million	1.3 million

#### Notes:

- (a) The discount rate is a pre-tax discount rate and is derived from the Group's WACC with appropriate adjustments made to reflect the risks specific to the Khushuut Coal Mine. The computation of WACC takes into account both cost of debt and equity, and weighted based on the Group's and comparable peer companies' average capital structure. The cost of equity is derived from the expected return on investment by the Group's investors and based on publicly available market data of comparable peer companies. The cost of debt is based on the borrowing cost of interest-bearing borrowings of comparable peer companies. The change of discount rate from last year was a combined result of the updates on the WACC including the risk-free rate and other risk premium factors. The risk-free rate adopted was the yield of China 10-year government bond as at 31 March 2024. The risk premium factors are to reflect the business risks of the Khushuut Coal Mine;
- (b) The average current coking coal price was updated based on latest sales contracts signed by around 31 March 2024;
- (c) Inflation rate was updated by reference to external market research data; and
- (d) The average annual growth rate was updated based on the latest publicly available market data as at 31 March 2024. For the remaining year of the discounted cash flow model, the growth rate is the same as the inflation rate.

Pursuant to the recoverable amount assessment, a reversal of impairment loss amounting to HK\$1,091.3 million was recognised in the Financial Year (2023: Impairment loss of HK\$1,360.9 million). The key contributor to the increase in recoverable amount on Khushuut Related assets are mainly due to the increase in projected sales quantity based on the mining plans proposed by the management as part of the long-term planning process and take into account additional coals processed by the third party washing facilities.

#### **Finance Costs**

The major components in finance costs were the effective interest expenses on convertible notes, interest charge on advances from a director and a loan note. The interest charge on the debt component of the convertible notes issued by the Company was calculated at an effective interest rate of 14.26% per annum (2023: 14.26%). The interest charge on advances from a director was calculated at the Hong Kong prime rate plus 3% per annum, which was same as previous financial years. The interest of the loan note was charged at an effective interest rate of 22.37% per annum (2023: 22.37%).

#### MARKET REVIEW

Coking coal, also known as metallurgical coal, is principally used in steel industry. It is a vital ingredient in the steel making process. Our coking coal demand is predominantly from China; therefore, the steel market performance in China in turn affects our production and planning.

According to the data of the NBS, China's recorded a GDP growth of about 5.2% in 2023. This was better than the target set for 2023 and also outshone the growth of 3% in 2022 under the pandemic. Consumption was the primary driver, contributing 82.5% to the GDP growth, followed by investment and trade. However, the property sector continued to contract, with real estate investment fell by 8.1% and sales revenue of housing property decreased by 6%. According to the NBS, China's GDP growth in the first quarter of the year was 5.3%, reaching 29.63 trillion yuan (about 4.17 trillion U.S. dollars). The growth was mainly attributed to the rising production demand, stable employment and prices, and growing market confidence, and also with the implementation of supportive government policies and intensified macro-control efforts. In terms of economic contribution by industry, the value added of the primary industry grew 3.3% year on year in the first quarter; that of the secondary industry grew 6%, almost double than 3.3% in the last corresponding period, mainly boosted by strong growth in high-tech manufacturing; and that of the tertiary industry grew 5%.

According to the World Steel Association, the world's total crude steel production was 1,888.2 million tonnes in 2023, which was flat from a year earlier. China remained the biggest crude steel producing country in the world during this period. Global crude steel output only increased slightly by 0.5% in the first quarter of 2024 year on year. According to the NBS, the crude steel production of China for the first quarter of 2024 was 256.6 million tonnes, down by 1.9% year on year. China's steel exports in the first quarter of 2024 reached nearly 26 million tonnes, an increase of 30.7% compared with the same period last year. East Asia remains its main market, but exports to India, the Middle East and Latin America have also been increasing. This is China's biggest wave of steel exports since global supply glut in mid-2010s.

In respect of the coal and washing industry of China, the combined revenue of large coal enterprises was RMB3.49 trillion last year, a decrease of 13.1% from the previous year, and their total profits were RMB762.8 billion, fell by 25.3%, according to the NBS.

China's total raw coal production in 2023 was 4.71 billion tonnes, up 3.4% year-on-year while coal imports recorded a significant surge at 474 million tonnes, a year-on-year increase of 61.8%. The surge was partly due to the implementation of the zero-tariff policy in 2023. Imports of Mongolian thermal coal also increased as it was cheaper in comparison and could be used for coal blending resulting in lower production costs. As the coal import tariffs in China was restored in January 2024, the surge of imported coal may slow down in 2024. The major coal supplying countries to China were Indonesia, Russia, Mongolia and Australia. Coal exports for China in 2023 was 447 million tonnes, up 11.7%.

During the first quarter of 2024, the output of industrial raw coal above designated size was 1.11 billion tonnes, a year-on-year decrease of 4.1%. However, imported coal was approximately 116 million tonnes, a year-on-year increase of 13.9%.

According to the data of General Administration of Customs ("**GAC**"), China imported over 100 million tonnes of coking coal last year, an increase of 60.6% year-on-year. 53.96 million tonnes of coking coal were imported from Mongolia, surging 110% year-on-year. Import from Russia also increased 26.8% year-on-year, amounting to 26.63 million tonnes, and ranking as the second largest coking coal supplier to China next to Mongolia.

Mongolia continued to expand its mining industry after coming out of Covid. According to the National Statistics Office of Mongolia, coal production of Mongolia came in at 81.19 million tonnes in 2023, a year-on-year increase of 118%. It exported 66.38 million tonnes of coal to China in 2023, surging 123%. The uptrend continues. According to Mongolian Customs General Administration, Mongolia exported 17.66 million tonnes of coal in the first quarter of 2024, up 28.14% compared with the last corresponding period, but the export value decreased 1.36%, indicating the falling trend of the export coal price.

### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

#### Coal Sales

We recorded a revenue of HK\$3,173.2 million from the sales of coking coal, thermal coal and raw coal to our customers in China and Mongolia in the Financial Year, a rise of 9.22% compared with the previous financial year.

#### **Coal Production**

During the Financial Year, approximately 17,570,900 bank cubic meters ("**BCM**") of overburden were removed for the purpose of exposing the coal seams for the subsequent coal mining works (2023: 17,031,700 BCM). Production of ROM coking coal and thermal coal were approximately 3,101,400 tonnes and 4,010,800 tonnes respectively (2023: 2,481,900 tonnes and 382,500 tonnes).

### **Coal Processing**

During the Financial Year, approximately 1,900,600 tonnes of ROM coal (2023: 1,397,400 tonnes) were processed by the dry coal processing plant, producing approximately 1,536,500 tonnes of raw coking coal (2023:1,152,800 tonnes). The average recovery rate was 80.84%. The raw coking coal would then stand for export to Xinjiang.

The coal exported from Mongolia to Xinjiang was raw coking coal in nature, it is inferior in quality and lower in selling price and requires further handling and processing. In Xinjiang, approximately 2,734,400 tonnes of raw coking coal (2023: 2,112,800 tonnes) were processed by our owned washing plant or through subcontractors, producing approximately 1,944,100 tonnes of clean coking coal (2023: 1,474,700 tonnes). The average recovery rate was 71.10%.

# **Coal Shipping**

Apart from the field work contractors, we hired external coal trucking companies with heavy duty trucks to provide coal transportation services for our coal export. During the Financial Year, approximately 2,707,100 tonnes of raw coking coal were shipped from Mongolia to Xinjiang.

#### **Customers and Sales**

We signed a master coal contract with our customer during the Financial Year. The actual sales including price and the quantity of coal to be delivered were negotiated and mutually agreed from time to time between us and the customers, monthly in general, during this period. Our sales contract clearing is based on the actual clean coking coal delivered after washing.

During the Financial Year, we sold approximately 945,500 tonnes of clean coking coal to our largest customer and it accounted for approximately 54.04% of our revenue in the Financial Year. In general, our production and shipment of coal are closely linked to the market and other conditions, and shipment negotiations between us and the customers from time to time. We will closely monitor the developments and adjust our operation schedule from time to time.

Apart from our major customer, we had nine other customers in Xinjiang and three customers in other areas of China for our coking coal during the Financial Year.

#### Licences

During the Financial Year, the Group had ten mineral licences including nine mining licences, of which eight are for our Khushuut operations and one in other area not within Khushuut; and one exploration licence.

### Legal and Political Aspects

In 2023, Mongolia's economy experienced robust growth driven by increased mineral output and exports, culminating in 70 million tonnes of coal exports by year-end. The growth facilitated fiscal surpluses and contributed to the expansion of international reserves. Despite facing the extreme winter weather, locally known as dzud, which affected most of Mongolia between November 2023 and March 2024, and led to significant livestock losses, damaging the livelihoods of numerous pastoral households, the economy maintained its upward trajectory. Inflation, although declining, remained relatively high. Looking ahead, the growth prospects for 2024 and 2025 are anticipated to be led by the mining sector, notably the Oyu Tolgoi mine, which is projected to ramp up concentrate production.

On 31 May 2023, the Mongolian Parliament enacted a significant constitutional reform, enlarging the legislative body from 76 to 126 members. The core aim of this constitutional reform is to enhance legislators' service by reducing the average number of voters represented by each lawmaker. Additionally, another constitutional amendment empowers Mongolia's Constitutional Court to render final decisions on citizen petitions alleging constitutional civil rights breaches, including gender equality, freedom of expression, thought, and peaceful assembly.

Aligned with these constitutional reforms, the Parliament amended the Law on Elections, focusing on five key regulations. These changes aim to bolster political party accountability, nurture them as policy institutions, ensure transparency in party finances, foster equal member participation, and strengthen internal party democracy.

The Mongolian government declared 2023 as the "Year to Combat Corruption" and initiated the implementation of the five "W" operations, a multi-dimensional initiative targeting corruption. These operations underscore transparency, accountability, and active citizen engagement. Discussions are ongoing regarding draft laws concerning the legal status of whistleblowers, regulation of public and private interests in public service, and conflict of interest prevention, alongside the National Anti-Corruption Program.

To attract foreign investment, Mongolia is committed to enhancing legal protection for foreign investors. A proposed revision to the Law on Investment, presented to the Parliament in February 2024, aims to furnish investors with vital information, simplify business registration, ensure efficient compliance resolution, remove investment-related prohibitions and restrictions, fortify protection through international arbitration, streamline government procedures, and to foster an investor-friendly climate while reducing bureaucracy.

Additionally, the Investment and Trade agency under the Ministry of Economy and Development was established to safeguard foreign investors' rights and interests, ensuring legal protection, resolving investment disputes, advocating for investor-friendly policies, providing information, streamlining regulations, monitoring policy implementation, and collaborating with stakeholders.

The Law on Public-Private Partnership, previously regulated by the Law on Concession, came into force on 1 January 2024. It improves the entire economic competitiveness of the country and accelerates the development of infrastructure such as power plants, roads, railways, and public transport are included in Mongolia's medium-term development policy document "New Revival Policy". The law regulates issues relating to providing land for private construction and investment, special permit issuance, solving price issues, especially price liberalization in the energy and civil aviation sectors, development based on economic and business principles and providing opportunities to attract private sector investment.

Pursuant to Decree No. 466 dated 14 December 2022, issued by the Government of Mongolia, the 'Export Procedures for Open Electronic Trading of Coal' were officially approved in 2023. Since the commencement of the initial trial phase within state-owned enterprises, participation in this initiative has significantly expanded to include private enterprises. According to 2023 annual report of the Mongolian Stock Exchange, a total of 204 coal auctions were held, trading 14.9 million tonnes of coal for 7.3 trillion MNT (2.15 billion USD) in 2023. The average price increase for auctioned coal was 8.5%.

In December 2023, the Government declared 2024 as the "Year to Support Regional Development," aiming to revitalize urban and rural areas, diversify the national economy, and to accelerate overall development. At present, 46% of Mongolia's population resides in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar, 75.8% of enterprises and 84% of trade and services are focused in the capital city and 63% of GDP is produced solely in Ulaanbaatar.

In this regard, Mongolia plans to work towards urban and rural revitalization as part of a post-pandemic new revival policy in 2024, to diversify the national economy and accelerate the development of the country. Mongolia plans to implement a number of measures in near future to promote regional development, dividing its 21 provinces into several integrated regions by its locations.

The Government of Mongolia adopted a revised Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation ("**EIAR**") on 8 February 2024. The New EIAR requires project implementers to assess not only the environmental impact but also the social impact of their projects, using more detailed criteria such as enhanced Environmental Status Assessment and expanded scope of management plan.

The tax is levied at a rate of 30% if the beneficial owner of a mining licence holder for a strategically important mineral deposit fully or partially transfers the right to own and use land, as well as exploration and exploitation licences for minerals, radioactive minerals, and oil. Such transfers may occur through gifting or bequeathing shares, participation, or voting rights of a legal entity.

# Environmental policies, relevant laws and regulations affecting us

As a responsible corporation, environmental stewardship is one of the pillars of our sustainable business strategy to safeguard people and the environment, and to create enduring values for our customers, employees, host communities, shareholders, and business and supply chain partners. The Group has adopted an environmental policy focusing primarily on, among others, complying with the host-country legislation and regulations; establishing management systems and programs relevant to our environmental risks to prevent, reduce and mitigate impacts at all stages of our operations; regularly assessing our performance through evaluating our business processes and practices and monitoring the surrounding environment in which we operate. Our production is mainly carried out by MoEnCo in Mongolia. MoEnCo has a detailed environmental assessment of the Khushuut Mine covering five years environmental management and protection related matters in our mine operation. Based on such documentation, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia will approve an annual environmental plan while monitoring the implementation of the preceding year's environmental plan through an implementation report submitted by MoEnCo. When preparing its annual Environmental Management Plan ("EMP"), MoEnCo works closely with the local soum government and provincial environmental agencies to reflect their proposals in the EMP. We also conduct joint assessment on the execution of each EMP.

The relevant laws and regulations having significant impact on our operation include the Minerals Law and various laws on the environmental protection such as General Environmental Protection Law, Land Law, Water Law, Law on Environmental Impact Assessment, the Mining Prohibition Law ("MPL"), etc. These laws and regulations impose requirements on our operations and our obligations on the environment generally. For example, under the Mineral laws, renewal of mineral licences must be made timely and subject to payment of annual licence fee. The law also states that the licence holders are obligated to meet a minimum exploration expenditure requirement under the exploration licences. Under the MLP, it prohibits minerals exploration and mining in areas such as headwaters of rivers and lakes, forest areas and areas adjacent to rivers and lakes. The Mongolian authorities may impose moratorium or restrictions on licences if the holders are in breach of any relevant laws in Mongolia. MoEnCo has an environmental management team responsible for implementing its environmental duties and responsibilities under the directions of its mining director and deputy health, safety and environmental manager. The legal department of MoEnCo is responsible for recording compliance issues while monitoring timely execution and submission of the environmental reports and plans to the relevant Mongolian authorities on an annual basis.

So far as the Board and management are aware, MoEnCo has generally complied with its environmental duties as required by the Mongolian laws and regulations during the Financial Year. More details are set out in the Environmental, Social and Governance Report.

# Key stakeholders relationship

Engaging and building relationships with stakeholders is the key to sustaining business. Our stakeholders are individuals, groups or organisations that affect and/or being affected by our business activities and performance. The stakeholders of the Group include our shareholders, employees, customers, contractors, various Mongolian governmental authorities (such as the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry, the State Specialised Inspection Agency, the Mineral Resources and Petroleum Authority of Mongolia ("MRPAM") and their local governmental agencies), various Chinese governmental authorities (such as the Environmental Protection Bureau, the Safe Production Supervision Administration, the General Administration of Customs and their local governmental agencies), and local communities. In general, we maintain a good relationship with them. Apart from the tax dispute with the Mongolia Tax Authority which they had been disclosed in our announcements dated 21 August 2023, 7 November 2023 and 28 February 2024, there was no material and significant dispute between the Group and its customers, suppliers and other business partners regarding our operation in the Financial Year.

# Material Acquisition/Disposal during the Financial Year

During the Financial Year, MoEnCo entered into the Engineering, Procurement and Construction Contract ("**EPC Contract**"), together with the non-compete agreement, with Tangshan Shenzhou Manufacturing Group Co., Ltd. (唐山神州機械集團有限公司), a company incorporated in the PRC with limited liabilities (the "**Contractor**") in relation to the construction and installation work of a new DPP in the Khushuut Coal Mine.

The total price including the EPC Contract Price and the compensation under the non-compete agreement respectively, is RMB104.75 million (equivalent to approximately HK\$115.23 million).

As the current dry coal processing plant has been in service for almost 10 years, the plant is in need of refurbishment in order to maintain its productivity. In addition, relevant replacement parts may not be readily available when it is in need of repair. Maintaining and upgrading the plant would be burdensome to MoEnCo. In order to cope with the increased production, competitiveness and developments of our mine, the management of the Company planned to build the DPP on the mine site, with a processing capacity of five million tonnes per annum to replace the existing set up.

The EPC Contract together with the non-compete agreement constitute a major transaction to the Company. The transaction was approved by the Shareholders in a special general meeting held on 14 May 2024.

# Tax disputes

#### PRC Tax

In prior years, it was assessed that the principal activity of one of the Group's subsidiaries, 新疆蒙科能源科技有限公司 ("新疆蒙科"), satisfied the definition as one of the encouraged industries stated in the "Tax incentives of Western Development Policy". Hence, 新疆蒙科 was entitled to enjoy a preferential income tax rate of 15% until 31 December 2030, which also aligned with industry practice within the region. During the current year, a notification was received from the local tax authority that the principal activity of 新疆蒙科 does not satisfy the definition and income tax should be provided at 25%. As the detail of the basis of the local tax authority's interpretation is unclear, 新疆蒙科plans to seek for clarification from the relevant government departments. While 新疆蒙科is seeking for clarification, as a result of changes in facts and circumstances, management has reassessed its assessment and as a result, income tax has been provided at 25% for 2023 tax year. As such, an additional tax provision of HK\$132.1 million has been provided accordingly.

# Mongolian Tax

During the year, the Group's subsidiary, MoEnCo, received a tax demand letter ("First Tax Demand Letter") from the Mongolia Tax Authority ("MTA"), arising from the completion of the tax audit covering the fiscal years 2017 to 2020 on 28 July 2023, imposing a total tax demand (including additional taxes and penalties) of approximately HK\$406.4 million (US\$52.1 million) on a number of tax matters, including mainly transfer pricing, treatment of unrealised exchange differences and royalty tax, etc.

MoEnCo filed an appeal notice against the First Tax Demand Letter and a hearing took place on 29 January 2024, of which the Tax Dispute Resolution Committee of Mongolia ("**TDRC**") ordered for a reinvestigation on a number of tax matters identified in the First Tax Demand Letter.

As a result of the reinvestigation, on 21 May 2024, MoEnCo received a revised tax demand letter ("**Revised Tax Demand Letter**") from the MTA, imposing a revised total tax demand of approximately HK\$929.8 million, The revision is mainly due to, among others, the MTA assertions of MoEnCo's under-reporting of the sales revenues which is a transfer pricing issue under dispute at the TDRC hearing held on 29 January 2024.

In addition, subsequent to the year end on 6 May 2024, MoEnCo received another demand notice from the MTA for an amount of HK\$403.3 million for additional tax relating to mainly royalty tax for the period from 2022 to 2024.

The Group has engaged with independent external tax consultants and legal advisor in assessing the findings and further disagrees on a number of matters and its calculation included in the Revised Tax Demand Letter and on 14 June 2024, the Group has filed another appeal notice against the Revised Tax Demand Letter. An assessment has been made on the uncertain tax position and an additional tax provision of HK\$273.0 million has been provided accordingly as at 31 March 2024.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

# **Liquidity and Financial Resources**

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors of the Company ("**Director(s)**") have given careful consideration of the future liquidity of the Group. While recognising that the Group had net liabilities of HK\$2,685.3 million and net current liabilities of approximately HK\$4,924.3 million as at 31 March 2024, the Directors are of the opinion that the Group will be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future given that: (1) Mr. Lo Lin Shing, Simon ("**Mr. Lo**"), a substantial shareholder and chairman of the Company who has significant influence over the Group, has provided facilities amounting to HK\$1,900.0 million. The balance of the unutilised facilities of HK\$931.6 million as at 31 March 2024 remains valid until 24 March 2026; (2) Mr. Lo does not intend to demand immediate repayment of his advances to the Company and (3) Agreement in principle to renew the loan note and convertible notes upon their maturity in November 2024 and March 2025 respectively were obtained from the note holders by the Company. The borrowings of the Group as at 31 March 2024 were the convertible notes, loan note and advances from Mr. Lo in aggregate of HK\$5,251.4 million (2023: HK\$5,962.6 million). Advances from Mr. Lo, convertible notes and loan note as at 31 March 2024 are all classified as current liabilities.

As at 31 March 2024, the cash and bank balances of the Group were HK\$97.8 million (2023: HK\$60.3 million) and the liquidity ratio was 0.28 (2023: 0.68).

# Property, Plant and Equipment

The increase in the carrying values of the property, plant and equipment was due to the reversal of impairment loss amounting to HK\$965.1 million (2023: Impairment loss of HK\$1,231.5 million). During the Financial Year, the Group had incurred capital expenditures of approximately HK\$122.4 million (2023: HK\$227.2 million).

#### Trade and Bills Receivables

The Group allows a credit period of 30 to 60 days for trade receivables and the maturity dates for bills receivables should be within 180 days or less. As at 31 March 2024, the majority of the trade receivables were within our credit period. For the bills receivables, they were non-interest bearing bank acceptance bills with settlement being guaranteed by the licenced banks in the PRC

#### Other Receivables, Prepayments and Deposits

It mainly comprised prepaid value added tax of HK\$280.0 million (2023: HK\$197.3 million) to be refunded by the Government of Mongolia or offset against future taxes and royalties payable to the Government of Mongolia. The utilisation of the prepaid value added tax is subject to the approval of the Mongolian tax authority on our Mongolian subsidiary.

#### Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

As at 31 March 2024, the fair value of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss was HK\$30.9 million (2023: HK\$51.6 million), which was approximately 0.7% (2023: 1.8%) of the total assets of the Group. It represents the Group's interest in Beijing Beida Jade Bird Universal Sci-Tech Company Limited (the "Jade Bird"), a company whose shares are listed on GEM of the Stock Exchange. The principal activities of Jade Bird and its subsidiaries are engaging in the technology research, development, marketing and sale of embedded system products and related products in security and fire alarm systems. The Group's investment is approximately 5.58% (2023: 5.58%) of the total issued share capital of Jade Bird. During the Financial Year, the Group received HK\$6.2 million (2023: Nil) dividend from Jade Bird.

# Other Payables and Accruals

The major components were being unsettled royalty tax in Mongolia and liabilities related to discounted bills receivables which had not been matured.

# Charge on Group's Assets

There was no charge on the Group's assets as at 31 March 2024 (2023: Nil). As at 31 March 2024, the gearing ratio of the Group was 1.25 (2023: 2.1) which was calculated based on the Group's total borrowings to total assets.

# Significant Investments held, Material Acquisitions and Disposals of Subsidiaries, Associates or Joint Ventures

Apart from the construction of the DPP, the Group had no significant investments held, material acquisitions and disposals of subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures during the Financial Year.

# Future Plans for Material Investments and Capital Assets

As at the date of this report, apart from the relocation of the Support Facilities, the Group did not have any concrete future plans for material investments or capital assets.

# Foreign Exchange

The Group mainly operates in Mongolia, Hong Kong and Mainland China. The Group's assets and liabilities are principally denominated in Mongolian Tugrik, Hong Kong dollar, Renminbi and United States dollar. The Group does not have a foreign currency hedging policy. However, the Management will monitor foreign exchange exposure and consider hedging significant currency exposure should the need arise.

#### **Contingent Liabilities**

The Group did not have material contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2024 (2023: Nil).

#### **RISK FACTORS**

The Group's business may from time to time face with certain risk factors; some of them may not be anticipated by or known to the Group. While the Group has adopted its business strategies and planning by taking into account the foreseeable risks and measures, shareholders and investors should be aware that the business of the Group may still be impacted once such unfavourable event happens.

Although it is not possible to list out a complete list of risk factors, the major risks include, among others, the following:

### Cyclical nature of coal markets and fluctuations in coal prices

The revenue of our operation depends on successful commercial production of coal products in our concession areas. Therefore, our future business and results of operations are dependent on the supply and demand of coal globally, in particular, the PRC. The fluctuation in supply and demand of coal can be caused by numerous factors beyond the Group's control, which include but not limited to:

- (i) global and domestic economic and political conditions and competition from other energy sources; and
- (ii) the rate of growth and expansion in industries with high demand for coal, such as steel and power industries.

The coking coal demand and prices in recent years remain elevated due to the support of the policies in China and the economic factors. However, there is no assurance that the demand of the PRC, which we assume as our major market, for coal and related products will continue to grow, or that the demand for these products will not experience excess supply.

Development of a mining project may take time and there are various factors affecting its development. In a nutshell, development of a mining project will take time, often through years, and this includes going through the process of reconnaissance, exploration, deposit analysis, feasibility study and mine planning. There is no guarantee that a planned development may overcome all challenges encountered during these processes. Ultimate commercial viability of a project will depend on whether the deposit is of the desired attributes, proximity to potential markets, availability of infrastructure and transportation networks, labour costs and availability, competition for other energy resources and global economic conditions.

Government regulations and policies such as taxes and royalties may also have a direct or indirect impact on encouraging or discouraging investment in the mining sector. Not all planned projects may achieve the intended economic benefits or demonstrate commercial feasibility.

In the course of development of a project, the Group may change its planning from time to time due to some unforeseeable circumstances. When this happens, the outcome, prospect, or financial position may be significantly affected.

# Significant and continuous capital investment

Mining business requires significant and continuous capital investment. Planned mine exploration and coal production projects may not be proceeded as planned, may exceed the original budgets and may not achieve the intended economic results or commercial viability. Actual capital expenditures for the projects may also differ from planned in the course of development. Such factors include locality and geology of the mine sites, method of excavation, availability of transportation networks, ancillary infrastructure requirements and distance to the markets, etc. Even a mine is potentially rich in natural resources, whether it is attractive for commercial development still depends on a variety of factors.

### Policies and regulations

Mining business is subject to extensive governmental regulations, policies, and controls. There can be no assurance that the relevant governments will not change such laws and regulations, or impose additional or more stringent requirements. Failure to comply with the relevant laws and regulations in any mine development and coal production projects may adversely affect the Group. Some of the relevant laws and regulations in Mongolia are as follows:

#### Minerals Law

Under the Minerals Law, mineral exploration licences are granted for an initial period of three years. Holders may apply for an extension of the licences for three successive additional periods of three-year each, making twelve years in total. Renewal of licences must be made timely and subject to payment of annual licence fee. The Minerals Law also states that the licence holders are obligated to meet a minimum exploration expenditure requirement. Failure to meet these requirements may subject to licence cancellation by the Mongolian authorities. The mining licence for coal is granted for an initial term of thirty years with an option for two further terms of extensions of twenty-year each, making seventy years in total. The Mongolian authorities may also impose moratorium or any restrictions on any licences if the holders are in breach of any relevant laws in Mongolia.

In April 2024, the Mongolian Parliament approved the Law on the Sovereign Wealth Fund. This legislation outlines the procedures for establishing, distributing, and managing the Sovereign Wealth Fund. The primary objective of this law is to ensure the equitable and fair distribution of mineral resource benefits to every citizen of Mongolia, both present and future.

In connection with the approval of this law, respective amendments have been made to the Minerals Law. These amendments brought key changes to the Minerals law in terms of restrictions imposed on shares, authorised representative, state ownership of shares in derivative deposits associated with strategically important mineral deposits and special tax rate. Any further developments and/or amendments to the Minerals Law could have an impact on our business, results of operations and financial position.

# Mining Prohibition Law

On 16 July 2009, the Parliament of Mongolia enacted the MPL which prohibits minerals exploration and mining in areas such as headwaters of rivers and lakes, forest areas and areas adjacent to rivers and lakes. Since its enactment, it has been subject to much controversy and many changes and clarification have brought about on its application and implementation. All our licences in the Khushuut Coal Mine are not the subject under the MPL. However, there is no quarantee that our licences will not be affected in the future when there is a change on the relevant law.

# Strategic Deposits

The Minerals Law states that a mineral deposit is of strategic importance if a deposit may have a potential impact on national security, economic, and/or social development of the country at regional and/or national levels, or that is capable of producing greater than 5% of the gross domestic product of any given year.

If a mine is ruled as a Strategic Deposit, the Mongolian government could participate in its interest. Under the said Minerals Law, the size of the government participation is determined largely by the level of state funding which had been provided for the exploration and development of any deposit. There are proposed changes to the Minerals Law regarding strategically important deposits and the Group will update the relevant changes in due course.

#### Licence risk

The Minerals Law lists the following grounds for an immediate revocation of mineral licences:

- (i) the licence holder is no longer in existence;
- (ii) failure to timely and fully pay the licence fees;
- (iii) the exploration or mining area has been designated as a special-need territory, or an exploration or mining activities have been prohibited in the licenced area by law and the licence holder has been fully compensated;
- (iv) exploration expenditures of a given year are lower than the minimum exploration expenditure requirements set by the Minerals Law; or
- (v) the state central administrative agency in charge of the environment (currently Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia) has decided based on a report of the local administrative bodies that the licence holder has failed to fulfill its environmental reclamation obligations.

Further, a licence may be suspended if the licence holder fails to comply with other requirements of the Minerals Law and/or other relevant laws and regulations under the Licensing Act. If the licence holder fails to rectify such breach, the licence can then be revoked.

# **Country risk**

The business of the Group is currently in Mongolia with the target market in the PRC. There can be a risk that the business environment may change which reduces the profitability of doing business in Mongolia and/or the PRC. Changes of political and economic conditions in either Mongolia or the PRC may adversely affect the Group. There is no assurance that the Group's assets or business will not be subject to nationalization, requisition or confiscation due to change of laws or political conditions.

#### **Environmental protection policies**

Mining and exploration business is subject to the Mongolian environmental protection laws and regulations. Under Article 66 of the Minerals Law, if a licence holder violates environmental protection legislation, the entity holding the licence may be fined or its activities suspended until it has complied with environmental and other regulations. In the worst case scenario, a licence may be revoked for non-compliance pursuant to Article 56 of the Minerals Law.

If the Group fails to comply with existing or future environmental laws and regulations, the Group may be required to take remedial measures, which could have a materially adverse effect on its business, financial conditions, and results of operations. In addition, environmental protection is currently one of the core policies of China which advocates for the use of alternative or renewable energies by burning less fossil fuel. It is a trend that environmental controls will become more stringent in the future. Our business development will be affected and cost will be increased in compliance with the onerous requirements imposed.

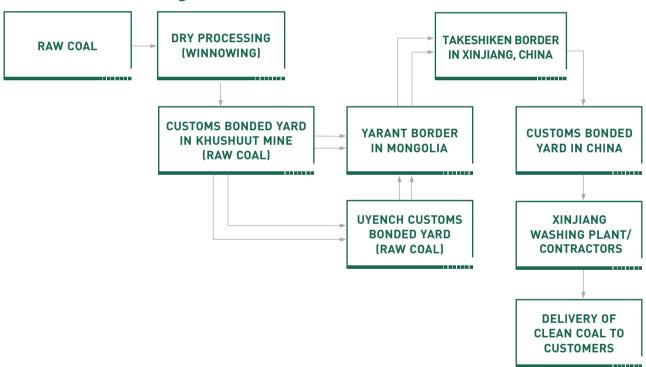
# Operational risks

We require various contractors for the mining operations of our Khushuut Coking Coal Project. If there is any unforeseeable event which renders these contractors unable to continue provide their services and no effective solution is implemented, our operation may be seriously impacted. Our operation is also dependent on the fuel supply conditions in Mongolia. We ship our coal out of Mongolia via the Khushuut Road which is approximately 311 kilometres connecting our mine site to the Xinjiang customs border. If any part of the road is damaged and is not properly repaired, our coal transportation may come to a halt. The Yarant Border in Mongolia and the Takeshiken Border in Xinjiang are the only borders for our raw coking coal export. As our coking coal customers are in Xinjiang, China, if there is any export or import restrictions imposed by either border and no alternative customs border is available for our coal export purpose, we are unable to sell coking coal to our customers in Xinjiang.

In addition, any adverse change of import policy or practices on coal import into Xinjiang, China will also impact our operations.

Our production flow and logistics are illustrated in the flowchart below. The risk is similar with the change of export policy or practices in Mongolia.

# **Production flow and logistics**



#### **Taxation**

As our main operation is in Mongolia, we are subject to Mongolia corporate income tax. At present, Mongolian corporate income tax is charged on a progressive rate scale as follows:

- 10% applies to the first 6 billion MNT of annual taxable income.
- 25% applies to any excess of MNT 6 billion of annual taxable income.

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Apart from the corporate income tax, Mongolia also imposes resources royalties, value-added tax (VAT) for goods sold, work rendered and services provided in the territory of Mongolia and on goods imported into Mongolia, and goods exported for sale, and also other taxes on the following transactions including:

- (i) Dividends;
- (ii) Interest;
- (iii) Gambling, betting games, and lotteries;
- (iv) Sale of immovable property; and
- (v) Sale of rights (e.g. mining licences, special activity licences, and other rights granted by the authorised organisations for conducting specific activities).

Therefore, to continue conducting business in Mongolia, the rates of its taxes and the Mongolian tax policies are one of the major factors of consideration.

Our investment and operation are sensitive to the Mongolian tax policies and incentives. If the Mongolia government tightens the tax policies or increases the tax rates, these will bring impact to the sustainability of our profits and business commitments in Mongolia.

#### Financial risks

Exploration and mining is an industry which requires a heavy capital layout for its developments and sustainability. Investors invariably require substantial amount for the start up even the projects are proven potential. Our sources of funding are mainly from loans raised through the issue of convertible notes and advances from our Chairman and Director of the Company and from the sales of our coal products. Our ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on the coal market conditions and ongoing availability of finance to the Group, including the financial support from Mr. Lo, Chairman and Director of the Company.

#### **Political stability**

The Parliament of Mongolia is the highest governing body of state power and the legislative power is vested solely in the Parliament. As a supreme government organ, the Parliament is empowered to enact and amend laws, ratify international agreements, and declare a state emergency. Specifically, the Parliament may consider on its initiative any issue pertaining to domestic and foreign policies of the State, and retains within its exclusive power, including but not limited to: (i) enact new laws and make amendments to the laws; (ii) define the State financial, credit, tax and monetary policies; (iii) lay down guidelines for the country's economic and social development; (iv) approve the government's program of action, the state budget and the report on its execution; and (v) supervise the implementation of laws and other decisions of the Parliament.

The Parliament meets semi-annually. The Parliament members elect a chairman and a vice chairman who each serves a four-year term. The Parliament members are elected by district for a four-year term. The Mongolian Parliament used to adopt a policy to welcome international investors to invest and develop its mining sector, and have favourable policies on mining developers. However, there is no guarantee that the Parliament will not change its existing policies or adopt a more conservative or restrictive policy on the mining sector or protectionism in the future.

# **EXPLORATION AND MINING CONCESSIONS OF THE GROUP**

The information of the Group's existing exploration and mining concession areas in Western Mongolia is as follows:

<b>Licence</b> (licence no.)	Location (resources)	Mine Area (approximate) (hectare)^	Date of issuance	Licence valid period#	Development status/Remarks
	Khushuut coal project				
1414A 1640A 4322A 6525A 11887A 11888A 15289A 20299A	Khovd, Western Mongolia	1,885	30 December 1998 70 years for 25 May 1999 Mining 23 April 2002 Licences (A) ▲▲ 7 November 2003 14 August 2006 14 August 2006 23 November 2009 4 December 2015		Approximate 141 million tonnes of in-place resources according to JORC standards are reported*
	Exploration Project				
20745X	Gobi Altay, Western Mongolia	10,884	22 February 2017	12 years for Exploration Licence (X)	
	Others				
2913A	Olon Bulag, Western Mongolia	38	26 January 2001	70 years for Mining Licence (A)▲▲	
Total Hectares	·	12,807			

<sup>△ 1</sup> hectare = 10,000 square metres

- ▲ (X) stands for exploration licence
- (A) stands for mining licence
- \* The resource estimation of the Khushuut Coal Mine made in 2009 is based on "reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction" by using the following parameters:
  - (a) Open-pit mining method;
  - (b) Maximum mining depth of 400 meters. At 200 meters depth, the approximate JORC resources are 85 million tonnes;
  - (c) Raw coal density as determined from the analytical data. The average density for the B and C seams is 1.45;
  - (d) Minimum mineable seam height of 1.5 meters;
  - (e) Coal estimates are on raw coal basis, which include all coal and partings less than 0.1 meter, non-coal parting measuring of 0.3 meter or less are mined with coal; and
  - (f) Since our formal commercial coal production from 2015, we have extracted a total of approximately 19.6 million tonnes of ROM coal for our coal production process. Based on the arithmetic calculation stated above, the remaining in-place resources under JORC Standards are 121.4 million tonnes. However, the aforesaid is for reference only and the actual remaining resources are subject to further verification through exploration.

<sup>#</sup> the exploration licences are for three years with three further extensions of three-year each. The mining licences are for thirty years with two further extensions of twenty-year each.

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT



#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

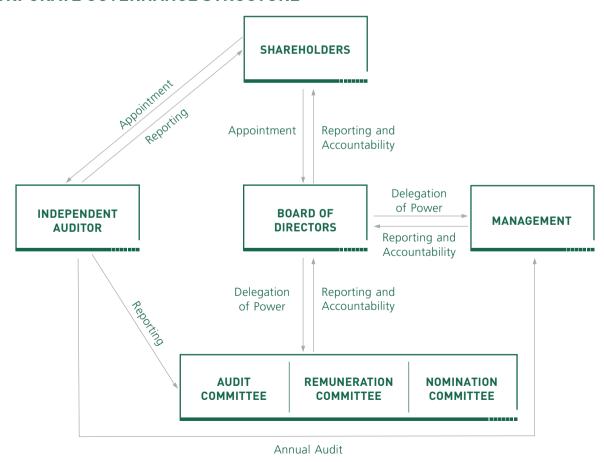
The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining a high standard of corporate governance practice to protect and enhance the benefits of the shareholders. The Board and the management of the Company have collective responsibilities to maintain the interest of the shareholders and the sustainable development of the Group. The Board also believes that good corporate governance practices can facilitate rapid growth of a company under a healthy governance structure and strengthen the confidence of the shareholders and investors, thereby enabling shareholders' evaluation of the Company's application of the principles and code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") as set out in Part 2 of Appendix C1 to the Listing Rules.

During the Financial Year, the Company had applied the principles of and met the code provisions set out in Part 2 of the CG Code, save for the following deviation:

i. Code provision F.2.2 of the CG Code stipulates that the chairman of the board should attend the annual general meeting ("**AGM**").

Due to another business engagement, the Chairman was unable to attend the 2023 AGM. The Managing Director of the Company took the chair of the 2023 AGM and answered questions raised by the shareholders. The AGM provides a channel for communication between the Board and the shareholders. Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Remuneration Committee of the Company was also present to answer shareholders' questions at the 2023 AGM. Other than the AGM, the shareholders may communicate with the Company through the contact methods listed on the Company's website.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



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# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### COMPLIANCE WITH MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted its own Code for Securities Transactions by Directors (the "Code"), which are on terms no less exacting than those set out in the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers in Appendix C3 to the Listing Rules (the "Model Code"). The Code is sent to each Director on his/her initial appointment and from time to time when the same is amended or restated.

The Company has also established written guidelines on terms no less exacting than the Model Code (the "**Employees' Guidelines**") for securities transactions by relevant employees of the Group who are likely to be in possession of unpublished inside information of the Company.

To enhance corporate governance transparency, the Code and the Employees' Guidelines have been published on the Company's website at www.mongolia-energy.com.

During the period of sixty days immediately preceding and including the publication date of the annual results or, if shorter, the period from the end of the relevant financial year up to and including the publication date of the annual results, all the Directors and relevant employees must not to deal in the securities and derivatives of the Company until such results have been published.

During the period of thirty days immediately preceding and including the publication date of the half year results or, if shorter, the period from the end of the relevant quarterly or half year period up to and including the publication date of the half year results, all the Directors and relevant employees must not deal in the securities and derivatives of the Company until such results have been published.

The Company Secretary and the Legal and Compliance Department of the Company will send reminders prior to the commencement of such period to all the Directors and relevant employees respectively.

It is stipulated under the Code and/or the Employees' Guidelines that all dealings of the Company's securities must be conducted in accordance with the provisions stated therein. Under the Code, the Directors are required to notify the Chairman and receive a dated written acknowledgement before dealing in the securities and derivatives of the Company, and in the case of the Chairman himself, he must notify the designated Director and receive a dated written acknowledgement before any dealings.

Having made specific enquiry by the Company, all the Directors confirmed that they had complied with the required standards as set out in the Model Code and the Code regarding directors' securities transactions throughout the Financial Year. Besides, no incident of non-compliance by the relevant employees was noted by the Company during the reporting period.

#### DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE

Good corporate governance and enterprise-wide risk management are essential for every business. The Company is convinced that corporate governance and Directors and Officers Liability Insurance (the "**D&O Insurance**") complement each other. The Company has arranged appropriate D&O Insurance for the Directors and officers of the Group for indemnifying their liabilities arising from corporate activities. The D&O Insurance coverage is reviewed on an annual basis.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Board Composition**

The Board currently comprises nine members, including four executive Directors, two non-executive Directors and three independent non-executive Directors, overseeing the overall business operation of the Company. Biographical details of the Directors are set out on pages 38 to 39.

Our Board possesses a balance of skills and experience appropriate for the running of the Group's business. They come from different streams of professions with diversified expertise including management, finance, legal and accounting.

The Board members during the Financial Year and up to the date of this report are as follows:

#### **Executive Directors**

Mr. Lo Lin Shing, Simon (*Chairman*) Ms. Yvette Ong (*Managing Director*) Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei

Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai

#### Non-executive Directors

Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung

Mr. Tang Chi Kei (resigned on 4 April 2023)

# Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William "

Mr. Lau Wai Piu

Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank

The Board will consider the following attributes or qualifications in evaluating membership in the Board:

- management and leadership experience;
- skills and diverse background;
- integrity and professionalism; and
- independency.

The Company has adopted a Board Diversity Policy (the "Board Diversity Policy") setting out the approach to achieve diversity on the Board. In designing the Board's composition, Board diversity would be considered from a number of aspects, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, ethnicity, professional experience, skills, knowledge and length of service. All Board appointments will be based on meritocracy, and candidates would be considered against objective criteria, having due regard for the benefits to diversity on the Board. The Board reviews its composition under diversified perspectives, and monitors the implementation of the Board Diversity Policy annually. The Board will also review and any such revision to the Board Diversity Policy as and when required. The Board Diversity Policy has been published on the Company's website.

The Company values the importance and benefits of gender diversity of the Board. The Company will continue to apply the principles of equal employment with reference to the Board Diversity Policy, and continue to promote diversity at all levels of its workforce to develop a pipeline of potential successors to the Board to achieve gender diversity. As at the date of this annual report, eight of the Directors are male, and one of the Directors is female. For the gender ratio in the workforce of the Group, 74% of the Group's employees are male and 26% of them are female. The Board is of the view that the gender diversity across the workforce is proper taking into account the nature of our industry.

The Board will review its composition regularly to ensure that it has a balance of expertise, skills and experience appropriate to the business and development of the Company. The shareholders may propose a candidate for election as a director and the procedures have been published on the website of the Company.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT (CONTINUED)**

During the Financial Year, the Board at all times met the requirements under Rule 3.10 of the Listing Rules relating to the appointment of at least three independent non-executive directors with at least one independent non-executive director possessing appropriate professional qualifications, or accounting or related financial management expertise. During the Financial Year, the Board in essence met the requirements under Rule 3.10A of the Listing Rules relating to the appointment of independent non-executive directors representing at least one-third of the board.

All the independent non-executive Directors are financially independent from the Company and any of its subsidiaries. The Company has received written annual confirmation of independence from each independent non-executive Director pursuant to Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. The Company considers all of the independent non-executive Directors to be independent.

## Appointment and Re-election of Directors

Potential new Directors are identified and considered for appointment by the Board. A Director appointed by the Board is subject to election by shareholders at the next following general meeting after his or her appointment, and all executive and non-executive Directors are subject to re-election by shareholders at least every three years. The general requirements for consideration include but not limited to his or her independence, availability, motivation, standing and business experience. The criteria have been set out in the Nomination Policy for Recruitment of Board Members, and published on the Company's website.

Potential new Board members are identified on the basis of skills and experience with reference to the nomination policy for recruitment of Board members and Board diversity policy adopted by the Company which, in the opinion of the Directors, will enable them to make a positive contribution to the performance of the Board.

# Responsibilities and Functions of the Board

The Board is responsible for formulating strategic business development, reviewing and monitoring the business performance of the Group, as well as preparing and approving the Company's financial statements. The Board is also responsible for developing and reviewing the Company's policies on corporate governance and making recommendations. The Board as a whole and the management of the Company shall ensure good corporate governance practices and procedures are followed.

The Directors, collectively and individually, are aware of their responsibilities to the shareholders, for the manner in which the affairs of the Company are managed and operated. In the appropriate circumstances as and when necessary, the Directors can seek independent professional advice at the Company's expense for ensuring that the Board procedures and all applicable rules and regulations are followed.

The Board may delegate the management powers to the management of the Company. However, the delegation of power does not absolve the Directors from their responsibilities of exercising requisite skill, care and diligence in overseeing the performance of the Company. The Board can meet the management of the Company from time to time to discuss the operating issues of the Group. The Company has also issued formal appointment letters to all the Directors setting out the key terms and conditions of their respective appointments.

In order to enable the Directors to discharge their duties effectively, each Director has separate and independent access to members of the management to make enquiries or obtain necessary information. They may also seek advices and services from external experts and consultants at the Company's expense for the purpose of facilitating them to make an informed decision.

All the independent non-executive Directors are not involved in daily management. The non-executive Directors assist the Board in determining overall policies of the Company and contributing to the decision making of the Board. The independent non-executive Directors also give independent views on the deliberations of the Board and ensure high standards of corporate governance and financial probity.

In order to ensure independent views among the Board, the Board endeavours to ensure the appointment of at least three independent non-executive Directors and at least one-third of its members being independent non-executive Directors or such higher threshold as may be required by the Listing Rules from time to time. Independent non-executive Directors have been appointed as the chairman and/or members of the Board committees to ensure independent views are available and in compliance with the requirements prescribed by the Listing Rules as to the composition of the certain Board committees. The Nomination Committee is also required to assess annually the independence of all independent non-executive Directors by reference to the independence criteria as set out in the Listing Rules to ensure that they can continually exercise independent judgement.

The Board is responsible for performing the following corporate governance duties:

- i. to develop and review the Company's policies on corporate governance and make recommendations;
- ii. to review and monitor the training and continuous professional development of the Directors and senior management;
- iii. to review and monitor the Company's policies and practices on compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- iv. to develop, review and monitor the code of conduct of employees and the Directors; and
- v. to review the Company's compliance with the Code and disclosure in the Corporate Governance Report.

During the Financial Year, the Board:

- i. reviewed the performance of the Group and formulated business strategies of the Group;
- ii. reviewed and approved the annual and interim results of the Group;
- iii. reviewed the internal controls of the Group;
- iv. reviewed the corporate governance procedures;
- v. reviewed and approved the Environment, Social and Governance Report 2023;
- vi. reviewed and approved the auditor's remuneration and recommended the appointment of Messrs. Ernst & Young ("EY") as the independent auditor of the Company respectively;
- vii. reviewed and approved the inside information announcements;
- viii. reviewed the connected transaction of the Company; and
- ix. reviewed the major transaction of the Company.

During the Financial Year, the Board had not amended the dividend policy of the Company. Under the policy, the Board may propose payment of dividends for a financial year by taking into account the relevant factors when considering the proposal, and these factors include, among others, the actual and expected financial performances of the Group, retained earnings and distributable reserves, the level of the Group's debts, return on equity and the relevant financial covenants that may be imposed by the Group's lenders, the Group's expected working capital requirements and future capital expenditure plans, general economic conditions, internal and/or external factors that may have an impact on the business or financial performance of the Group, etc. The dividend policy has been published and posted on the Company's website.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT (CONTINUED)**

To the best knowledge of the Company, apart from the family relationship between Mr. Lo, Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei, Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai and Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung, there is no financial, business, family or other material/relevant relationship among the Directors. All of them are free to exercise their independent judgments.

The Directors are aware of their commitments to the Company for contributing sufficient time and attentions to the management of the Company.

#### CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

During the Financial Year, the Chairman of the Board and the Managing Director were Mr. Lo and Ms. Yvette Ong respectively.

The Chairman's responsibilities are to provide leadership to the Board and formulate the Group's business strategies. The Chairman is also responsible for ensuring that the Board works effectively, in particular, all the Directors receive reliable, adequate and complete information in a timely manner and are properly briefed on issues arising at a board meeting. The Chairman may communicate with the Directors directly or through the assistance of the Company Secretary to discuss or clarify any issues concerning the Group from time to time, and to provide any supporting information and documents to them.

The Chairman assumes the primary responsibility for ensuring that good corporate governance practices and procedures are established.

The Managing Director is responsible for the conduct of day-to-day operation of the Group and accountable to the Board for all aspects of the corporate performance. She recommends policies to the Board for consideration and approval, and keeps the Board informed of any material developments of the Group's business. The Managing Director may delegate her duties to any other management members or responsible officers of the Group but she assumes the principal responsibility.

#### **NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

None of the existing non-executive Directors, including the independent non-executive Directors, is appointed for a specific term.

#### **COMPANY SECRETARY**

The Company Secretary is an employee of the Company and has served as the Company Secretary since July 2004. He is a fellow member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Under the Company's Bye-laws ("Bye-laws"), the appointment of the Company Secretary shall be determined by the Board. The Company Secretary shall attend all meetings of the shareholders and the Directors and shall keep minutes of such meetings and enter the same in the proper books provided for the purpose. During the Financial Year, the Company Secretary had taken no less than fifteen hours of relevant professional trainings under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules.

#### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

The Board has established the Remuneration Committee, Audit Committee and Nomination Committee, with specific terms of reference relating to their authorities and duties, which strengthen the Board's functions and enhance its expertise.

Each Committee makes decisions on matters within its terms of reference and applicable limits of authority. The terms of reference as well as the structure and membership of each Committee will be reviewed from time to time.

#### **REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

The Remuneration Committee comprises three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Lau Wai Piu, Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William  $_{p}$  and Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank, of whom Mr. Lau Wai Piu is the chairman. The Company has also appointed an external consultant to review and compare the level of compensation paid to the Directors with the prevailing market rates and give recommendation, and to review and study the remuneration level of the senior management of the Company and give recommendation.

The main responsibilities of the Remuneration Committee include, but not limited to, making recommendations to the Board on the Company's policy and structure for remuneration of all the Directors and senior management, reviewing and approving the special remuneration packages of all the executive Directors with reference to corporate goals and objectives resolved by the Board from time to time, and determining, with delegated responsibility, the remuneration packages of the individual executive Directors. The Remuneration Committee is also required to review and approve matters relating to share option schemes under the requirements of the Listing Rules.

The terms of reference of the Remuneration Committee were revised and adopted in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules. Details of the terms of reference of the Remuneration Committee can be viewed on both the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange.

During the Financial year, the Remuneration Committee:

- (i) reviewed and endorsed the remuneration policies; and
- (ii) assessed performance of executive Directors and reviewed the remuneration packages of the Directors and the senior management.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee comprises three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Lau Wai Piu, Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William <sub>JP</sub> and Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank. Mr. Lau Wai Piu is the chairman and has appropriate professional qualifications, accounting and related financial management expertise.

The main responsibilities of the Audit Committee include, but not limited to, reviewing the Company's current financial standing, considering the nature and scope of audit reports, and ensuring internal control and risk management systems operate in accordance with applicable standards and conventions.

The terms of reference of the Audit Committee were revised and adopted in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules. Details of the terms of reference of the Audit Committee can be viewed on both the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange.

During the Financial Year, the Audit Committee:

- (i) reviewed the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 and for the six months ended 30 September 2023;
- (ii) reviewed the effectiveness of the internal control and risk management systems, and that of the Company's internal audit function;
- (iii) reviewed the independent auditor's report; and
- (iv) reviewed the Company's connected transaction for the year ended 31 March 2023 pursuant to the Listing Rules.

During the Financial Year, the Chief Financial Officer attended both of the Audit Committee meetings to present the financial results of the Group to the Committee members. He also oversaw the financial reporting procedures and ensured the financial reporting and other accounting-related issues were complied with the statutory requirements and applicable accounting standards.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

The Nomination Committee comprises Mr. Lo, an executive Director and the chairman of the Board and three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Lau Wai Piu, Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William JP and Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank to review the structure, size and composition of the board at least annually to complement the issuer's corporate strategy. Mr. Lo is the chairman.

The main responsibilities of the Nomination Committee include, but not limited to, reviewing the structure, size and composition (including the skills, knowledge, experience and diversity of perspectives) of the Board at least annually and make recommendations on any proposed changes to the Board to complement the Company's corporate strategy; identifying individuals suitably qualified to become members of the Board and select or make recommendations to the Board on the selection of individual(s) nominated for directorship(s); assessing the independence of independent non-executive Directors; making recommendations to the Board on the appointment or reappointment of Directors and succession planning for Directors, in particular the Chairman of the Board and the Managing Director; providing with sufficient resources to enable it to perform its duties, including, where necessary, may seek independent professional advice, at the Company's expense, to perform its responsibilities; and reviewing the Board Diversity Policy, as appropriate and at least annually, and reviewing the measurable objectives that the Board has set for implementing the Board Diversity Policy, and the progress on achieving the objectives.

The terms of reference of the Nomination Committee were adopted in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules. Details of the terms of reference of the Nomination Committee can be viewed on both the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange.

#### ATTENDANCE RECORD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The attendance record of each Director at the Board and Board Committee meetings and the general meetings of the Company held during the Financial Year is set out below:

	Number of Meetings Attended/Held				Continuous	
Directors	Board	Remuneration Committee	Audit Committee	Nomination Committee	General	Professional Development Type of Training (Notes)
Mr. Lo	4/4	N/A	N/A	1/1	0/2	А
Ms. Yvette Ong	3/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/2	А
Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	0/2	А
Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	0/2	А
Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung	3/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	0/2	А
Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	0/2	A, B
Mr. Tang Chi Kei (resigned on 4 April 2023)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William "	4/4	2/2	2/2	1/1	0/2	А
Mr. Lau Wai Piu	4/4	2/2	2/2	1/1	2/2	А
Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank	4/4	2/2	2/2	1/1	0/2	А

#### Notes:

- A: reading materials relating to the Group, general business or director's duties and responsibilities, etc.
- B: attending online-course, seminars and/or professional conference and/or forums.

For every Board and Board Committee meetings, each Director is required to declare whether he/she has any conflict of interests in the matters to be considered. If a substantial shareholder or a Director has a conflict of interest which is considered by the Board as material, the matters should be dealt with by a physical Board meeting rather than a written resolution

Apart from the regular Board meetings, the Chairman held meeting with the independent non-executive Directors, without the presence of the executive Directors at least once a year.

All Directors have an opportunity to include matters in the agenda for regular Board meetings.

A notice of at least 14 days is given for regular Board meetings and reasonable notice is given for other Board meetings.

# **Directors' Training and Continuous Professional Development**

All the Directors should participate in continuous professional development to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills in their roles as directors pursuant to Code Provision C.1.4 of the CG Code. Attendance at any professional courses recognised by registered professional bodies such as The Law Society of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, The Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute, etc., are recognised by the Company for this purpose. The Directors will also be provided with materials from time to time to keep abreast of the latest legal and regulatory changes to enable them to effectively discharge their duties.

During the Financial Year, all the Directors had participated in appropriate continuous professional development activities by ways of attending training and/or reading material relevant to the Company's businesses or to the Directors' duties and responsibilities.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

EY was re-appointed as independent auditor of the Company (the "Independent Auditor") at the 2023 AGM. It is the Independent Auditor's responsibilities to form an independent opinion, based on its audit, on those financial statements and to report their opinion solely to the Company, as a body, in accordance with Section 90 of the Bermuda Companies Act, and for no other purposes. EY does not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of the Independent Auditor's Report.

The statement of the Independent Auditor about their reporting responsibilities on the financial statements is set out in the "Independent Auditor's Report" on pages 53 to 54.

During the year under review, the professional fee paid/payable to the Independent Auditor is set out as follows:

Services	Fee Paid/Payable HK\$'000
Audit services	5,000
Non-audit services	1,536
	6,536

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# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for preparing the financial statements and ensuring that the preparation of the accounts is in accordance with statutory requirements and applicable accounting standards.

The statement of the Independent Auditor regarding responsibilities for the financial statements is set out in the Independent Auditor's Report on pages 53 to 54.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUDIT**

The Group has provided its major operations and updates and financial information on a monthly basis to enable the Directors to assess its performance at regular intervals.

The Board understands its responsibility under the Listing Rules and other applicable regulations to make a prompt assessment and disclose updated developments and inside information regarding the Group to the shareholders and investing public in a timely manner.

Apart from these, the Company's website (www.mongolia-energy.com) also provides comprehensive and accessible news and information of the Group. Contact details of the Company are posted on the website in order to enable the shareholders and other stakeholders to make enquiries in respect of the Group.

The latest and previous annual reports, interim reports, announcements, business operations, corporate governance practices and other information of the Company are available on the Company's website. To ensure effective and timely dissemination of information at all times, the Company updates the website contents on a regular basis to keep the shareholders and public informed of the business developments of the Company.

#### RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

The Board acknowledges that it is responsible for the Group's risk management and internal control systems and the review of the effectiveness of such systems so as to maintain sound and effective risk management and internal control to safeguard the shareholders' investment and the assets of the Group.

The Board has established an on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks faced by the Group. This process includes continuous updating of the risk management and internal control systems of the Group in response to the changing business environment and regulatory requirements.

The Board also conducts reviews of the risk management and internal control of the Group to ensure that the policies and procedures in place are adequate. The Board assesses the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems which cover all material controls, including financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management functions.

The risk management and internal control systems adopted by the Company are designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can only make reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

During the Financial Year, the Group engaged a professional accounting firm to be its internal auditor (the "Internal Auditor") and to report directly to the Audit Committee. The Internal Auditor adopts a risk-based approach and independently review and test the controls over various selected operations and activities and evaluates their adequacy, effectiveness and compliance on an annual or ad hoc basis. Review findings and recommendations are reported to the Audit Committee. In addition, progress on audit recommendations implementation will be followed up on a regular basis and discussed with the Audit Committee.

During annual review, the Audit Committee considered and was satisfied with the adequacy of resources, qualifications and experience of accounting staff of the Group, accounting and financial reporting function and their training programs and budgets as well as those related to the Group's ESG performance and reporting. Based on the results of evaluations and representations made by the Internal Auditor and the Independent Auditor for the Financial Year, the Audit Committee was satisfied that there was an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks faced by the Group that would threaten the achievement of its business objectives; and an appropriate, effective and adequate systems of internal control and enterprise risk management had been in place during the Financial Year.

To enhance the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control, the Director of Legal and Compliance will assist in risk management and internal control review process to ensure the compliance aspects of the Group are met. The Company Secretary will ensure the Board and the Board Committees are provided with timely information and sufficient resources to enable them to efficaciously discharge their duties.

#### **COMMUNICATION WITH SHAREHOLDERS**

The Group is committed to enhancing the communication with the shareholders and investors. Updated information about the announcements of the Group and the Company is posted on our website (www.mongolia-energy.com) in a timely manner. The shareholders can communicate with the Company or the Board through the contact information provided on the website and in the general meetings of the Company.

The Company has complied with the Listing Rules regarding the requirements about voting by poll and keeping the shareholders informed of the procedures for voting by poll through notices of general meetings in circulars of the Company.

During the Financial Year, the Company held two general meetings, one of which was the AGM. The Directors and the Independent Auditor of the Company had attended the 2023 AGM to answer the shareholders' enquiries. In addition, separate resolutions for each issue had been proposed at the general meeting for voting by the shareholders.

The notice of the AGM is distributed to all shareholders at least twenty clear business days prior to the AGM and the accompanying circular also sets out details of each proposed resolution and other relevant information as required under the Listing Rules.

The Group is of the view that through various communication channels including, among others, the Company's website, postal and email communication, circulation of corporate communication, and Shareholders' meetings, through which Shareholders, both individual and institutional, may communicate with and provide feedback to the Company effectively from time to time. The Group concluded that these channels were effective during the Financial Year and no negative feedback was received.

#### SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

The Company has only one class of shares. All shares have the same voting rights and entitlement to any dividend declared. The rights of our shareholders are set out in, among others, the Bye-laws and the Bermuda Companies Act.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT (CONTINUED)**

## **Convening a General Meeting**

The shareholders of the Company holding at the date of deposit of the requisition not less than one-tenth of the paid up capital of the Company carrying the right of voting at general meetings of the Company shall at all times have the right, by written requisition to the Board or the Company Secretary, to request a general meeting to be called by the Board for the transaction of any business specified in such requisition; and such meeting shall be held within two months from the date of the deposit of such requisition.

If the Board does not within twenty-one days from the date of deposit of the requisition proceed duly to convene a general meeting, the shareholders concerned may convene the general meeting in the same manner in accordance with the provisions of Section 74 of the Bermuda Companies Act.

The written requisition must state the objects of the meeting, and must be signed by the shareholders concerned. The requisition will be verified with the Company's share registrars and upon their confirmation that the requisition is proper and in order, the Company Secretary will ask the Board to (i) include the resolution in the agenda for the AGM; or (ii) convene a special general meeting by serving sufficient notice in accordance with the statutory requirements to all the registered shareholders.

On the contrary, if the requisition has been verified as not being in order, the shareholders concerned will be advised of this outcome and accordingly, (i) the proposed resolution will not be included in the agenda for the AGM; or (ii) the general meeting will not be convened as requested.

The notice period to be given to the registered shareholders for consideration of the proposal raised by the shareholders concerned at a general meeting varies according to the nature of the proposal. Pursuant to Bye-law 59(1) of the Bye-laws, an AGM shall be called by a notice of not less than twenty-one clear days and all other general meeting (including a special general meeting) shall be called by not less than fourteen clear days.

# **Putting Forward Proposals at General Meetings**

The shareholders representing not less than one-twentieth of the total voting rights of the Company at the date of the deposit of the requisition or not less than one hundred shareholders of the Company are entitled to put forward a proposal (which may properly be put to the meeting) for consideration at a general meeting of the Company.

The requisition must state the proposal together with a statement with respect to the matter referred to in the proposal and duly signed by the shareholders concerned. The written requisition must be deposited at the registered office of the Company for the attention of the Company Secretary, (i) in the case of a requisition requiring notice of a resolution not less than six weeks before the meeting, and (ii) in the case of any other requisition, not less than one week before the meeting.

The requisition will be verified with the Company's share registrars and upon their confirmation that the requisition is proper and in order, the Company Secretary will ask the Board to (i) include the resolution in the agenda for the AGM; or (ii) convene a special general meeting by serving sufficient notice in accordance with the statutory requirements to all the registered shareholders.

On the contrary, if the requisition has been verified as not being in order, the Shareholders concerned will be advised of this outcome and accordingly, (i) the proposed resolution will not be included in the agenda for the AGM; or (ii) the general meeting will not be convened as requested.

# Proposing for Election as a Director

If a shareholder wishes to propose a person other than a Director of the Company for election as a Director at any general meeting, he/she can deposit a written notice to that effect at the principal place of business of the Company for the attention of the Company Secretary.

In order for the Company to inform its shareholders of that proposal, the written notice must state the full name of the person proposed for election as a Director, including the person's biographical details as required by Rule 13.51(2) of the Listing Rules, and be signed by the shareholder concerned and that person indicating his/her willingness to be elected. The period for lodgment of such a written notice will commence no earlier than the day after the despatch of the notice and end no later than seven days prior to the date of any general meeting.

## **Putting Forward Enquiries to the Board**

Shareholders may send written enquiries, either by post or by email, together with his/her contact details, such as postal address or email, addressed to the principal place of business of the Company in Hong Kong as set out in the section headed "Corporate Information" for the attention of the Company Secretary or by email to us at enquiry-hk@mongolia-energy.com.

# Whistleblowing Policy

The Group is committed to maintaining good corporate governance standard, emphasising probity, transparency and accountability. We require our business units and departments to maintain proper standards of business conduct and comply with all applicable laws and regulations. To support this policy, we have established a whistleblowing policy for reporting matters of serious concern which may affect the operation of the Group's business and its reputation.

If an employee has a serious concern about an act or omission that will impact the Group's business or its reputation, or will harm or put an individual at risk, the employee may raise it with their immediate supervisor either orally or in writing or to the Director of Legal and Compliance. Management shall ensure that all employees feel able to raise concerns without fear of reprisals. Once an employee has raised a concern, the Director of Legal and Compliance will review the matter to assess what action should be taken. The Audit Committee has overall responsibility for this policy.

The Whistleblowing Policy is also applicable to other stakeholders who would like to report misconduct or malpractices of our staff in the conduct of our businesses.

The Board will review this policy periodically to ensure that it is operating effectively and whether any changes to the policy are required.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS**

During the Financial Year, the Company has not made any changes to its Bye-laws. An up to date version of the Bye-laws is available on the Company's website as well as the Stock Exchange's website.

#### DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

#### MR. LO LIN SHING, SIMON

#### Chairman and Executive Director

Mr. Lo, aged 68, an entrepreneur, is the Chairman of the Company. He has been an executive Director since August 1999. Mr. Lo identifies business opportunities for MEC, including the acquisition of the coal mine in Western Mongolia, and provides business and strategic directions. He possesses over 30 years of experience in the financial, securities and futures industries, including many trans-border transactions. He is the father of Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei and Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai, both are executive Directors of the Company and Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung who is a non-executive Director of the Company. Mr. Lo is a director of certain subsidiaries of the Company. He is also the chairman and executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MS. YVETTE ONG

#### Managing Director and Executive Director

Ms. Ong, aged 59, has been an executive Director since September 1999 and was appointed as the Managing Director on 1 June 2012. She has over 30 years of managerial experience in the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to joining the Company, Ms. Ong was a managing director of AT&T EasyLink Services Asia Pacific Ltd. She holds an MBA degree in Management Information Systems and Marketing and a Bachelor degree in Finance and Management from the University of San Francisco. Ms. Ong is a director of certain subsidiaries of the Company. Ms. Ong is also an executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MR. LO, REX CZE KEI

#### Executive Director

Mr. Rex Lo, aged 42, was appointed as a non-executive Director in October 2016 and re-designated as an Executive Director in February 2018. He has over 10 years of experience in property business and general management. Mr. Rex Lo holds a Master of Science in Electronic Commerce and Internet Computing and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He is the son of Mr. Lo, the Chairman and executive Director of the Company and the elder brother of Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai and Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung, who are an executive Director and a non-executive Director of the Company respectively. Mr. Rex Lo is a director of certain subsidiaries of the Company. He is also an executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MR. LO, CHRIS CZE WAI

#### Executive Director

Mr. Chris Lo, aged 30, holds a master's degree of Engineering in mechanical engineering from University of Bristol, UK. He joined the Group in 2017. Mr. Chris Lo is the project engineer of the Group. He also has experienced in property management and corporate finance. He is the son of Mr. Lo, the Chairman and executive Director of the Company, and the younger brother of Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei and the elder brother of Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung, who are an executive Director and a non-executive Director of the Company respectively. Mr. Chris Lo is a director of certain subsidiaries of the Company. He is also an executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MR. LO, JAMES CZE CHUNG

#### Non-Executive Director

Mr. James Lo, aged 29, holds a bachelor degree of Science (Hons.) in Business and Management from Brunel University, UK. Mr. James Lo joined the Group in August 2017 as a management trainee and he was subsequently promoted to a director of certain subsidiaries of the Company. He has more than 5 years commercial experience. He is the son of Mr. Lo Lin Shing, Simon, the Chairman and executive Director of the Company and the younger brother of Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei and Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai, both are executive Directors of the Company. He is also a non-executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MR. TO HIN TSUN, GERALD

Non-executive Director

Mr. To, aged 75, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director in August 1999 and re-designated as a non-executive Director in October 2000. Mr. To has been a practising solicitor in Hong Kong since 1975. He is also qualified as a solicitor in the United Kingdom, as well as an advocate and solicitor in Singapore. Mr. To formerly served as non-executive director of NWS Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange until his resignation with effect from 1 January 2024.

#### MR. TSUI HING CHUEN, WILLIAM ,,

Independent Non-executive Director

Mr. Tsui, aged 72, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director in September 2006. Mr. Tsui is the founding partner of Messrs. Lo, Wong & Tsui, Solicitors & Notaries, which was established in 1980. He has been a solicitor of the High Court of Hong Kong since 1977, a solicitor of the Supreme Court of England & Wales since 1981, and a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Australia since 1983. He has also been an advocate and solicitor in Singapore since 1985 and a notary public appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, England since 1988. Mr. Tsui was appointed as a Justice of the Peace by the Government of Hong Kong in 1997. He was admitted to the Roll of Honour of The Law Society of Hong Kong in 2013. Mr. Tsui is also an independent non-executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MR. LAU WAI PIU

Independent Non-executive Director

Mr. Lau, aged 60, joined the Company as an independent non-executive Director since September 2004. He has over 20 years of extensive experience in accounting and financial management. Mr. Lau is a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. He is an independent non-executive director of Vision Values Holdings Limited which is listed on the Stock Exchange.

#### MR. LEE KEE WAI, FRANK

Independent Non-executive Director

Mr. Lee, aged 65, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director in October 2016. He is the Senior Partner of Messrs. Vincent T.K. Cheung, Yap & Co., Solicitors and Notaries. Mr. Lee holds a Master of Law from University of Cambridge and a Bachelor of Laws from the London School of Economics & Political Science. He is a qualified solicitor in the respective jurisdictions of Hong Kong, England and Wales, Singapore and the Australian Capital Territory (Australia). Mr. Lee is also a China-Appointed Attesting Officer and a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He is also an independent non-executive director of Pico Far East Holdings Limited and Vision Values Holdings Limited, both of which are listed on the Stock Exchange.



The Directors present their report together with the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the Financial Year.

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF OPERATIONS

The principal activity of the Company is investment holding and the activities of its principal subsidiaries are coal mining, processing, and other resources related operations. The activities of the principal subsidiaries are set out in Note 43 to the consolidated financial statements.

Analyses of the principal activities and geographical locations of the operations of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2024 are set out in Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

Reviews of the business of the Group during the Financial Year are set out in the Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 10 to 15.

#### POSSIBLE RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Descriptions of the possible risks and uncertainties that the Group is facing are provided in the Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 17 to 22 and in Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements. The financial risk management objectives and policies of the Group can be found in Note 39(b) to the consolidated financial statements.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND PERFORMANCE**

Discussions of the environmental policies and performance during the Financial Year are provided in the Management Discussion and Analysis on page 13.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Discussions of the compliance with relevant laws and regulations which have a significant impact on the Group are set out in the Management Discussion and Analysis on page 13.

#### KEY RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

In relation to the Company's key relationships with its stakeholders, discussions of the Company's policies on human resources management, community involvement and contribution in relation to environmental concerns and social responsibilities are provided in the Management Discussion and Analysis on page 14.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **RESULTS**

The results of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2024 are set out in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss on page 55.

No interim dividend was declared (2023: Nil) and the Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2024 (2023: Nil).

#### **CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

The register of members will be closed from Tuesday, 20 August 2024 to Friday, 23 August 2024, both dates inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for entitlement to attend and vote at the AGM, all transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's branch share registrar, Tricor Standard Limited at 17/F., Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong, for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, 19 August 2024.

#### **SHARE CAPITAL**

Details of the movements in the share capital and the share options of the Company during the Financial Year are set out in Notes 34 and 35 to the consolidated financial statements.

During the Financial Year, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold, or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

### **EQUITY-LINKED AGREEMENTS**

Details of the equity-linked agreements entered into during the Financial Year or subsisting at the end of the Financial Year are set out below:

#### Convertible notes

On 6 March 2020, the Company issued convertible notes with total principal amount of HK\$3,438,058,423. As at 31 March 2024, they can be converted into 3,215,212,580 conversion shares at a par value of HK\$0.02 at a conversion price of HK\$1.2. So far, none of the conversion right had been exercised. The maturity date of the convertible notes is 6 March 2025. The notes bear interest at 3% per annum and are unsecured. The Group will not receive further consideration when the holders determine to convert the notes into ordinary shares of the Company prior to the maturity date. The reason for issuance of the convertible notes was making full settlement of the principal amounts and accrued interest of previously issued convertible notes, as disclosed in the circular of the Company dated 7 January 2020.

#### Share option scheme

Details of the movements in share options during the Financial Year are set out in Note 35 to the consolidated financial statements and "SHARE OPTION SCHEME" section contained in this Directors' Report.

#### **FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

A summary of the results for the Financial Year and of the assets and liabilities of the Group as at 31 March 2024 and for the last four financial years are set out on page 143.

# **RESERVES**

Details of the movements in reserves of the Group and the Company during the Financial Year are set out on page 59 and in Note 42 to the consolidated financial statements respectively.

#### **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

For the year ended 31 March 2024, the Group made charitable and other donations in a total amount of HK\$24,784,000 (2023: HK\$20,674,000).

# PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Details of the movements in property, plant and equipment of the Group during the Financial Year are set out in Note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

Particulars of the principal subsidiaries and associated companies of the Group as at 31 March 2024 are set out in Notes 43 and 19 to the consolidated financial statements respectively.

#### **MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS**

The percentages of sales and purchases for the Financial Year attributable to the Group's major customers and suppliers are as follows:

#### Sales

The largest customer	55.2%
Five largest customers in aggregate	77.5%

#### **Purchases**

The largest supplier	25.8%
Five largest suppliers in aggregate	58.4%

None of the Directors, their close associates or any Shareholder (which to the knowledge of the Directors owns more than 5% of the Company's issued share capital) has any interest in the Group's five largest customers or suppliers.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### **DIRECTORS**

During the Financial Year and up to the date of this Directors' Report, the board composition and biographical details of the Directors are set out on pages 26 to 28, and pages 38 to 39 respectively.

In accordance with Bye-law 87 of the Bye-laws, Ms. Yvette Ong, Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei and Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald will retire. All the retiring Directors, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the forthcoming AGM.

The Directors, including the independent non-executive Directors, are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at the AGM of the Company in accordance with the provisions of the Bye-laws.

## **DIRECTORS' SERVICE CONTRACTS**

Mr. Lo entered into a service contract with the Company on 30 March 2022 for a fixed term of three years with effect from 1 April 2022.

None of the Directors during the Financial Year be proposed for re-election at the forthcoming AGM has entered into any service contract with the Group which is not determinable by the Group within one year without payment of compensation, other than statutory compensation.

#### MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

No contract concerning the management and administration of the whole or any substantial part of the businesses of the Company was entered into or existed during the Financial Year.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company is committed to maintaining a high standard of corporate governance practices.

Information on the corporate governance practices adopted by the Company is set out in the Corporate Governance Report on pages 24 to 37.

# **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**

As at 31 March 2024, the interests or short positions of the Directors in the shares and underlying shares of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "**SFO**")) as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code were as follows:

# Long positions in the shares and underlying shares of the Company

	Nun	nber of sha	res	Number of unde	erlying shares		
Name of Directors	Personal interests	Spouse interests	Corporate interests	Personal Interests pursuant to share options	Corporate interests	Total interests	Percentage of shareholding
Mr. Lo	124,000	43,750	30,151,957 <i>(Note)</i>	1,800,000	602,204,563 <i>(Note)</i>	634,324,270	337.18%
Ms. Yvette Ong	27,250	-	-	1,800,000	-	1,827,250	0.97%
Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei	-	-	-	1,500,000	-	1,500,000	0.80%
Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai	-	-	-	1,500,000	-	1,500,000	0.80%
Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald	135,000	-	-	500,000	-	635,000	0.34%
Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung	_	_	_	500,000	-	500,000	0.27%
Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William <sub>JP</sub>	12,500	-	_	500,000	-	512,500	0.27%
Mr. Lau Wai Piu	5,030		_	500,000	-	505,030	0.27%
Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank	-	-	-	500,000	-	500,000	0.27%

Note: Golden Infinity Co., Ltd. ("Golden Infinity"), a company wholly-owned by Mr. Lo.

Save as disclosed above and the section headed "SHARE OPTION SCHEME", as at 31 March 2024, none of the Directors, chief executives and their respective associates had any interests in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) which were required to be recorded in the register maintained by the Company under section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

# DISCLOSEABLE INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS OF SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS/OTHER PERSONS UNDER THE SFO

The register of interests in shares and short positions maintained under Section 336 of the SFO shows that as at 31 March 2024, the Company had been notified of the following interests in shares representing 5% or more of the Company's issued share capital (other than interests of the Directors):

# Long position of substantial Shareholders/other persons in the shares and/or underlying shares

	Number of s	hares and/or under	lying shares		Percentage of
Name of Shareholders	Beneficial/ Personal interests	Spouse interests	Corporate interests	Total interests	nominal value of issued share capital
Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings) Limited	-	-	2,698,101,424	2,698,101,424 <i>(Note 1)</i>	1,434.20%
Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings II) Limited	_	-	2,698,101,424	2,698,101,424 <i>(Note 1)</i>	1,434.20%
Chow Tai Fook (Holding) Limited	_	-	2,698,101,424	2,698,101,424 <i>(Note 1)</i>	1,434.20%
Chow Tai Fook Capital Limited	-	-	2,698,101,424	2,698,101,424 <i>(Note 1)</i>	1,434.20%
Chow Tai Fook Nominee Limited	2,698,101,424	-	-	2,698,101,424 (Notes 1 & 2)	1,434.20%
Ms. Ku Ming Mei, Rouisa	43,750	634,280,520	_	634,324,270 (Note 3)	337.18%
Golden Infinity	632,356,520	-	-	632,356,520	336.13%
Dr. Cheng Kar Shun	_	1,977,500	7,889,250	9,866,750 <i>(Note 4)</i>	5.24%
Ms. Ip Mei Hing	_	7,889,250	1,977,500	9,866,750 <i>(Note 4)</i>	5.24%

#### Notes:

- 1. Chow Tai Fook (Holding) Limited held 99.8% interest in Chow Tai Fook Nominee Limited. 81.03% interest of Chow Tai Fook (Holding) Limited was held by Chow Tai Fook Capital Limited in which it was held as to 48.98% by Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings) Limited and as to 46.65% by Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings II) Limited. By virtue of the SFO, each of Cheng Yu Tung Family (Holdings) Limited, Chow Tai Fook Capital Limited and Chow Tai Fook (Holding) Limited was deemed to be interested in 2,698,101,424 shares held by Chow Tai Fook Nominee Limited.
- 2. Among 2,698,101,424 shares held by Chow Tai Fook Nominee Limited, 2,692,601,424 shares were underlying shares.
- 3. Ms. Ku Ming Mei, Rouisa, the spouse of Mr. Lo, was deemed to be interested in 634,280,520 shares owned by Mr. Lo beneficially, under the SFO.
- 4. Dr. Cheng Kar Shun was interested in the entire issued share capital of Dragon Noble Group Limited ("**Dragon**"). By virtue of the SFO, he was deemed to be interested in 7,889,250 shares held by Dragon and 1,977,500 shares were owned by Ms. Ip Mei Hing (the spouse of Dr. Cheng Kar Shun) through her controlled corporation Brighton Management Limited.

Save as disclosed above and those disclosed under "**DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**", the Company had not been notified of other interests representing 5% or more of the issued share capital of the Company as at 31 March 2024.

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN COMPETING BUSINESSES**

During the Financial Year and up to the date of this Report, to the best knowledge of the Directors, none of the Directors nor their respective associates was considered to have any interests in the businesses which compete or were likely to compete, either directly or indirectly, with the businesses of the Group, other than those businesses where the Directors were appointed as Directors to represent the interests of the Company and/or the Group.

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN CONTRACTS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Save as disclosed in the section headed "Connected Transactions" in the Director's report, and Note 37 to the consolidated financial statement, no contracts of significance in relation to the Group's business to which the Company or its subsidiaries was a party and in which a Director or an entity connected with a Director had a material interest, either directly or indirectly, subsisted at the end of the Financial Year or at any time during the Financial Year.

#### RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME

Details of the retirement benefits scheme operated by the Group are set out in Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### PERMITTED INDEMNITY PROVISIONS

During the Financial Year and up to the date of this report, the Company had in force indemnity provision as permitted under the relevant statutes for the benefit of the Directors (including former Directors) of the Company or its associated companies. The permitted indemnity provisions are provided for in the Bye-laws and in the D&O insurance maintained for the Group in respect of potential liability and costs associated with legal proceeding that may be brought against such Directors.

#### **SHARE OPTION SCHEME**

Pursuant to a share option scheme adopted by the Company on 30 August 2012 (the "2012 Option Scheme"), the Company granted certain options to eligible participants to subscribe for ordinary shares in the Company subject to the terms and conditions stipulated therein. The 2012 Option Scheme expired on 29 August 2022. A new share option scheme to grant options to eligible participants to subscribe for ordinary shares of the Company was adopted on 12 December 2022 (the "2022 Option Scheme"). No share option has been granted since the adoption of the 2022 Option Scheme.

The following is a summary of the terms of the 2022 Option Scheme:

# 1. Purpose

The purpose of the 2022 option scheme is to provide incentives or rewards for the contribution of the participants to the Group and to enable the Group to recruit or retain high-calibre employees and attract human resources that are valuable to the Group.

#### 2. Participants

The participants of the 2022 Option Scheme include any directors, employees and proposed employees of the Group.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### 3. Number of shares available for issue

Under the 2022 Option Scheme, the total number of shares available for issue is 18,812,584 which represents approximately 10.00% of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of the annual report.

There were no share options granted under the 2022 Option Scheme during the Financial Year.

## 4. Maximum entitlement of each participant

Unless approved by the shareholders, the total number of shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of all outstanding options granted under the share option scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company (including both exercised and outstanding options) to each participant in any twelve month period must not exceed 1% of the shares in issue.

Where the share options are proposed to be granted to a substantial shareholder of the Company or an independent non-executive Director or any of their respective associates, and the proposed grant of share options, if exercised in full, would result in the total number of shares issued and to be issued in respect of all options and awards granted (excluding any options and awards lapsed in accordance with the terms of the relevant scheme(s) of the Company) to such party in the past 12-month period up to and including the date of such grant, representing in aggregate more than 0.1% of the total number of issued shares, the proposed grant shall be subject to the issue of a circular containing information required under Rule 17.04(5) of the Listing Rules and the approval of the shareholders in general meeting (taken on a poll) in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules.

# 5. Exercise period

An option may be exercised in accordance with the terms of the share option scheme at any time during the period to be notified by the Directors to the grantee, but in any event such period of time must not be more than ten years from the date of grant.

#### 6. Vesting period

The vesting period is not less than 13 months for which an option must be held before it can be exercised.

#### 7. Amount payable on acceptance of option

Upon acceptance of the offer for an option, the grantee shall pay HK\$1.00 as consideration for the grant.

#### 8. Exercise price

The subscription price for a share in respect of any option granted shall be a price determined by the Directors at their absolute discretion but shall be at least the highest of (i) the closing price of the shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheet on the offer date, (ii) the average closing price of the shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheets for five trading days immediately preceding the offer date; and (iii) the nominal value of a share.

#### 9. Expiry of the Share Option Scheme

The 2022 Option Scheme is valid and effective for a term of ten years commencing from 12 December 2022. The remaining life of the 2022 Option Scheme is approximately eight years and five months.

Details of the movements in outstanding share options, which have been granted under the 2012 Option Scheme, during the Financial Year were as follows:

				Number of shares subject to options					
Name or category of participants	Date of Grant	Exercise Price HK\$ (note)	Exercise period	Vesting Period	As at 1 April 2023	Granted during the Financial Year	Lapsed or cancelled during the Financial Year	Exercised during the Financial Year	As at 31 March 2024
Mr. Lo	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	1,800,000	-	_		1,800,000
Ms. Yvette Ong	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	1,800,000	-	-		1,800,000
Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	1,500,000	-	-	-	1,500,000
Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	1,500,000	-	_	-	1,500,000
Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	500,000	-	_	-	500,000
Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	500,000	-	_	-	500,000
Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William <sub>JP</sub>	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	500,000	-	_	-	500,000
Mr. Lau Wai Piu	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	500,000	_	_	-	500,000
Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	500,000	_	_	-	500,000
Employees in aggregate (including a director of certain subsidiaries)	18-01-2021	1.310	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	N/A	7,200,000	-	-	-	7,200,000
TOTAL					16,300,000	_	_	_	16,300,000

#### **CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS**

### (a) 2023-2026 Logistics Services Framework Agreement

The Company entered into a logistics services framework agreement with 新疆遠見鴻業物流有限公司 ("VVLJV") on 3 March 2023 (the "2023–2026 Logistics Services Framework Agreement"). Pursuant to the 2023–2026 Logistics Services Framework Agreement, VVLJV agrees to provide logistics services to the Group for a period until 31 March 2026 effective from the date of approval by the independent shareholders at the special general meeting on 21 April 2023.

VVLJV is indirectly held as to 60% by Vision Values Holdings Limited (Stock Code: 862) ("Vision Values"). Mr. Lo, the substantial Shareholder, the chairman and executive Director of the Company, is also the controlling shareholder, chairman and executive director of Vision Values. In view of Mr. Lo's shareholding and his corporate position in both the Company and Vision Values, Vision Values is a connected person of the Company. As VVLJV is indirectly held as to 60% by Vision Values, VVLJV is therefore also connected person of the Company. Accordingly, the transactions contemplated under the Logistics Services Framework Agreement (2023-2026) constitute continuing connected transactions for the Company under Rule 14A of the Listing Rules.

Under the 2023–2026 Logistics Services Framework Agreement, VVLJV shall provide the Group with logistics services for coal and related products transportation in the PRC including (i) gangue backfilling; and (ii) coal products. The annual caps set for the services for three financial years ending 31 March 2026 under the term of the 2023–2026 Logistics Services Framework Agreement shall not exceed RMB292.5 million, RMB365.6 million, and RMB457.0 million respectively. The services run for a period from 21 April 2023, the date that the transactions received the approval from independent shareholders in the special general meeting, to 31 March 2026. For details, please refer to the circular of the Company dated 30 March 2023.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

# (b) Tenancy Agreement

Mongolia Energy Corporation (HK) Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into an office tenancy agreement with Cambo Management Limited (the "Landlord") on 8 May 2023. The subject premises have been used as the principal place of business of the Company in Hong Kong since 2015, and the tenancy is for a term of two years commenced from 8 May 2023 and expiring on 7 May 2025 at a monthly rental of HK\$291,000 (exclusive of rates, government rent, management fees and all other outgoings).

The Landlord is an investment holding company wholly and beneficially owned by Mr. Lo. As Mr. Lo is the substantial shareholder, Chairman and executive Director of the Company, the tenancy agreement constitutes a connected transaction for the Company under Chapter 14A to the Listing Rules. For details, please refer to the announcement made by the Company on 8 May 2023.

In accordance with rule 14A.55 of the Listing Rules, regarding the continuing connected transaction as set out in (a) above during the year to be reviewed, the independent non-executive Directors confirm that the transactions have been entered into:

- (i) In the ordinary and usual course of business of the Group;
- (ii) On normal commercial terms or better; and
- (iii) According to the relevant agreement governing them on terms that are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the shareholders of the Company as a whole.

EY has been engaged to report on the continuing connected transaction as set out in (a) above in accordance with the Hong Kong Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised) "Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information" and with reference to Practice Note 740 "Auditor's Letter on Continuing Connected Transactions under the Hong Kong Listing Rules" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The Board has received an unqualified letter from EY in which EY has confirmed the matters set out in Rule 14A.56 of the Listing Rules. A copy of the auditor's letter has provided by the Company to the Stock Exchange.

During the year, the Company has complied with the relevant disclosure requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules in the event the related party transactions of the Group constitutes connected transactions or continuing connected transactions as defined under the Listing Rules.

Save as disclosed above, a summary of significant related party transactions including fully exempted connected transactions or continuing connected transaction during the Financial Year was disclosed in Note 37 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### **GROUP'S BORROWINGS**

Details of the Group's borrowings are set out in Note 29 to the consolidated financial statements.

### PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES

During the Financial Year, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold, or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

#### **PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS**

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights under the Bye-laws or the laws of Bermuda which would oblige the Company to offer new shares on a pro-rata basis to existing shareholders.

#### **DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES**

At 31 March 2024, the Company's reserves available for distribution and/or distribution in specie, calculated in accordance with the Companies Act of Bermuda, is HK\$Nil (2023: HK\$Nil) which is the sum of the Company's share premium, contribution surplus and accumulated losses as stated in Note 42 to the consolidated financial statements on page 141 which may only be distributed in certain circumstances.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee currently comprises three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Lau Wai Piu, Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William  $_{_{JP}}$  and Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank. Their principal duties include reviewing and supervising the Company's financial reporting process, internal control procedures and relationship with the Independent Auditor.

The audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 had been reviewed by the Audit Committee

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

As at 31 March 2024, excluding site and construction workers directly employed by our contractors, the Group employed 831 full-time employees in Hong Kong, Mongolia, and the PRC. Remuneration packages are structured to take into account the level and composition of pay and the general market conditions in the respective geographical locations and businesses in which the Group operates. The remuneration policies of the Group are reviewed on a periodic basis. Apart from the retirement benefits scheme, staff bonus, and share options are awarded to the employees according to performance of the Group, assessment of individual performance, and industry practice. Appropriate training programs are also offered for staff training and development.

#### SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

Based on information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of the Directors, the Company has maintained the prescribed public float under the Listing Rules throughout the Financial Year and up to the date of this annual report.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

On 18 March 2022, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu ("**Deloitte**") resigned as the Independent Auditor, and EY was appointed as the Independent Auditor. The consolidated financial statements for the year ended 2021 were audited by Deloitte, while 2022 to 2024 were audited by EY.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by EY who will retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment. A resolution will be submitted to the forthcoming AGM of the Company to re-appoint EY as the auditor of the Company.

# **TAX RELIEF**

The Company is not aware of any relief from taxation available to the Shareholders by reason of their holding of the shares of the Company.

#### SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

The Group had no significant events after 31 March 2024 and up to the date of this annual report.

On behalf of the Board

Lo Lin Shing, Simon

Chairman Hong Kong, 19 June 2024

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Ernst & Young 27/F, One Taikoo Place 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong 安永會計師事務所 香港鰂魚涌英皇道979號 太古坊一座27樓 Tel 電話: +852 2846 9888 Fax 傳真: +852 2868 4432 ev.com

#### To the shareholders of Mongolia Energy Corporation Limited

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

#### **DISCLAIMER OF OPINION**

We were engaged to audit the consolidated financial statements of Mongolia Energy Corporation Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as "the Group") set out on pages 55 to 142, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 March 2024, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

We do not express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements of the Group. Because of the significance of the multiple uncertainties described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, it is not possible for us to form an audit opinion on these consolidated financial statements. In all other respects, in our opinion the consolidated financial statements have been properly prepared in compliance with the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### BASIS FOR DISCLAIMER OF OPINION

#### Multiple Uncertainties Relating to Going Concern

As set out in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, the Group had net liabilities of approximately HK\$2,685.3 million and net current liabilities of approximately HK\$4,924.3 million as at 31 March 2024, including advances from a Director, convertible notes and a loan note in aggregate of HK\$5,251.4 million. The Group's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on the ongoing availability of finance to the Group, including from a substantial shareholder who is also the Chairman and a director of the Company, and the holders of the convertible notes and loan note.

As further set out in Note 30 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company's convertible notes and loan note, with a carrying amount in aggregate of HK\$4,244.7 million as at 31 March 2024 have maturity dates due within one year. Management plans to negotiate with the existing holders of the convertible notes and loan note in relation to the potential refinancing of these borrowings to allow the Group to continue to meet its financial obligations. If the refinancing from the existing holders of the convertible notes and loan note, and finance from its shareholder were not to be available, the Group would be unable to meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due. We are unable to assess the likelihood of an agreement being reached, and as such, whether the Group will have sufficient finance available to continue to meet its financial obligations.

These conditions indicate the existence of material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. In view of the significance of the extent of the multiple uncertainties relating to the ongoing availability of finance to the Group, we disclaim our opinion in respect of the year ended 31 March 2024.

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# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors of the Company are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors of the Company either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors of the Company are assisted by the Audit Committee in discharging their responsibilities for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

# AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the Group's consolidated financial statements in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("HKSAs") issued by the HKICPA and to issue an auditor's report. Our report is made solely to you, as a body, in accordance with section 90 of the Bermuda Companies Act 1981, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report. However, because of the matters described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, it is not possible for us to form an opinion on the consolidated financial statements.

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the "Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Chu Shiu Ting, Adrian David.

Ernst & Young

Certified Public Accountants

Hong Kong

19 June 2024

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS**

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Revenue	6	3,173,215	2,905,309
Cost of sales		(1,986,327)	(1,820,213)
Gross profit		1,186,888	1,085,096
Other income	7	19,586	16,518
Other gains and losses	8	(50,744)	31,441
Administrative expenses		(329,940)	(237,848)
Changes in fair value on derivative component of			
convertible notes	30(a)	959,326	(303,323)
Reversal of impairment losses (impairment losses) on property,			
plant and equipment	3, 15	965,061	(1,231,455)
Reversal of impairment losses (impairment losses) on right-of-use			
assets	3, 16	1,081	(1,212)
Reversal of impairment losses (impairment losses) on intangible			
assets	3, 17	125,122	(128,225)
Impairment losses on financial assets		(6,480)	(1,245)
Finance costs	9	(655,861)	(599,206)
Profit (loss) before taxation	10	2,214,039	(1,369,459)
Income tax expense	11	(536,118)	(233,640)
Profit (loss) for the year attributable to owners			
of the Company		1,677,921	(1,603,099)
		1,553,7521	(:,===,===)
Earnings (loss) per share attributable to ordinary equity	4.4		
holders of the Company	14	0.00	(0.53)
– basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share (HK\$)		8.92	(8.52)

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# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Profit (loss) for the year Other comprehensive (expense) income Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:	1,677,921	(1,603,099)
<ul> <li>Exchange differences on translation of financial statements of group companies</li> <li>Fair value changes on debt instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI")</li> </ul>	(32,387) 6,059	(22,884) 1,529
Other comprehensive expense for the year	(26,328)	(21,355)
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the year attributable to owners of the Company	1,651,593	(1,624,454)

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	15	2,053,437	1,018,279
Right-of-use assets	16	10,315	8,613
Intangible assets	17	214,973	93,087
Exploration and evaluation assets	18	1,972	1,689
Interest in an associate	19	_	_
Deferred tax assets	32	24,784	40,166
		2,305,481	1,161,834
Current assets			
Trade and bills receivables	20	1,037,155	953,484
Inventories	21	402,669	303,382
Other receivables, prepayments and deposits	22	341,306	254,767
Prepaid taxation		50	15,498
Financial asset at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL")	23	30,874	51,598
Amount due from an associate	19	_	_
Cash and cash equivalents	24	97,826	60,264
		1,909,880	1,638,993
Current liabilities			
Trade payables	25	337,406	252,590
Other payables and accruals	26	870,579	782,010
Contract liabilities	27	9,627	67,967
Tax liabilities		357,624	14,712
Advances from a Director	29	1,006,689	1,302,017
Convertible notes	30(a)	3,664,199	_
Loan note	29, 30(b)	580,545	_
Lease liabilities	28	5,961	3,056
Deferred income	31	1,509	1,591
		6,834,139	2,423,943
Net current liabilities		(4,924,259)	(784,950)
Total assets less current liabilities		(2,618,778)	376,884

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# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)**

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Non-current liabilities			
Convertible notes	30(a)	_	4,186,443
Loan note	29, 30(b)	-	474,140
Deferred income	31	476	2,093
Deferred tax liabilities	32	30,143	18,931
Lease liabilities	28	2,584	4,751
Provision for rehabilitation	33	33,272	27,372
		66,475	4,713,730
Net liabilities		(2,685,253)	(4,336,846)
Financed by:			
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	34	3,763	3,763
Reserves		(2,689,016)	(4,340,609)
Capital deficiencies attributable to owners of the Company		(2,685,253)	(4,336,846)

The consolidated financial statements on pages 55 to 142 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 19 June 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:

Lo Lin Shing, Simon

Director

Lo, Rex Cze Kei Director

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Share capital	Share options reserve (Note (a))	Translation reserve (Note (a)) HK\$'000	Statutory surplus reserve (Note (a) & (b)) HK\$'000	Fair value reserve of financial asset at FVTOCI (Note (a)) HK\$'000	Capital contribution reserve (Note (a)) HK\$'000	Accumulated losses (Note (a)) HK\$'000	Total
At 1 April 2022	3,763	33,454	24,569	41,654	1,089	334,220	(3,151,141)	(2,712,392)
Loss for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,603,099)	(1,603,099)
Other comprehensive income (expense)								
Changes in fair value of debt instruments at FVTOCI	-	-	-	-	1,529	-	-	1,529
Exchange differences arising on translation	_	_	(22,884)	-	_	_	-	(22,884)
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the year	-	_	(22,884)	-	1,529	_	(1,603,099)	(1,624,454)
Appropriations to reserve (Note (b))	-	_	_	31,195	_	_	(31,195)	_
Share options lapsed		(21,288)	_	_	_	_	21,288	
At 31 March 2023	3,763	12,166	1,685	72,849	2,618	334,220	(4,764,147)	(4,336,846)
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,677,921	1,677,921
Other comprehensive income (expense)								
Changes in fair value of debt instruments at FVTOCI	-	-	-	-	6,059	-	-	6,059
Exchange differences arising on translation	-	_	(32,387)	-	_	-	_	(32,387)
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the year	-	-	(32,387)	-	6,059	-	1,677,921	1,651,593
Appropriations to reserve (Note (b))	-	-	-	35,534	-	-	(35,534)	-
At 31 March 2024	3,763	12,166	(30,702)	108,383	8,677	334,220	(3,121,760)	(2,685,253)

#### Notes:

- (a) These reserve accounts comprise the consolidated reserves of HK\$(2,689,016,000) (2023: HK\$(4,340,609,000)) in the consolidated statement of financial position.
- (b) In accordance with the laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"), those subsidiaries established in the PRC are required to transfer 10% of the profit after taxation to the statutory surplus reserve until the reserve reaches 50% of their registered capital. Transfer to this reserve must be made before distributing dividends to equity owners.

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# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Operating activities			
Profit (loss) before taxation		2,214,039	(1,369,459)
Interest income	7	(895)	(955)
Dividend income		(6,178)	_
Exchange (gain) loss		(3,434)	7,177
Finance costs	9	655,861	599,206
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	8	(301)	(191)
Loss on write off of property, plant and equipment		227	_
Amortisation of intangible assets	17	3,655	10,540
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	16	5,896	6,344
Amortisation of deferred income		(5,932)	(4,083)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	15	48,308	65,275
Changes in fair value on financial assets at FVTPL	8	20,724	(846)
Changes in fair value on derivative component of convertible notes (Reversal of impairment losses) impairment losses on property,	30(a)	(959,326)	303,323
plant and equipment	3, 15	(965,061)	1,231,455
(Reversal of impairment losses) impairment losses on right-of-use			
assets	3, 16	(1,081)	1,212
(Reversal of impairment losses) impairment losses on intangible			
assets	3, 17	(125,122)	128,225
Impairment losses on financial assets		6,480	1,245
Operating cash flows before movements in working capital		887,860	978,468
Increase in inventories		(99,287)	(34,560)
Increase in trade and bills receivables		(133,966)	(333,416)
Increase in other receivables, prepayments and deposits		(81,657)	(52,267)
Increase (decrease) in trade payables		90,126	(22,683)
Increase in other payables and accruals		106,155	518,458
(Decrease) increase in contract liabilities		(55,347)	38,909
Net cash from operations		713,884	1,092,909
Tax paid		(151,007)	(265,423)
Net cash from operating activities		562,877	827,486

	Notes	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Investing activities		(440 727)	(22E 220)
Purchases of property, plant and equipment Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment		(118,727) 855	(225,220) 387
Additions to intangible assets	17	(433)	(854)
Additions to exploration and evaluation assets	18	(283)	(130)
Advance to an associate	10	(203)	(9)
Bank interest received		895	955
Government grants received		4,410	2,488
Net cash used in investing activities		(113,283)	(222,383)
Financing activities			
Advance from a Director	29	_	111,466
Interest paid	29	_	(1,076)
Repayment to a Director	29	(403,800)	(645,746)
Repayment to bank loans	29	_	(62,405)
Repayment of lease liabilities	29	(6,681)	(6,745)
Cash used in financing activities		(410,481)	(604,506)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		39,113	597
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		60,264	63,906
Effect of exchange rate changes on the balance of cash held in foreign currencies		(1,551)	(4,239)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year		97,826	60,264

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### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 1. GENERAL AND BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Company is a public limited liability company incorporated in Bermuda and its shares are listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Stock Exchange**"). The address of the principal place of business of the Company is 17th Floor, 118 Connaught Road West, Hong Kong.

The Company is an investment holding company, and its subsidiaries (together with the Company collectively referred to as the "**Group**") are principally engaged in mining, processing and sale of coal.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollar ("HK\$"). The functional currency of the Company is United States dollar ("US\$") as US\$ better reflects the underlying transactions, events and conditions that are relevant to its ongoing business. For the convenience of the financial statements users, the consolidated financial statements are presented in HK\$, as the Company's shares are listed on the Stock Exchange.

Given that the convertible notes and loan note with principal amount of HK\$4,012.9 million in aggregate are going to mature on 6 March 2025 and 21 November 2024 respectively, the carrying amounts of HK\$4,244.7 million relating to convertible notes and loan note have been reclassified as current liabilities as at 31 March 2024. Details of the convertible notes and loan note are set out in Note 30.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors of the Company (the "**Directors**") have given careful consideration to the future liquidity of the Group. The Directors have reviewed the Group's cash flow projections prepared by the management. The cash flow projections cover a period of at least 12 months from 31 March 2024. The cash flow projections have been determined using the estimation of future cash flows to be generated from the Group's operating activities and its working capital needs.

As at 31 March 2024, the Group had convertible notes and a loan note of HK\$3,664.2 million and HK\$580.5 million respectively which would fall due within one year, and cash and cash equivalents of HK\$97.8 million. The estimation of future cash flows is based on the assumption that the Company will exercise its endeavour to reach an agreement with the holders of the convertible notes and loan note on a debt refinancing plan before the respective maturity dates of the convertible notes and loan note to allow the Group to continue to meet its financial obligations. As set out in Note 30, the holders of the convertible notes are Chow Tai Fook Nominee Limited ("CTF") and Golden Infinity Co., Ltd ("Golden Infinity") and the holder of the loan note is Ruby Pioneer Limited ("Ruby Pioneer"). Golden Infinity is wholly-owned company of Mr. Lo Lin Shing, Simon ("Mr. Lo"), a substantial shareholder who has significant influence over the Group and being the Chairman and Director of the Company whereas Mr. Lo and Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei are the directors of Ruby Pioneer. As of the date of this report, the discussion with CTF has not yet initiated.

In addition, Mr. Lo has provided facilities amounting to HK\$1,900.0 million by way of advances to the Group. As at 31 March 2024, advances from Mr. Lo in the sum of HK\$1,006.7 million comprised the principal amount and accrued interest of HK\$968.4 million and HK\$38.3 million respectively. Excluding the accrued interest of HK\$38.3 million, the balance of the unutilised facilities of HK\$931.6 million remains valid until 24 March 2026. Mr. Lo has undertaken not to demand for repayment of the principal amount of the loan and the accrued interest until the Group has sufficient cash to make repayment which will not affect the Group's liquidity position.

While recognising that the Group had net liabilities of approximately HK\$2,685.3 million and net current liabilities of approximately HK\$4,924.3 million as at 31 March 2024, the Directors are of the opinion that, taking into account the above assumptions, the Group will be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

# 1. GENERAL AND BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

However, should the above refinancing plan not be able to implement successfully, the Group would be unable to operate as a going concern, adjustments would have to be made to reduce the carrying values of the Group's assets to their recoverable amounts, to provide for financial liabilities which might arise, and to reclassify noncurrent assets and non-current liabilities as current assets and current liabilities respectively, if applicable. The effects of these adjustments have not been reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

# 1.1 Basis of preparation of consolidated financial statements

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("**HKFRSs**") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. For the purpose of preparation of consolidated financial statements, information is considered material if such information is reasonably expected to influence decisions made by primary users. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures required by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange ("**Listing Rules**") and by the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for certain financial instruments that are measured at fair values at the end of each reporting period, as explained in the accounting policies set out below.

Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange of goods and services.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique. In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Group takes into account the characteristics of the asset or liability if market participants would take those characteristics into account when pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. Fair value for measurement and/or disclosure purposes in these consolidated financial statements is determined on such a basis, except for share-based payment transactions that are within the scope of HKFRS 2 "Share-based Payment", leasing transactions that are within the scope of HKFRS 16 "Leases" and measurements that have some similarities to fair value but are not fair value, such as net realisable value in HKAS 2 "Inventories" or value in use in HKAS 36 "Impairment of Assets".

If the transaction price is fair value at initial recognition and a valuation technique that uses unobservable inputs will be used to measure fair value in subsequent periods, the valuation technique is calibrated so that at initial recognition the result of the valuation technique equals the transaction price.

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# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 1. GENERAL AND BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

## 1.1 Basis of preparation of consolidated financial statements (Continued)

In addition, for financial reporting purposes, fair value measurements are categorised into Level 1, 2 or 3 based on the degree to which the inputs to the fair value measurements are observable and the significance of the inputs to the fair value measurement in its entirety, which are described as follows:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date;
- Level 2 inputs are inputs, other than quoted prices included within Level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

#### 1.2 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company and its subsidiaries. Control is achieved when the Company:

- has power over the investee;
- is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and
- has the ability to use its power to affect its returns.

The Group reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control listed above.

Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Group obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Group loses control of the subsidiary. Specifically, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated statement of profit or loss from the date when the Group gains control until the date when the Group ceases to control the subsidiary.

When necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with the Group's accounting policies.

All intragroup assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

### 2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND REVISED HKFRS

# New and revised HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year

The Group has adopted the following new and revised HKFRSs for the first time for the current year's consolidated financial statements:

HKFRS 17 Amendments to HKAS 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2 Amendments to HKAS 8

Amendments to HKAS 12

Amendments to HKAS 12

Insurance Contracts

Disclosure of Accounting Policies<sup>1</sup>

Definition of Accounting Estimates<sup>2</sup>

Income taxes: Deferred tax related to assets and liabilities

arising from a single transaction<sup>3</sup>

Income taxes: International tax reform - Pillar Two

model rules4

The nature and the impact of the new and revised HKFRSs that are applicable to the Group are described below:

# (1) Amendments to HKAS 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2 "Disclosure of Accounting Policies"

The amendments disclose their material accounting policy information rather than their significant accounting policies. Accounting policy information is material if, when considered together with other information included in an entity's financial statements, it can reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements. Amendments to HKFRS Practice Statement 2 Making Materiality Judgements provide non-mandatory guidance on how to apply the concept of materiality to accounting policy disclosures. The amendments did not have any impact on the measurement, recognition or presentation of any items in the Group's financial statements.

# (2) Amendments to HKAS 8 "Definition of Accounting Estimates"

The amendments clarify the distinction between changes in accounting estimates and changes in accounting policies. Accounting estimates are defined as monetary amounts in financial statements that are subject to measurement uncertainty. The amendments also clarify how entities use measurement techniques and inputs to develop accounting estimates. The application of the amendments had no impact on the Group's financial statements.

# (3) Amendments to HKAS 12 "Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction"

The amendments narrow the scope of the initial recognition exception in HKAS 12 so that it no longer applies to transactions that give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences, such as leases and decommissioning obligations. Therefore, entities are required to recognise a deferred tax asset (provided that sufficient taxable profit is available) and a deferred tax liability for temporary differences arising from these transactions. The application of the amendments had no impact on the Group's financial statements.

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# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND REVISED HKFRS (Continued)

# New and revised HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year (Continued)

# (4) Amendments to HKAS 12 "International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules"

The amendments introduce a mandatory temporary exception from the recognition and disclosure of deferred taxes arising from the implementation of the Pillar Two model rules published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The amendments also introduce disclosure requirements for the affected entities to help users of the financial statements better understand the entities' exposure to Pillar Two income taxes, including the disclosure of current tax related to Pillar Two income taxes separately in the periods when Pillar Two legislation is effective and the disclosure of known or reasonably estimable information of their exposure to Pillar Two income taxes in periods in which the legislation is enacted or substantively enacted but not yet in effect. The Group has applied the amendments retrospectively. Since the Group did not fall within the scope of the Pillar Two model rules, the amendments did not have any impact to the Group.

# Revised HKFRSs in issue but not yet effective

The Group has not applied the following revised HKFRSs, that have been issued but are not yet effective, in these consolidated financial statements:

Amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28 Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and

its Associate or Joint Venture<sup>3</sup>

Amendments to HKFRS 16 Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback<sup>1</sup>

Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current

(the "2020 Amendments")1,4

Non-current Liabilities with Covenants

(the "2020 Amendments")1,4

Supplier Finance Arrangements<sup>1</sup>

Lack of Exchangeability<sup>2</sup>

Amendments to HKAS 7 and HKFRS 7

Amendments to HKAS 21

Amendments to HKAS 1

Amendments to HKAS 1

1 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024

- <sup>2</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025
- No mandatory effective date yet determined but available for adoption
- As a consequence of the 2020 Amendments and 2022 Amendments, Hong Kong Interpretation 5 Presentation of Financial Statements Classification by the Borrower of a Term Loan that Contains a Repayment on Demand Clause was revised to align the corresponding wording with no change in conclusion

Except for the revised HKFRSs mentioned below, the Directors anticipate that the application of all other revised HKFRSs will have no material impact on the consolidated financial statements in the foreseeable future.

# 2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND REVISED HKFRS (Continued)

# New and revised HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year (Continued)

# Amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28 "Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture"

The amendments address an inconsistency between the requirements in HKFRS 10 and in HKAS 28 in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture. The amendments require a full recognition of a gain or loss resulting from a downstream transaction when the sale or contribution of assets constitutes a business. For a transaction involving assets that do not constitute a business, a gain or loss resulting from the transaction is recognised in the investor's profit or loss only to the extent of the unrelated investor's interest in that associate or joint venture. The amendments are to be applied prospectively. The previous mandatory effective date of amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28 was removed by the HKICPA. However, the amendments are available for adoption now.

# Amendment to HKFRS 16 "Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback"

The amendments specify the requirements that a seller-lessee uses in measuring the lease liability arising in a sale and leaseback transaction to ensure the seller-lessee does not recognise any amount of the gain or loss that relates to the right of use it retains. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024 and shall be applied retrospectively to sale and leaseback transactions entered into after the date of initial application of HKFRS 16 (i.e., 1 January 2019). Earlier application is permitted. The amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

# Amendment to HKAS 1 "Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current" & "Non-current Liabilities with Covenants"

The 2020 Amendments clarify the requirements for classifying liabilities as current or non-current, including what is meant by a right to defer settlement and that a right to defer must exist at the end of the reporting period. Classification of a liability is unaffected by the likelihood that the entity will exercise its right to defer settlement. The amendments also clarify that a liability can be settled in its own equity instruments, and that only if a conversion option in a convertible liability is itself accounted for as an equity instrument would the terms of a liability not impact its classification. The 2022 Amendments further clarify that, among covenants of a liability arising from a loan arrangement, only those with which an entity must comply on or before the reporting date affect the classification of that liability as current or non-current. Additional disclosures are required for non-current liabilities that are subject to the entity complying with future covenants within 12 months after the reporting period. The amendments shall be applied retrospectively with early application permitted. An entity that applies the 2020 Amendments early is required to apply simultaneously the 2022 Amendments, and vice versa. The Group is currently assessing the impact of the amendments and whether existing loan agreements may require revision. Based on a preliminary assessment, the amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

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# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND REVISED HKFRS (Continued)

# New and revised HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year (Continued)

# Amendments to HKAS 7 and HKFRS 7 "Supplier Finance Arrangements"

The amendments clarify the characteristics of supplier finance arrangements and require additional disclosure of such arrangements. The disclosure requirements in the amendments are intended to assist users of financial statements in understanding the effects of supplier finance arrangements on an entity's liabilities, cash flows and exposure to liquidity risk. Earlier application of the amendments is permitted. The amendments provide certain transition reliefs regarding comparative information, quantitative information as at the beginning of the annual reporting period and interim disclosures. The amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

# Amendments to HKAS 21 "Lack of Exchangeability"

The amendments specify how an entity shall assess whether a currency is exchangeable into another currency and how it shall estimate a spot exchange rate at a measurement date when exchangeability is lacking. The amendments require disclosures of information that enable users of financial statements to understand the impact of a currency not being exchangeable. Earlier application is permitted. When applying the amendments, an entity cannot restate comparative information. Any cumulative effect of initially applying the amendments shall be recognised as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained profits or to the cumulative amount of translation differences accumulated in a separate component of equity, where appropriate, at the date of initial application. The amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

#### 3. RECOVERABLE AMOUNT ASSESSMENT ON KHUSHUUT RELATED ASSETS

At the end of the reporting period, there were indicators of reversal of impairment loss and the Group engaged an independent qualified professional valuer (the "Independent Valuer") to determine the recoverable amount of its property, plant and equipment, intangible assets and right-of-use assets related to the Khushuut mine operations (collectively referred to as "Khushuut Related Assets").

For the purposes of impairment testing, the Khushuut Related Assets are treated as a cash-generating unit ("**CGU**"), which represents the Group's coking coal mining operation in Western Mongolia. The recoverable amount of the Khushuut Related Assets has been determined based on a value in use calculation.

The Group performed an impairment test of the Khushuut Related Assets as at 31 March 2024, of which the recoverable amount determined by the Independent Valuer was higher than their carrying values, and a reversal of impairment loss amounting to HK\$1,091.3 million (2023: impairment loss of HK\$1,360.9 million) was recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Certain key assumptions adopted in the value in use calculation have been changed in determining the recoverable amount as at 31 March 2024 from 31 March 2023, including the assumption that the Group will increase in production and sales volume taking into account additional coals processed by the third party washing facilities. These assumptions were included in the value in use calculation as at 31 March 2024 but were excluded in the value in use calculation as at 31 March 2023 according to the Group's current business plan. In the opinion of the Directors, the changes in these key assumptions were based long term mine plan.

# 3. RECOVERABLE AMOUNT ASSESSMENT ON KHUSHUUT RELATED ASSETS (Continued)

The determination of the recoverable amount in the value in use calculation is most sensitive to the following key assumptions:

# Coal prices

Forecasted coal prices are based on management's estimates and are derived from the price index and long-term views of global supply and demand in a changing environment, particularly with respect to climate risks, building on past experience of the mining industry and consistent with external sources. These prices were adjusted to arrive at appropriate consistent price assumptions for the different qualities and types of coals.

# Sales quantity/production plan

Sales quantity is in line with production plan. Forecasted production volumes are based on mining plans agreed by the management as part of the long-term planning process and take into account additional coals processed by the third party washing facilities for coming 12 months. The production plans used were consistent with the reserves and resource volumes approved as part of the Group's process for the estimation of reserves.

#### Discount rate

In calculating the value in use, a pre-tax discount rate of 35.06% (2023: 34.75%) was applied to the discounted cash flows. This discount rate is derived from the Group's weighted average cost of capital ("WACC"), with appropriate adjustments made to reflect the risks specific to the CGU and to determine the pre-tax rate.

A reversal of impairment loss (2023: impairment loss) was recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss in the current year against the respective assets on a pro-rata basis with reference to their carrying values as follows:

Carrying values of the Khushuut Related Assets as at 31 March 2024:

	Carrying values before reversal of impairment loss HK\$'000	Reversal of impairment loss HK\$'000	Carrying values after reversal of impairment loss HK\$'000
Property, plant and equipment Right-of-use assets Intangible assets	1,067,843 824 88,029	965,061 1,081 125,122	2,032,904 1,905 213,151
Total	1,156,696	1,091,264	2,247,960

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# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 3. RECOVERABLE AMOUNT ASSESSMENT ON KHUSHUUT RELATED ASSETS (Continued)

#### Discount rate (Continued)

Carrying values of the Khushuut Related Assets as at 31 March 2023:

	Carrying values before impairment loss HK\$'000	Impairment loss HK\$'000	Carrying values after impairment loss HK\$'000
Property, plant and equipment	2,231,106	(1,231,455)	999,651
Right-of-use assets	2,099	(1,212)	887
Intangible assets	219,687	(128,225)	91,462
Total	2,452,892	(1,360,892)	1,092,000

The reason for the reversal of impairment loss being recognised in profit or loss for the year ended 31 March 2024 was mainly due to the changes in production and sales volume of coking coal (2023: the changes in discount rate, production and sales volume of coking coal and estimated coking coal price for the forthcoming four-year period). The above changes have had a significant impact on the value in use assessment performed by the Directors in both years with the cash flows expected to be received.

#### Sensitivity analysis:

Discount rate takes into account the cost of borrowing and equity for the CGU as well as segment-specific risk as this is an important indicator of the condition of credit and operational risk in an entity. The impact of economic instability to CGU can be estimated by raising or lowering the discount rate. A 1% increase or decrease in discount rate would result in a decrease or increase in recoverable amount of approximately 2% or 3% respectively.

As the coal price has been fluctuating in the past, it raises an uncertainty to the revenue of the Group. The change in the estimated coking coal price is important for the assessment of the impact of changes in coking coal price on the estimated sales of the Group. A 5% increase or decrease in the forecasted coal price would result in an increase or decrease in recoverable amount of approximately 21% or 21% respectively.

As the sales quantity has been fluctuating in the past, it raises an uncertainty to the revenue of the Group. The change in the estimated sales quantity is important for the assessment of the impact of changes in sales quantity on the estimated sales of the Group. A 5% increase or decrease in the forecasted sales quantity would result in an increase or decrease in recoverable amount of approximately 9% or 9% respectively.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Investment in associate

An associate is an entity over which the Group has significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but is not control or joint control over those policies.

The results and assets and liabilities of associate are incorporated in these consolidated financial statements using the equity method of accounting. The financial statements of the associate used for equity accounting purposes are prepared using uniform accounting policies as those of the Group for like transactions and events in similar circumstances. Appropriate adjustments have been made to conform the associate's accounting policies to those of the Group. Under the equity method, an investment in an associate is initially recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost and adjusted thereafter to recognise the Group's share of the profit or loss and other comprehensive income of the associate. When the Group's share of losses of an associate exceeds the Group's interest in that associate (which includes any long-term interests that, in substance, form part of the Group's net investment in the associate), the Group discontinues recognising its share of further losses. Additional losses are recognised only to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

An investment in an associate is accounted for using the equity method from the date on which the investee becomes an associate. On acquisition of the investment in an associate, any excess of the cost of the investment over the Group's share of the net fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of the investee is recognised as goodwill, which is included within the carrying amount of the investment. Any excess of the Group's share of the net fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities over the cost of the investment, after reassessment, is recognised immediately in profit or loss in the period in which the investment is acquired.

The Group assesses whether there is an objective evidence showing that the interest in an associate may be impaired. When any objective evidence exists, the entire carrying amount of the investment (including goodwill) is tested for impairment in accordance with HKAS 36 as a single asset by comparing its recoverable amount (higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal) with its carrying amount. Any impairment loss recognised is not allocated to any asset, including goodwill, that forms part of the carrying amount of the investment. Any reversal of that impairment loss is recognised in accordance with HKAS 36 to the extent that the recoverable amount of the investment subsequently increases.

When a group entity transacts with an associate of the Group, profits and losses resulting from the transactions with the associate are recognised in the Group's consolidated financial statements only to the extent of interests in the associate that are not related to the Group.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Revenue recognition

#### Revenue from contracts with customers

The Group recognises revenue when (or as) a performance obligation is satisfied, i.e. when "control" of the goods or services underlying the particular performance obligation is transferred to the customer.

A performance obligation represents a good or service (or a bundle of goods or services) that is distinct or a series of distinct goods or services that are substantially the same.

Control is transferred over time and revenue is recognised over time by reference to the progress towards complete satisfaction of the relevant performance obligation if one of the following criteria is met:

- the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Group's performance as the Group performs;
- the Group's performance creates or enhances an asset that the customer controls as the Group performs;
- the Group's performance does not create an asset with an alternative use to the Group and the Group has an enforceable right to payment for performance completed to date.

Otherwise, revenue is recognised at a point in time when the customer obtains control of the distinct goods or services.

A contract liability represents the Group's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Group has received consideration (or an amount of consideration is due) from the customer.

#### Revenue from sales of coal

Revenue from sale of coal is recognised at a point in time when the control of goods is transferred being when the coals are delivered to and accepted by the customers.

#### Revenue from coal washing service

Revenue from coal washing service is recognised over time when the obligation of coal washing service is completed, which is measured by the output method with weighted of coals washed during the period.

#### Leases

#### Definition of a lease

A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

For contracts entered into or modified on or after the date of initial application, the Group assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease based on the definition under HKFRS 16 at inception or modification date. Such contract will not be reassessed unless the terms and conditions of the contract are subsequently changed. As a practical expedient, leases with similar characteristics are accounted on a portfolio basis when the Group reasonably expects that the effects on the consolidated financial statements would not differ materially from individual leases within the portfolio.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Leases (Continued)

### The Group as a lessee

#### Allocation of consideration to component of a contract

For a contract that contains a lease component and one or more additional lease or non-lease components, the Group allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of the relative standalone price of the lease component and the aggregate stand-alone price of the non-lease components.

The Group applied practical expedient not to separate non-lease components from lease component, and instead account for the lease component and any associated non-lease components as a single lease component.

#### Short-term lease and leases of low-value assets

The Group applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to leases of building that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option. Lease payments on shortterm leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis or on another systematic basis over the lease term.

#### Right-of-use assets

The cost of right-of-use asset includes:

- the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received;
- any initial direct costs incurred by the Group; and
- an estimate of costs to be incurred by the Group in dismantling and removing the underlying assets, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease.

Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of its estimated useful lives and the lease terms.

The Group presents right-of-use assets as a separate line item in the consolidated statement of financial position.

#### Refundable rental deposits

Refundable rental deposits paid are accounted for under HKFRS 9 "Financial Instruments" ("HKFRS 9") and initially measured at fair value. Adjustments to fair value at initial recognition are considered as additional lease payments and included in the cost of right-of-use assets.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Leases (Continued)

### The Group as a lessee (Continued)

#### Lease liabilities

At the commencement date of a lease, the Group recognises and measures the lease liability at the present value of lease payments that are unpaid at that date. In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Group uses the incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date.

The lease payments include fixed lease payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives.

After the commencement date, lease liabilities are adjusted by interest accretion and lease payments.

The Group remeasures lease liabilities (and makes a corresponding adjustment to the related right-of-use assets) whenever the lease term has changed in which case the related lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments at a revised discount rate at the date of reassessment. The Group presents lease liabilities as a separate line item in the consolidated statement of financial position.

#### Lease modifications

The Group accounts for a lease modification as a separate lease if:

- the modification increases the scope of the lease by adding the right to use one or more underlying assets; and
- the consideration for the leases increases by an amount commensurate with the stand-alone price for the
  increase in scope and any appropriate adjustments to that stand-alone price to reflect the circumstances
  of the particular contract.

For a lease modification that is not accounted for as a separate lease, the Group remeasures the lease liability based on the lease term of the modified lease by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate at the effective date of the modification.

The Group accounts for the remeasurement of lease liabilities by making corresponding adjustments to the relevant right-of-use assets.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Foreign currencies

In preparing the financial statements of each individual group entity, transactions in currencies other than the entity's functional currency (foreign currencies) are recognised at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At the end of each reporting period, monetary items denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing at that date. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are not retranslated.

Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items, and on the retranslation of monetary items, are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

For the purposes of presenting consolidated financial statements, the assets and liabilities of the Group's foreign operations are translated into the presentation currency of the Group (i.e. Hong Kong dollars) using exchange rates prevailing at the end of each reporting period. Income and expense items are translated at exchange rates that approximate to those prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Exchange differences arising, if any, are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of translation reserve.

On the disposal of a foreign operation (i.e. a disposal of the Group's entire interest in a foreign operation, a disposal involving loss of control over a subsidiary that includes a foreign operation, or a partial disposal of an interest in an associate that includes a foreign operation of which the retained interest becomes a financial asset), all of the exchange differences accumulated in equity in respect of that operation attributable to owners of the Company are reclassified to the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

### **Borrowing costs**

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use or sale, are added to the cost of those assets until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale.

All other borrowing costs are recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss in the period in which they are incurred.

#### Government grants

Government grants are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the Group will comply with the conditions attaching to them and that the grants will be received.

Government grants are recognised in profit or loss on a systematic basis over the periods in which the Group recognises as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate. Specifically, government grants whose primary condition is that the Group should purchase, construct or otherwise acquire non-current assets are recognised as deferred income in the consolidated statement of financial position and transferred to profit or loss on a systematic and rational basis over the useful lives of the related assets.

Government grants related to income that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the Group with no future related costs are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they become receivable. Such grants are presented under "other income".

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### **Employee benefits**

#### Retirement benefits costs

The Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme is available to all employees aged 18 to 65 and with at least 59 days of service under employment in Hong Kong. Contributions from employers and employees are 5% each of the employee's relevant income. The maximum amount of relevant income for contribution purpose is HK\$30,000 (2023: HK\$30,000) per month. The employees are entitled to the full benefit of the Group's contributions and accrued returns irrespective of their length of service with the Group but the benefits are required by law to be presented until the retirement age of 65.

The employees of the Group's subsidiaries which operate in Mongolia are required to participate in the social insurance scheme operated by the local government. According to the "Social Insurance Law of Mongolia", these subsidiaries have a duty to withhold 11.5% of employees' salary or similar income from the employees (the "Relevant Income") and 14.5% of Relevant Income as employers' contribution. Employers' contributions are charged to profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the social insurance scheme.

The employees of the Group's subsidiaries which operate in the PRC are required to participate in a central pension scheme operated by the local municipal governments. These subsidiaries are required to contribute certain percentage of its payroll costs to the central pension scheme. The contributions are charged to profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the central pension scheme.

# Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are recognised at the undiscounted amount of the benefits expected to be paid as and where employees rendered the services. All short-term employee benefits are recognised as an expense unless another HKFRS requires or permits the inclusion of the benefit in the cost of an asset.

A liability is recognised for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave after deducting an amount already paid.

### Share-based payment arrangements

# Equity-settled share-based payment transactions

#### Share options granted to employees

Equity-settled share-based payments to employees and others providing similar services are measured at the fair value of the equity instruments at the grant date.

The fair value of the equity-settled share-based payments determined at the grant date without taking into consideration all non-market vesting conditions is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, based on the Group's estimate of options that will eventually vest, with a corresponding increase in equity (share options reserve).

At the end of each reporting period, the Group revises its estimates of the number of options or shares expected to vest based on the assessment of all relevant non-market vesting conditions. The impact of the revision of the original estimates during the vesting period, if any, is recognised in profit or loss such that the cumulative expense reflects the revised estimate, with a corresponding adjustment to share options reserve. For share options that vest immediately at the date of grant, the fair value of the share options granted is expensed immediately to profit or loss.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

# Share-based payment arrangements (Continued) Equity-settled share-based payment transactions (Continued)

Share options granted to employees (Continued)

When share options are exercised, the amount previously recognised in share option reserve will be transferred to share premium. When the share options are forfeited after the vesting date or are still not exercised at the expiry date, the amount previously recognised in share options reserve will be transferred to retained earnings/ accumulated losses.

#### **Taxation**

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

The tax currently payable is based on the taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit (loss) differs from profit (loss) before taxation as reported in the consolidated statement of profit or loss because of items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and items that are never taxable nor deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period.

Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the consolidated financial statements and the corresponding tax base used in the computation of taxable profit. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are generally recognised for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such deferred tax assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries and associates, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences associated with such investments and interests are only recognised to the extent that it is probable that there will be sufficient taxable profits against which to utilise the benefits of the temporary differences and they are expected to reverse in the foreseeable future.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year in which the liability is settled or the asset is realised, based on tax rate (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

The measurement of deferred tax liabilities and assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the Group expects, at the end of the reporting period, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Taxation (Continued)

For the purposes of measuring deferred tax for leasing transactions in which the Group recognises the right-ofuse assets and the related lease liabilities, the Group first determines whether the tax deductions are attributable to the right-of-use assets or the lease liabilities.

Current and deferred tax is recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when they relate to income taxes levied to the same taxable entity by the same taxation authority.

### Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment including mineral properties held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes (other than construction in progress as described below), are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any.

Other than mining structures and mineral properties, depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment less their residual values over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from the continued use of the asset. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

#### Mining structures

Mining structures included deferred stripping costs and mining related property, plant and equipment. In open pit mining operations, the removal of overburden and waste materials, referred to as stripping, is required to obtain access to the ore body. Stripping costs incurred during the development phase of a mine are capitalised and form part of the cost of constructing the mining structure. Stripping costs incurred during the production phase of a surface mine are variable production costs that are included in the costs of inventory produced during the period that the stripping costs are incurred, unless the stripping activity can be shown to give rise to probably future economic benefits from the mineral structure by improving the access to the ore body, the component of the ore body for which assess has been improved is identifiable and the costs associated with that component can be reliably measured, in which case the stripping costs would be capitalised as stripping activity assets included in property, plant and equipment – mining structures.

Mining structures are depreciated using the unit-of-production method utilising only proven and probable coal reserves in the depletion base, or based on the useful lives of respective items of property, plant and equipment, whichever is appropriate.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Mineral properties

Mineral properties incorporate both the mining rights (intangible) and the underlying mineral reserve (tangible) elements. Mineral properties are classified as property, plant and equipment to the extent the tangible reserve is the more significant element. Mineral properties comprise costs of acquisition of mining rights and capitalised exploration costs which are capitalised initially under exploration and evaluation assets and transferred to property, plant and equipment as mineral properties when the technical feasibility and commercial viability of extracting mineral resources become demonstrable.

On the commencement of commercial production, depreciation of mineral properties will be provided using the unit-of-production method utilising only proven and probable coal reserves in the depletion basis.

### Construction in progress

Construction in progress includes property, plant and equipment in the course of construction for the purposes of production or its own use. Construction in progress is carried at cost less any recognised impairment loss. Costs include any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management and, for qualifying assets, borrowing costs capitalised in accordance with the Group's accounting policy. Construction in progress is classified to the appropriate category of property, plant and equipment when completed and ready for intended use. Depreciation of these assets, on the same basis as other property assets, commences when the assets are ready for their intended use.

# Ownership interests in leasehold land and building

When the Group makes payments for ownership interests of properties which include both leasehold land and building elements, the entire consideration is allocated between the leasehold land and the building elements in proportion to the relative fair values at initial recognition.

### Intangible assets

### Intangible assets acquired separately

Software acquired separately and with finite useful lives is carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Amortisation is recognised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful life and amortisation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate being accounted for on a prospective basis.

Intangible assets (exclusive right-of-use of paved road) are measured on initial recognition at cost. Following the initial recognition, intangible assets are stated at cost less amortisation (where the estimated useful life is finite) and impairment losses.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

# Intangible assets (Continued)

### Intangible assets (exclusive right-of-use of paved road)

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually either individually or at the cash-generating unit level. Such intangible assets are not amortised. The useful life of an intangible asset with an indefinite life is reviewed annually to determine whether the indefinite life assessment continues to be supportable. If not, the change in the useful life assessment from indefinite to finite is accounted for on a prospective basis.

The exclusive right-of-use of paved road is amortised on a straight-line basis over its licence period.

Gains or losses arising from derecognition of an intangible asset are measured at the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss when the asset is derecognised.

#### **Exploration and evaluation assets**

Exploration and evaluation assets are recognised at cost on initial recognition. Subsequent to initial recognition, exploration and evaluation assets are stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Exploration and evaluation assets include the cost of mining and exploration rights and the expenditures incurred in the search for mineral resources as well as the determination of the technical feasibility and commercial viability of extracting those resources. When the technical feasibility and commercial viability of extracting mineral resources become demonstrable, previously recognised exploration and evaluation assets are reclassified as mining structures and mineral properties under property, plant and equipment. These assets are assessed for impairment annually and before reclassification.

# Impairment of tangible and intangible assets (excluding exploration and evaluation assets)

At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets with finite useful lives to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the relevant asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any. The recoverable amounts of its tangible and intangible assets with finite useful lives are estimated individually. When it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an asset individually, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. In testing a cash-generating unit for impairment, corporate assets are allocated to the relevant cash-generating unit when a reasonable and consistent basis of allocation can be established, or otherwise they are allocated to the smallest group of cash-generating units for which a reasonable and consistent allocation basis can be established. The recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit or group of cash-generating units to which the corporate asset belongs, and is compared with the carrying amount of the relevant cash-generating unit or group of cash-generating units.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present values using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset or a cash-generating unit for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Impairment of tangible and intangible assets (excluding exploration and evaluation assets) (Continued)

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or a cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (or a cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. For corporate assets or portion of corporate assets which cannot be allocated on a reasonable and consistent basis to a cashgenerating unit, the Group compares the carrying amount of a group of cash-generating units, including the carrying amounts of the corporate assets or portion of corporate assets allocated to that group of cashgenerating units, with the recoverable amount of the group of cash-generating units. In allocating the impairment loss, the impairment loss is allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill (if applicable) and then to the other assets on a pro-rata basis based on the carrying amount of each asset in the unit or the group of cash-generating units. The carrying amount of an asset is not reduced below the highest of its fair value less costs of disposal (if measurable), its value in use (if determinable) and zero. The amount of the impairment loss that would otherwise have been allocated to the asset is allocated pro rata to the other assets of the unit or the group of cash-generating units. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (or a cash-generating unit or a group of cash-generating units) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (or a cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

#### **Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cost is calculated using the weighted average cost formula and comprises all costs of production and purchase, an appropriate portion of fixed and variable overhead costs, including the stripping costs incurred during the production phase, and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition.

Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price for inventories less all estimated costs of completion and the costs necessary to make the sale.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the consolidated statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, and short-term highly liquid deposits with a maturity of generally within three months that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash, less bank overdrafts which are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management.

For the purpose of the consolidated statement of financial position, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and at banks and short-term deposits as defined above, subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Group will be required to settle that obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. When a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows (where the effect of the time value of money is material).

#### Provisions for rehabilitation

Mine rehabilitation costs will be incurred by the Group either while operating, or at the end of the operating life of, the Group's facilities and mine properties. The Group assesses its mine rehabilitation provision at each reporting date. The Group recognises a rehabilitation provision where it has a legal and constructive obligation as a result of past events, and it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate of the amount of obligation can be made. The nature of these restoration activities includes: dismantling and removing structures; rehabilitating mines and tailings dams; dismantling operating facilities; closing plant and waste sites; and restoring, reclaiming and revegetating affected areas.

The obligation generally arises when the asset is installed or the environment is disturbed at the mining operation's location. When the liability is initially recognised, the present value of the estimated costs is capitalised by increasing the carrying amount of the related mining assets to the extent that it was incurred as a result of the development/construction of the mine. Any rehabilitation obligations that arise through the production of inventory are recognised as part of the related inventory item. Additional disturbances that arise due to further development/construction at the mine are recognised as additions or charges to the corresponding assets and rehabilitation liability when they occur. Costs related to the restoration of site damage (subsequent to the start of commercial production) that is created on an ongoing basis during production are provided for at their net present values and recognised in profit or loss as extraction progresses.

Changes in the estimated timing of rehabilitation or changes to the estimated future costs are dealt with prospectively by recognising an adjustment to the rehabilitation liability and a corresponding adjustment to the asset to which it relates, if the initial estimate was originally recognised as part of an asset measured in accordance with HKAS 16 "Property, Plant and Equipment".

Any reduction in the rehabilitation liability and, therefore, any deduction from the asset to which it relates, may not exceed the carrying amount of that asset. If it does, any excess over the carrying value is taken immediately to the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

If the change in estimate results in an increase in the rehabilitation liability and, therefore, an addition to the carrying value of the asset, the Group considers whether this is an indication of impairment of the asset as a whole, and if so, tests for impairment. If the estimate for the revised mine assets net of rehabilitation provisions exceeds the recoverable value, that portion of the increase is charged directly to the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when a group entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All regular way purchases or sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised on a trade date basis. Regular way purchases or sales are purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within the time frame established by regulation or convention in the market place.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value except for trade receivables arising from contracts with customers which are initially measured in accordance with HKFRS 15 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers". Transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of financial assets and financial liabilities (other than financial assets or financial liabilities at FVTPL) are added to or deducted from the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities, as appropriate, on initial recognition. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets or financial liabilities at FVTPL are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or financial liability and of allocating interest income and interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts and payments (including all fees and points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life of the financial asset or financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

Interest income which is derived from the Group's ordinary course of business is presented as revenue.

#### Financial assets

#### Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets

Financial assets are classified, at initial recognition, and subsequently measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income, or fair value through profit or loss.

The classification of financial assets at initial recognition depends on the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics and the Group's business model for managing them. With the exception of trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component or for which the Group has applied the practical expedient of not adjusting the effect of a significant financing component, the Group initially measures a financial asset at its fair value plus in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs.

In order for a financial asset to be classified and measured at amortised cost or FVTOCI, it needs to give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest ("SPPI") on the principal amount outstanding. Financial assets with cash flows that are not SPPI are classified and measured at fair value through profit or loss, irrespective of the business model.

The Group's business model for managing financial assets refers to how it manages its financial assets in order to generate cash flows. The business model determines whether cash flows will result from collecting contractual cash flows, selling the financial assets, or both. Financial assets classified and measured at amortised cost are held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, while financial assets classified and measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are held within a business model with the objective of both holding to collect contractual cash flows and selling. Financial assets which are not held within the aforementioned business models are classified and measured at fair value through profit or loss.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments (Continued)

#### Financial assets (Continued)

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (Continued)

A financial asset is held for trading if:

- it has been acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near term; or
- on initial recognition it is a part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that the Group manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking; or
- it is a derivative that is not designated and effective as a hedging instrument.

#### (i) Amortised cost and interest income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method for financial assets measured subsequently at amortised cost. Interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of a financial asset, except for financial assets that have subsequently become credit-impaired (see below). For financial assets that have subsequently become credit-impaired, interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate to the amortised cost of the financial asset from the next reporting period. If the credit risk on the credit-impaired financial instrument improves so that the financial asset is no longer credit-impaired, interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of the financial asset from the beginning of the reporting period following the determination that the asset is no longer credit-impaired.

#### (ii) Financial assets at FVTOCI

For debt investments at fair value through other comprehensive income, interest income, foreign exchange revaluation and impairment losses or reversals are recognised in profit or loss and computed in the same manner as for financial assets measured at amortised cost. The remaining fair value changes are recognised in other comprehensive income. Upon derecognition, the cumulative fair value change recognised in other comprehensive income is recycled to profit or loss.

#### (iii) Financial assets at FVTPL

Financial assets that do not meet the criteria for being measured at amortised cost or designated as FVTOCI are measured at FVTPL.

Financial assets at FVTPL are measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period, with any fair value gains or losses recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss excludes any dividend or interest earned from the financial asset and is included in the "other gains and losses" line item.

The Group recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses ("**ECL**") on financial assets which are subject to impairment under HKFRS 9 (including trade and bills receivables, other receivables and deposits, amount due from an associate and cash and cash equivalents) which are subject to impairment assessment under HKFRS 9. The amount of ECL is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition.

Lifetime ECL represents the ECL that will result from all possible default events over the expected life of the relevant instrument. In contrast, 12-month ECL ("12m ECL") represents the portion of lifetime ECL that is expected to result from default events that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date. Assessment is done based on the Group's historical credit loss experience, adjusted for factors that are specific to the debtors, general economic conditions and an assessment of both the current conditions at the reporting date as well as the forecast of future conditions.

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments (Continued)

### Financial assets (Continued)

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (Continued)

The Group always recognises lifetime ECL for trade receivables and accrued income. The ECL on these assets are assessed individually.

For all other instruments, the Group measures the loss allowance equal to 12m ECL, unless when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the Group recognises lifetime ECL. The assessment of whether lifetime ECL should be recognised is based on significant increases in the likelihood or risk of a default occurring since initial recognition.

#### (i) Significant increase in credit risk

In assessing whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the reporting date with the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the date of initial recognition. In making this assessment, the Group considers both quantitative and qualitative information that is reasonable and supportable, including historical experience and forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort.

In particular, the following information is taken into account when assessing whether credit risk has increased significantly:

- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the financial instrument's external (if available) or internal credit rating;
- significant deterioration in external market indicators of credit risk, e.g. a significant increase in the credit spread, the credit default swap prices for the debtor;
- existing or forecast adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations;
- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the operating results of the debtor; and
- an actual or expected significant adverse change in the regulatory, economic, or technological
  environment of the debtor that results in a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its
  debt obligations.

Irrespective of the outcome of the above assessment, the Group presumes that the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition when contractual payments are more than 30 days past due, unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information that demonstrates otherwise.

The Group regularly monitors the effectiveness of the criteria used to identify whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk and revises them as appropriate to ensure that the criteria are capable of identifying significant increase in credit risk before the amount becomes past due.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments (Continued)

### Financial assets (Continued)

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (Continued)

#### (ii) Definition of default

For internal credit risk management, the Group considers an event of default occurs when information developed internally or obtained from external sources indicates that the debtor is unlikely to pay its creditors, including the Group, in full (without taking into account any collaterals held by the Group).

Irrespective of the above, the Group considers that an event of default has occurred when a financial asset is more than 90 days past due unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information to demonstrate that a more lagging default criterion is more appropriate.

#### (iii) Credit-impaired financial assets

A financial asset is credit-impaired when one or more events of default that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of that financial asset have occurred. Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes observable data about the following events:

- (a) significant financial difficulty of the issuer or the borrower;
- (b) a breach of contract, such as a default or past due event;
- (c) the lender(s) of the borrower, for economic or contractual reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, having granted to the borrower a concession(s) that the lender(s) would not otherwise consider;
- it is becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation;
   or
- (e) the disappearance of an active market for that financial asset because of financial difficulties.

#### (iv) Write-off policy

The Group writes off a financial asset when there is information indicating that the counterparty is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, for example, when the counterparty has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or in the case of trade receivables, when the amounts are over two years past due, whichever occurs sooner. Financial assets written off may still be subject to enforcement activities under the Group's recovery procedures, taking into account legal advice where appropriate. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event. Any subsequent recoveries are recognised in profit or loss.

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments (Continued)

### Financial assets (Continued)

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (Continued)

Measurement and recognition of ECL

The measurement of ECL is a function of the probability of default, loss given default (i.e. the magnitude of the loss if there is a default) and the exposure at default. The assessment of the probability of default and loss given default is based on number of days that an individual receivable is outstanding, the counterparty's credit rating and its related default rate, as well as the Group's historical data adjusted by forward-looking information. Estimation of ECL reflects an unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined with the respective risks of default occurring as the weights.

Generally, the ECL is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Group in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at the effective interest rate determined at initial recognition.

Interest income is calculated based on the gross carrying amount of the financial asset unless the financial asset is credit impaired, in which case interest income is calculated based on amortised cost of the financial asset.

Except for bills receivables that are measured at FVTOCI, the Group recognises an impairment gain or loss in profit or loss for all financial instruments with a corresponding adjustment to their carrying amount through a loss allowance account. For bills receivables measured at FVTOCI, the loss allowance is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the fair value reserve without reducing the carrying amount of the bills receivables.

# Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is primarily derecognised (i.e., removed from the Group's consolidated statement of financial position) when:

- the rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired; or
- the Group has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a "pass-through" arrangement; and either (a) the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or (b) the Group has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred the control of the asset.

When the Group has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, it evaluates if, and to what extent, it has retained the risk and rewards of ownership of the asset. When it has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset nor transferred the control of the asset, the Group continues to recognise the transferred asset to the extent of the Group's continuing involvement. In that case, the Group also recognises an associated liability. The transferred asset and the associated liability are measured on a basis that reflects the rights and obligations that the Group has retained.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments (Continued)

### Derecognition of financial assets (Continued)

Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the Group could be required to repay.

### Financial liabilities and equity instruments

#### Classification as debt or equity

Debt and equity instruments issued by a group entity are classified as either financial liabilities or as equity in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangements and the definitions of a financial liability and an equity instrument.

#### Equity instruments

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Group after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments issued by the Company are recognised at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs.

#### Convertible notes

A conversion option that will be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of the Group's own equity instruments is a conversion option derivative.

At the date of issue, both the debt component and derivative components are recognised at fair value. In subsequent periods, the debt component of the convertible loan notes is carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The derivative component is measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss.

Transaction costs that relate to the issue of the convertible loan notes are allocated to the debt and derivative components in proportion to their relative fair values. Transaction costs relating to the derivative component are charged to profit or loss immediately. Transaction costs relating to the debt component are included in the carrying amount of the debt portion and amortised over the period of the convertible loan notes using the effective interest method.

#### Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities (including trade payables, other payables, advances from a Director, debt component of the convertible notes and loan note) are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method.

#### Derivative financial instruments

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date when a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at the end of the reporting period. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

#### Embedded derivatives

Derivatives embedded in non-derivative host contracts that are not a financial asset within the scope of HKFRS 9 are treated as separate derivatives when they meet the definition of a derivative, their risks and characteristics are not closely related to those of the host contracts and the host contracts are not measured at FVTPL.

### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Financial instruments (Continued)

### Derecognition and substantial modification of financial liabilities

The Group derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or expire. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable is recognised in profit or loss, unless it represents a capital contribution from or dividend to a shareholder.

An exchange between the Group and lender of debt instruments with substantially different terms is accounted for as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new financial liability. The terms are substantially different if the discounted present value of the cash flows under the new terms, including any fees paid net of any fees received and discounted using the original effective interest rate, is at least 10% different from the discounted present value of the remaining cash flows of the original financial liability. Similarly, a substantial modification of the terms of an existing financial liability or a part of it (whether or not attributable to the financial difficulty of the Group) is accounted for as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new financial liability. The differences between the carrying amount of a financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of the consideration paid and payable, including non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, are recognised in profit or loss, unless it represents a capital contribution from or dividend to a shareholder.

If an exchange of debt instruments or modification of terms is accounted for as an extinguishment, any costs or fees incurred are recognised as part of the gain or loss on the extinguishment.

#### Non-substantial modifications of financial liabilities

For non-substantial modifications of financial liabilities that do not result in derecognition, the carrying amount of the relevant financial liabilities will be calculated at the present value of the modified contractual cash flows discounted at the financial liabilities' original effective interest rate. Transaction costs or fees incurred are adjusted to the carrying amount of the modified financial liabilities and are amortised over the remaining term. Any adjustment to the carrying amount of the financial liability is recognised in profit or loss at the date of modification.

#### **Related parties**

A party is considered to be related to the Group if:

- (a) the party is a person or a close member of that person's family and that person
  - (i) has control or joint control over the Group;
  - (ii) has significant influence over the Group; or
  - (iii) is a member of the key management personnel of the Group or of a parent of the Group;

or

For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Related parties (Continued)

- (b) the party is an entity where any of the following conditions applies:
  - (i) the entity and the Group are members of the same group;
  - (ii) one entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity (or of a parent, subsidiary or fellow subsidiary of the other entity);
  - (iii) the entity and the Group are joint ventures of the same third party;
  - (iv) one entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity;
  - (v) the entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the Group or an entity related to the Group;
  - (vi) the entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified in (a);
  - (vii) a person identified in (a)(i) has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity); and
  - (viii) the entity, or any member of a group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the Group or to the parent of the Group.

#### 5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The following are key assumptions concerning the future, and key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period that could require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year:

#### Reserve estimates

Reserves are estimates of the amount of product that can be economically and legally extracted from the Group's properties. In order to calculate reserves, estimates and assumptions about a range of geological, technical and economic factors, including quantities, grades, production techniques, recovery rates, production costs, transport costs, commodity demand and commodity prices are required.

Estimating the quantity and/or grade of reserves requires the size, shape and depth of ore bodies or fields to be determined by analysing geological data such as drilling samples. This process may require complex and difficult geological judgements and calculations to interpret the data.

### 5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY (Continued)

#### Reserve estimates (Continued)

As the economic assumptions used to estimate reserves change from period to period, and additional geological data is generated during the course of operations, estimates of reserves may change from period to period. Changes in estimated reserves may affect the Group's financial results and financial position in a number of ways, including the following:

- carrying values of the Khushuut Related Assets may be affected due to changes in estimated future cash
  flows, which may result in a further impairment loss or a reversal of previously recognised impairment loss
  on these assets; and
- depreciation, depletion and amortisation charged in the consolidated statement of profit or loss may change where such charges are determined on the unit-of-production basis, or where the useful economic lives of assets change.

#### Fair value of derivative financial instruments

As at 31 March 2024, the fair value of derivative component of the convertible notes of HK\$172,512,000 (2023: HK\$1,131,838,000) is determined based on unobservable inputs, such as expected volatility of share price, using valuation techniques.

Judgement and estimation are required in establishing the relevant valuation techniques and the relevant inputs thereof. Changes in assumptions relating to these factors could affect the reported fair values of convertible notes. Further disclosures of the convertible notes are set out in Notes 30(a) and 39(b) and (c).

#### Estimated recoverable amount of Khushuut Related Assets

As described in Note 3, the Group engaged an Independent Valuer to determine the recoverable amount of the Khushuut Related Assets. For the purposes of impairment testing, the Khushuut Related Assets are treated as a cash-generating unit and its recoverable amount has been determined based on a value in use calculation, which requires the Group to estimate the future cash flows expected to arise from the cash-generating unit, using discounted cash flow analysis, in order to calculate the present value. Key assumptions used in the calculation include the estimated coking coal price and discount rate. During the year ended 31 March 2024, a reversal of impairment loss of HK\$1,091,264,000 (2023: impairment loss of HK\$1,360,892,000) was recognised against the Khushuut Related Assets as its recoverable amount is higher (2023: lower) than its carrying value. Changes to the assumptions underlying the assessment of the recoverable amount may have a significant effect on the recoverable amount of the Khushuut Related Assets. Where there are favourable or unfavourable changes in facts and circumstances which result in revisions of the estimated future cash flows for the purpose of determining the value in use, a reversal of impairment loss or further impairment loss may arise.

As at 31 March 2024, the carrying value of Khushuut Related Assets is HK\$2,247,960,000 (net of accumulated impairment loss of HK\$13,916,617,000) (2023: carrying value of HK\$1,092,000,000 (net of accumulated impairment loss of HK\$15,007,881,000)).

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY (Continued)

#### **Deferred tax assets**

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the losses can be utilised. Significant management judgement is required to determine the amount of deferred tax assets that can be recognised, based upon the likely timing and level of future taxable profits together with future tax planning strategies. Further details are set out in Note 32.

### Tax uncertainty

The Group operates across a large number of jurisdictions and is subject to review and challenge by local tax authorities on a range of matters. Where the amount of tax payable or recoverable is uncertain, whether due to local tax authority challenge or due to uncertainty regarding the appropriate treatment, judgement is required to assess the probability that the adopted treatment will be accepted. In accordance with HKFRIC 23 "Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments", if it is not probable that the treatment will be accepted, the Group accounts for uncertain tax provisions for all matters worldwide based on the Group's judgement of the most likely amount of the liability or recovery, or, where there is a wide range of possible outcomes, using a probability weighted average approach.

# Impairment of trade and bills receivables, amount due from an associate, other receivables and deposits

The impairment provisions for trade and bills receivables, amount due from an associate, and other receivables and deposits are based on assumptions about expected credit losses. The Group uses judgements in making these assumptions and selecting the inputs to the impairment calculation, based on the number of days of which an individual receivable is outstanding, the counterparty's credit rating and its related default rate, as well as the Group's historical experience and forward-looking information at the end of each reporting period. Changes in these assumptions and estimates could materially affect the results of the assessment and it may be necessary to make an additional impairment charge to profit or loss. Further details are given in Notes 19, 20, 22 and 39(b) to the consolidated financial statements.

#### Write-down of inventories to net realisable value

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Any provision for obsolescence is determined by reference to specific items of stock. A regular review is undertaken to determine the extent of any provision for obsolescence. Net realisable value tests are performed at each reporting date and represent the estimated future sales price of the product the Group expects to realise when the product is processed and sold, less estimated costs to complete production and bring the product to sale. The assessment of net realisable value of inventories was based on current market situation and conditions of the items. As at 31 March 2024, the carrying amount of inventories was HK\$402.7 million (net of allowances of none for current year) (2023: carrying amount of HK\$303.4 million (net of allowances of HK\$22.3 million)). Allowances on inventories of HK\$Nil million (2023: HK\$22.3 million) were charged in consolidated statement of profit or loss during the year ended 31 March 2024. Further disclosure is set out in Note 21.

### 5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY (Continued)

### Value-Added Tax ("VAT") receivables

As at 31 March 2024, the Group had VAT receivables amounting to HK\$280.0 million (2023: HK\$197.3 million) from the Mongolian Tax Authority ("MTA") arising from its operations in Mongolia that were accumulated since 2017. According to the prevailing tax rules and regulations in Mongolia, a taxpayer may offset future taxes and royalties payable to the MTA against VAT receivables and it is subject to the approval of MTA and the Ministry of Finance. Significant management judgement and estimation uncertainty associated with the timing of approval are applied in offsetting these VAT receivables against its other taxes payables due to the MTA. Further disclosure is set out in Note 22.

#### Provision for rehabilitation

The ultimate rehabilitation costs are uncertain, and cost estimates can vary due to many factors, including estimates of the extent and costs of rehabilitation activities, technological changes, regulatory changes, cost increases as compared to the changes in discount rates. These uncertainties may result in future actual expenditure differing from the amounts currently provided. Therefore, significant estimates and assumptions are made in determining the provision for mine rehabilitation. As a result, there could be significant adjustments to the provision established which would affect the future financial result. The provision at reporting date represents management's best estimate of the present value of the future rehabilitation costs required. Further disclosure is set out in Note 33.

#### 6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group is principally engaged in mining, processing and sale of coal. Revenue arises from the sale of coal to external customers located in the PRC and Mongolia, and is recognised at a point in time when coal is delivered to and accepted by the customers. Revenue from coal washing service provided to external customers located in the PRC is recognised over time when the obligation of coal washing service is completed.

The Group's operating activities focus on the coal mining business. Information is reported to the chief operating decision maker (i.e. the Executive Directors) for the purposes of resource allocation and performance assessment. This is also the basis of organisation whereby management has chosen to organise the Group.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

### Segment revenue and results

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue and results by operating segment:

### For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Coal mining HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Segment revenue (Note (a))	3,173,215	3,173,215
Segment profit	2,018,216	2,018,216
Unallocated expenses (Note (b))		(96,835)
Other income		6,197
Other gains and losses		(20,491)
Changes in fair value on derivative component of convertible notes		959,326
Finance costs		(652,374)
Profit before taxation		2,214,039
Timing of revenue recognition		
Goods transferred at a point in time		3,173,215
Services transferred over time		
		3,173,215

#### 6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

### Segment revenue and results (Continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Coal mining HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Segment revenue (Note (a))	2,905,309	2,905,309
Segment loss	(358,250)	(358,250)
Unallocated expenses (Note (b))		(114,186)
Other income		864
Other gains and losses		2,386
Changes in fair value on derivative component of convertible notes		(303,323)
Impairment loss on financial asset		(9)
Finance costs		(596,941)
Loss before taxation		(1,369,459)
Timing of revenue recognition		
Goods transferred at a point in time		2,901,087
Services transferred over time		4,222
		2,905,309

#### Notes:

- As at 31 March 2024, all outstanding contracts for the sale of coal have an original expected duration of less than one (a) year. As permitted under HKFRS 15, the transaction price allocated to the unsatisfied contracts is not disclosed.
  - For contract liabilities of HK\$9,627,000 as at 31 March 2024 (31 March 2023: HK\$67,967,000), as the period between payment and transfer of the associated goods or services is less than one year, the Group applies the practical expedient of not adjusting the transaction price for any significant financing component. Contract liabilities of HK\$67,967,000 as at 31 March 2023 has been recognised as revenue in the current reporting period as the performance obligation of transferring the associated goods or services was met during the year.
- (b) Unallocated expenses mainly include staff costs for corporate office, office rental and legal and professional fees for both years.

The accounting policies of the operating segment are the same as the Group's accounting policies described in Note 4. Segment profit (loss) represents the profit (loss) from the coal mining operation without allocation of expenses not directly related to the operating segment such as unallocated other income, certain finance costs, certain other gains and losses, changes in fair value of derivative component of convertible notes and impairment loss on financial asset. This is the measure reported to the chief operation decision maker for the purposes of resource allocation and performance assessment.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

#### Segment assets and liabilities

The following is an analysis of the Group's assets and liabilities by operating segment:

#### As at 31 March 2024

	HK\$'000
ASSETS	
Segment assets – coal mining	4,120,617
Financial asset at FVTPL	30,874
Cash and cash equivalents	14,469
Other unallocated assets (Note (a))	49,401
Consolidated total assets	4,215,361
LIABILITIES	
Segment liabilities – coal mining	1,633,116
Convertible notes	3,664,199
Loan note	580,545
Advances from a Director	1,006,689
Other unallocated liabilities (Note (b))	16,065
Consolidated total liabilities	6,900,614

#### As at 31 March 2023

	HK\$'000
ASSETS	
Segment assets – coal mining	2,710,055
Financial asset at FVTPL	51,598
Cash and cash equivalents	9,401
Other unallocated assets (Note (a))	29,773
Consolidated total assets	2,800,827
LIABILITIES	
Segment liabilities – coal mining	1,163,357
Convertible notes	4,186,443
Loan note	474,140
Advances from a Director	1,302,017
Other unallocated liabilities (Note (b))	11,716
Consolidated total liabilities	7,137,673

#### Notes:

- (a) Other unallocated assets mainly represent property, plant and equipment, right-of-use assets, intangible assets, other receivables, prepayments and deposits not related to the coal mining business.
- (b) Other unallocated liabilities mainly represent other payables and accruals and lease liabilities not related to the coal mining business.

#### **REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)** 6.

# Other segment information

# For the year ended 31 March

Amounts included in the measure of segment profit (loss) or segment assets:

#### Coal mining

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Capital additions	117,818	231,148
Amortisation of intangible assets	3,655	10,540
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	2,343	2,492
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	46,759	64,579
Interest income	(876)	(932)
(Reversal of impairment losses) impairment loss on property,		
plant and equipment	(965,061)	1,231,455
(Reversal of impairment losses) impairment loss on right-of-use assets	(1,081)	1,212
(Reversal of impairment losses) impairment loss on intangible assets	(125,122)	128,225
Write down of inventories to net realisable value	-	22,283

# **Geographical information**

The Group's operations are principally located in Hong Kong, Mongolia and the PRC.

Information about the Group's revenue from external customers is presented based on the locations of customers:

	Revenue	
	2024 2023 HK\$'000 HK\$'000	
Mongolia The PRC	1,989 3,171,226	3,213 2,902,096
	3,173,215	2,905,309

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

### Geographical information (Continued)

Information about its non-current assets is presented based on the geographical locations of the assets:

	Non-current assets	
	2024 2023 HK\$'000 HK\$'000	
Hong Kong	13,419	6,951
Mongolia	2,195,905	1,045,481
The PRC	71,373	69,236
	2,280,697	1,121,668

Note:

Non-current assets exclude deferred tax assets.

### Information about major customers

Revenue from customers making up of over 10% of the total turnover of the Group is as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Customer A Customer B	1,752,239 N/A	1,556,392 326,428

### 7. OTHER INCOME

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Interest income	895	955
Government grants (Note 31)	5,932	4,083
Dividend income	6,178	-
Sundry income	6,581	11,480
	19,586	16,518

#### 8. **OTHER GAINS AND LOSSES**

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Changes in fair value on financial asset at FVTPL	(20,724)	846
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	301	191
Loss on write off of property, plant and equipment	(227)	-
Net exchange (loss) gain	(30,094)	30,404
	(50,744)	31,441

#### 9. **FINANCE COSTS**

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Interest on advances from a Director (Note 29)	108,472	128,618
Interest on lease liabilities (Note 29)	853	357
Interest on bank borrowing (Note 29)	-	1,076
Effective interest expense on convertible notes (Note 29 and 30(a))	437,082	381,438
Effective interest expense on loan note (Note 29 and 30(b))	106,405	86,689
Effective interest expense on provision for rehabilitation (Note 33)	3,049	1,028
	655,861	599,206

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 10. PROFIT (LOSS) BEFORE TAXATION

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Profit (loss) before taxation has been arrived at after charging (crediting):		
Directors' emoluments (Note 12(a))	56,537	68,254
Other staff costs:		
Salaries and other benefits (net of reimbursement		
from a related party (Note 37(d))	128,638	129,955
Retirement benefits scheme contributions (excluding contributions		
for Directors and net of reimbursement from a related party	44.450	42.500
(Note 37(d))	14,650	12,609
Total staff costs	199,825	210,818
Less: staff costs capitalised in inventories	(66,992)	(66,190)
	132,833	144,628
Impairment losses on:		
Trade and bills receivables	6,480	1,241
Amount due from an associate	-	9
	6,480	1,250
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 15)	48,308	65,275
Depreciation of right-of-use assets (Note 16)	5,896	6,344
Amortisation of intangible assets (Note 17)	3,655	10,540
Auditor's remuneration		
– provided for the year	5,000	5,000
– under provision in prior year	-	1,300
Write down of inventories to net realisable value	-	22,283

#### 11. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Current tax:		
Withholding tax	618	-
PRC Enterprise Income Tax ("EIT") (Note (a))	233,527	50,985
Mongolian corporate income tax (Note (b))	262,073	170,745
Deferred taxation (Note 32)	39,900	11,910
	536,118	233,640

No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been made in the financial statements as the Group has no assessable profits for both years.

Under the Law of the PRC on Enterprise Income Tax (the "**EIT Law**") and Implementation Regulation of the EIT Law, the tax rate of the PRC subsidiaries is 25% on the estimated assessable profits (if any) for both periods.

Mongolian corporate income tax was calculated at 10% to the first MNT 6 billion of annual taxable income and 25% on the remaining annual taxable income for both years.

The Company is not subject to any taxation in Bermuda. Bermuda levies no tax on the income of the Group.

#### Notes:

(a) In prior years, it was assessed that the principal activity of one of the Group's subsidiary, 新疆蒙科能源科技有限公司 ("新疆蒙科"), satisfied the definition as one of the encouraged industries stated in the "Tax incentives of Western Development Policy" and was entitled to enjoy a preferential income tax rate of 15% until 31 December 2030, which was also aligned with industry practice within the region. During the current year, a notification was received from the local tax authority that the principal activity of 新疆蒙科 does not satisfy the definition and income tax should be provided at 25%. As the detail of the basis of the local tax authority's interpretation is unclear, 新疆蒙科 plans to seek for clarification from the relevant government departments. While 新疆蒙科 is seeking for clarification, as a result of changes in facts and circumstances, management has reassessed its assessment and as a result, income tax has been provided at 25% for 2023 tax year. As such, an additional tax provision of HK\$132.1 million has been provided accordingly.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 11. INCOME TAX EXPENSE (Continued)

Notes: (Continued)

(b) During the year, one of the Group's subsidiary, MoEnCo LLC ("MoEnCo"), received a tax demand letter ("First Tax Demand Letter") from the MTA, arising from the completion of the tax audit covering the fiscal years 2017 to 2020 on 28 July 2023, imposing a total tax demand (including additional taxes and penalties) of approximately HK\$406.4 million (US\$52.1 million) on a number of tax matters, including mainly transfer pricing, treatment of unrealised exchange differences and royalty tax, etc.

MoEnCo filed an appeal notice against the First Tax Demand Letter and a hearing took place on 29 January 2024, of which the Tax Dispute Resolution Committee of Mongolia ("TDRC") ordered for a reinvestigation on a number of tax matters identified in the First Tax Demand Letter.

As a result of the reinvestigation, on 21 May 2024, MoEnCo received a revised tax demand letter ("Revised Tax Demand Letter") from the MTA, imposing a revised total tax demand of approximately HK\$929.8 million, The revision is mainly due to, among others, the MTA assertions of MoEnCo's under-reporting of the sales revenues which is a transfer pricing issue under dispute at the TDRC hearing held on 29 January 2024.

In addition, subsequent to the year end on 6 May 2024, MoEnCo received another demand notice from the MTA for an amount of HK\$403.3 million for additional tax relating to mainly royalty tax for the period from 2022 to 2024.

The Group has engaged with independent external tax consultants and legal advisor in assessing the findings and further disagrees on a number of matters and its calculation included in the Revised Tax Demand Letter and on 14 June 2024, the Group has filed another appeal notice against the Revised Tax Demand Letter. An assessment has been made on the uncertain tax position and an additional tax provision of HK\$273.0 million has been provided accordingly as at 31 March 2024.

The income tax expense for the year can be reconciled to the profit (loss) before taxation per the consolidated statement of profit or loss as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Profit (loss) before taxation	2,214,039	(1,369,459)
Calculated at a tax rate of 25%	553,510	(342,365)
Tax effect on income not subject to tax	(514,193)	(56,270)
Tax effect on expenses not deductible for tax purposes	283,658	626,951
Under (over) provision in prior years	177,624	(1,338)
Effect of different tax rate of subsidiaries	(4,999)	(5,248)
Withholding tax on distributed/undistributed profits of a subsidiary		
and dividend received	25,501	12,730
Recognition of deferred tax assets previously not recognised	15,017	(820)
Income tax expense	536,118	233,640

# 12. DIRECTORS', CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S EMOLUMENTS

### (a) Directors' and chief executive's emoluments

Directors' and chief executive's remuneration for the year, disclosed pursuant to the Listing Rules, section 383(1)(a), (b), (c) and (f) of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and Part 2 of the Companies (Disclosure of Information about Benefits of Directors) Regulation, is as follows:

#### For the year ended 31 March 2024

					Retirement	
			Discretionary	Other	benefit scheme	
Name of Directors	Fees	Salaries	bonus	benefits	contributions	Total
Nume of Bricetors	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	1110,000	11112 000	11114 000	1110	1110	1110,000
Executive Directors						
Lo Lin Shing, Simon	-	6,000	18,800	177	18	24,995
Yvette Ong	-	4,831	16,353	1,132	18	22,334
Lo, Rex Cze Kei	100	648	2,360	30	18	3,156
Lo, Chris Cze Wai	100	648	1,590	74	18	2,430
Non-executive Directors						
To Hin Tsun, Gerald	300	-	-	-	-	300
Tang Chi Kei <i>(Note)</i>	-	19	13	4	-	36
Lo, James Cze Chung (Note)	100	648	1,590	30	18	2,386
Independent Non-executive Directors						
Lau Wai Piu	300	-	-	-	-	300
Tsui Hing Chuen, William	300	-	-	-	_	300
Lee Kee Wai, Frank	300	-	_	-	_	300
	1,500	12,794	40,706	1,447	90	56,537

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 12. DIRECTORS', CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S EMOLUMENTS (Continued)

### (a) Directors' and chief executive's emoluments (Continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Name of Directors	Fees HK\$'000	Salaries HK\$'000	Discretionary bonus HK\$'000	Other benefits HK\$'000	Retirement benefit scheme contributions HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Executive Directors						
Lo Lin Shing, Simon	_	6,000	23,800	283	18	30,101
Yvette Ong	_	4,866	20,618	1,077	18	26,579
Lo, Rex Cze Kei	100	653	3,000	59	18	3,830
Lo, Chris Cze Wai	100	653	2,000	67	18	2,838
Non-executive Directors						
To Hin Tsun, Gerald	300	_	_	-	_	300
Tang Chi Kei <i>(Note)</i>	_	1,809	1,500	339	18	3,666
Lo, James Cze Chung (Note)	12	26	-	1	1	40
Independent Non-executive Directors						
Lau Wai Piu	300	_	_	-	_	300
Tsui Hing Chuen, William	300	_	_	-	_	300
Lee Kee Wai, Frank	300	-	_	-	_	300
	1,412	14,007	50,918	1,826	91	68,254

#### Note:

Tang Chi Kei was appointed as a Non-executive Director on 10 November 2021 and resigned on 4 April 2023.

Lo, James Cze Chung was appointed as a Non-executive Director on 17 March 2023.

Mr. Lo and Yvette Ong are the chief executives of the Group. Their emoluments disclosed above included those services rendered by them as chief executives. They are entitled to bonus payments which are determined based on operating results.

During the years ended 31 March 2024 and 2023, no Director waived any directors' emoluments.

The emoluments of the Executive Directors shown above were for their services in connection with the management of the affairs of the Company and the Group.

The emoluments of the Non-executive Directors and Independent Non-executive Directors shown above were for their services as Directors.

# 12. DIRECTORS', CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S EMOLUMENTS (Continued)

### Five highest paid employees' emoluments

Of the five individuals with the highest emoluments in the Group, two (2023: four) were Directors whose emoluments are included in Note 12(a) above. The emoluments of the remaining three (2023: one) highest paid individuals during the year are as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Basic salaries, other allowances and benefits in kind Discretionary bonus Retirement benefit scheme contributions	6,379 10,367 36	2,946 9,000 18
	16,782	11,964

The emoluments fell within the following bands:

	Number of individuals		
Emolument bands	2024	2023	
HK\$3,000,001 – HK\$3,500,000	2	_	
HK\$10,000,001 – HK\$10,500,000	1	_	
HK\$11,500,001 – HK\$12,000,000	-	1	
	3	1	

#### 13. DIVIDENDS

No dividend was paid or proposed by the Company during the year ended 31 March 2024, nor has any dividend been proposed since the end of the reporting period (2023: Nil).

#### 14. EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic earnings (loss) per share amount is based on the earnings (loss) for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company, and the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

The calculation of the diluted earnings (loss) per share amount is based on the earnings (loss) for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company, adjusted to reflect the changes in fair value on derivative component of convertible notes and interest on convertible notes, where applicable (see below). The weighted average number of ordinary shares used in the calculation is the number of ordinary shares in issue during the year, as used in the basic earnings per share calculation, and the weighted average number of ordinary shares assumed to have been issued at no consideration on the deemed exercise or conversion of all dilutive potential ordinary shares into ordinary shares.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 14. EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE (Continued)

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share is based on the following data:

Earnings (loss) Earnings (loss) attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company, as used in the calculation of basic and diluted	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
earnings (loss) per share	1,677,921	(1,603,099)
	2024 ′000	2023 ′000
Number of shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of basis earnings (loss) per share  Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares (Note):	188,126	188,126
Convertible notes	N/A	N/A
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose		
of diluted earnings (loss) per share	188,126	188,126

#### Note:

The computation of diluted earnings per share for the year ended 31 March 2024 did not assume the exercise of share options since the adjusted exercise price was greater than the average market price of the Company's shares during the outstanding period in 2024.

The computation of diluted loss per share for the year ended 31 March 2023 did not assume the exercise of share options and the conversion of the Company's outstanding convertible notes since assuming the exercise of the share options or the conversion of the convertible notes would result in a decrease in loss per share.

## 15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Mining structures HK\$'000	Mineral properties HK\$'000	Construction in progress HK\$'000	Leasehold improvements HK\$'000	Computer equipment HK\$'000	Furniture, fixtures and office equipment HK\$'000	Plant, machinery and other equipment HK\$'000	Motor vehicles HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
COST At 1 April 2022 Exchange adjustments Additions (Note (a)) Reclassification between categories Disposals Written off	909,752 - 174,961 153 -	12,965,883 9,823 - - -	4,506 (59) 29,107 (384) –	12,268 (135) - - -	10,372 (174) 705 – (10) (67)	10,890 (131) 620 – –	387,331 (17,716) 12,759 231 – (36)	121,511 (1,539) 9,068 - (1,249)	14,422,513 (9,931) 227,220 – (1,259) (103)
At 31 March 2023 Exchange adjustments Additions ( <i>Note (a)</i> ) Reclassification between categories Disposals Written off	1,084,866 - 99,904 694 -	12,975,706 - - - - -	33,170 (1,119) 1,822 (25,740) –	12,133 (87) - - - -	10,826 (118) 1,018 - (42) (1,819)	11,379 (85) 389 - - (1,687)	382,569 (11,899) 10,440 25,046 – (3,211)	127,791 (1,165) 8,873 – (1,715) (2,394)	14,638,440 (14,473) 122,446 - (1,757) (9,111)
At 31 March 2024	1,185,464	12,975,706	8,133	12,046	9,865	9,996	402,945	131,390	14,735,545
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION AND IMPAIRMENT At 1 April 2022 Exchange adjustments Charge for the year Impairment loss recognised in profit or loss Disposals Written off	671,772 - 8,867 220,735 -	11,236,222 (335) 27,316 994,022 -	865 - - - -	12,151 (127) 109 - -	9,398 (143) 451 - (10) (67)	9,522 (83) 742 - -	305,382 (12,132) 21,425 16,698 - (36)	93,409 (1,304) 6,365 – (1,053)	12,338,721 (14,124) 65,275 1,231,455 (1,063) (103)
At 31 March 2023 Exchange adjustments Charge for the year Reversal of impairment loss recognised in profit or loss Disposals Written off	901,374 - 5,059 (67,136) - -	12,257,225 - 11,075 (889,412) - -	865 - - - -	12,133 (87) - - - -	9,629 (102) 755 - (42) (1,641)	10,181 (64) 445 - - (1,860)	331,337 (10,062) 23,185 (8,513) - (2,989)	97,417 (898) 7,789 - (1,161) (2,394)	13,620,161 (11,213) 48,308 (965,061) (1,203) (8,884)
At 31 March 2024	839,297	11,378,888	865	12,046	8,599	8,702	332,958	100,753	12,682,108
CARRYING VALUE At 31 March 2024	346,167	1,596,818	7,268	-	1,266	1,294	69,987	30,637	2,053,437
At 31 March 2023	183,492	718,481	32,305	-	1,197	1,198	51,232	30,374	1,018,279

#### Notes:

- The addition of mining structure of HK\$99,904,000 (2023: HK\$174,961,000) includes rehabilitation provision of HK\$3,719,000 (2023: HK\$2,000,000) during the year, which is non-cash in nature.
- The following estimated useful lives are used for the depreciation of property, plant and equipment: (b)

Leasehold improvements Computer equipment

Furniture, fixtures and office equipment Plant, machinery and other equipment

Motor vehicles Mineral properties

Mining structures

over unexpired lease terms

3 years 5 – 10 years

5 – 10 years 5 – 10 years

based on resources on a unit-of-production basis

based on resources on a unit-of-production basis or straight line

method over 10 years, whichever is appropriate

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

The mineral properties incorporate both the mining rights (intangible) and the underlying mineral reserve (tangible) elements. The Directors consider the tangible reserve is the more significant element and hence the entire mineral properties are classified as property, plant and equipment.

### 16. RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS

	Leasehold land	Leased properties	Leased motor vehicle	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	2,390	7,202	_	9,592
Exchange adjustments	(246)	(160)	(3)	(409)
Additions	_	5,569	1,417	6,986
Charge for the year	(45)	(6,275)	(24)	(6,344)
Impairment loss recognised in profit or loss	(1,212)	_	_	(1,212)
At 31 March 2023	887	6,336	1,390	8,613
Exchange adjustments	(49)	(148)	(69)	(266)
Additions	_	6,591	222	6,813
Charge for the year	(14)	(5,604)	(278)	(5,896)
Written off	_	(30)	_	(30)
Reversal of impairment loss recognised				
in profit or loss	1,081	-	_	1,081
At 31 March 2024	1,905	7,145	1,265	10,315

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Expenses relating to short-term leases	477	387
Total cash outflow for leases	7,158	7,177
Interest expense	853	357

For both years, the Group leases properties for its operations. Lease contracts are entered into for a fixed term of 1 to 5 years. Lease terms are negotiated on an individual basis and contain different terms and conditions. In determining the lease terms and assessing the length of the non-cancellable period, the Group applies the definition of a contract and determines the period for which the contract is enforceable.

Lease liabilities are disclosed in Note 28 to the financial statements.

#### Restrictions or covenants on leases

The lease agreements do not impose any covenants other than the security interests in the leased assets that are held by the lessor. Leased assets may not be used as security for borrowing purposes.

# 17. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Software (Note (a)) HK\$'000	right of use of paved road (Note (b)) HK\$'000	Club membership (Note (c)) HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
COST At 1 April 2022 Exchange adjustments Additions	5,694 (29) 181	1,914,999 - 673	1,150 - -	1,921,843 (29) 854
At 31 March 2023 Exchange adjustments Additions Written off	5,846 (19) 433 (2,688)	1,915,672 - - -	1,150 - - -	1,922,668 (19) 433 (2,688)
At 31 March 2024	3,572	1,915,672	1,150	1,920,394
ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT At 1 April 2022 Exchange adjustment Charge for the year Impairment loss recognised in profit or loss	5,160 (5) 216 –	1,685,661 - 10,324 128,225	- - -	1,690,821 (5) 10,540 128,225
At 31 March 2023 Exchange adjustment Charge for the year Reversal of impairment loss recognised in profit or loss Written off	5,371 (5) 222 – (2,688)	1,824,210 - 3,433 (125,122) -	- - - -	1,829,581 (5) 3,655 (125,122) (2,688)
At 31 March 2024	2,900	1,702,521	_	1,705,421
CARRYING VALUE At 31 March 2024	672	213,151	1,150	214,973
At 31 March 2023	475	91,462	1,150	93,087

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 17. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (Continued)

Notes:

- (a) The software has finite useful life and is amortised on a straight-line basis over 3 to 10 years.
- (b) During the year ended 31 March 2009, an agreement was entered into between the Governor's Administration Office of Khovd Province of Mongolia (the "Governor") and MoEnCo, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, regarding the right-of-use of a road granted by the Governor to MoEnCo subject to certain conditions. Under the terms of the agreement, MoEnCo will construct a road at its own cost from the Group's mine areas in Khushuut, Western Mongolia to the Yarant border crossing with Xinjiang, the PRC, with the construction permit granted to MoEnCo from the Ministry of Road, Transportation and Tourism of the Mongolian government. In return, MoEnCo enjoys the rights, which were granted at the date of the agreement, for the unrestricted use of the road for 30 years (the "Approved Period"). The road will be opened for public use subject to certain weight restrictions whereupon the Group may direct users including commercial users. The Group is also responsible for maintenance of the road during the Approved Period. The Group will use the road mainly for the purpose of transporting coal from its mine areas to its customers in the PRC. During the year ended 31 March 2012, the Group had completed the construction of 311 km of the road and the formal approval from the Mongolian government on the road commissioning was obtained.

The exclusive right-of-use of paved road has a finite useful life of 30 years and is amortised on a straight-line basis over its licence period and included in the cash-generating unit with other Khushuut Related Assets for impairment assessment purpose.

(c) The Group owns a club membership with an indefinite life with carrying amount of HK\$1,150,000 (2023: HK\$1,150,000).

### 18. EXPLORATION AND EVALUATION ASSETS

	Mining and exploration rights (Note (a) & (c)) HK\$'000	Others (Note (b)) HK\$'000	Total
At 1 April 2022	151	1,408	1,559
Additions		130	130
At 31 March 2023	151	1,538	1,689
Additions	-	283	283
At 31 March 2024	151	1,821	1,972

#### Notes:

- (a) Mining and exploration rights include a ternary metal exploration concession of around 10,884 hectares in Western Mongolia acquired during the year ended 31 March 2017.
- (b) Others represent the expenses incurred for the concession as mentioned in Note (a).
- (c) Exploration and mining licences for mining of coal are granted for an initial period of 3 and 30 years respectively. The exploration licences can be extended for three successive periods of 3 years each and mining licences for two successive periods of 20 years each.

### 19. INTEREST IN AN ASSOCIATE/AMOUNT DUE FROM AN ASSOCIATE

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Cost of an associate Unlisted shares, at cost	2,839	2,839
Share of results	(2,839)	(2,839)
	-	-
Amount due from an associate Impairment losses	11,002 (11,002)	11,002 (11,002)
	_	_

Details of the associate at 31 March 2024 and 2023 are as follows:

Name	Place of incorporation	Principal place of operation		Interest held		Principal activity
				2024	2023	
Profit Billion International Private Limited ("Profit Billion")	Singapore	Singapore	10 shares of S\$1.00 each	20%	20%	Investment holding

There is no commitment contracted but not provided for in respect of further capital investment in an associate for both years.

The amount due from an associate for both years include shareholder's loans to MoOiCo LLC, which is wholly owned by Profit Billion and became inactive since the year ended 31 March 2014. That amount is unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 19. INTEREST IN AN ASSOCIATE/AMOUNT DUE FROM AN ASSOCIATE (Continued)

### Aggregate information of an associate that is not individually material

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
(Loss) profit for the year Other comprehensive income for the year	(108)	222
Total comprehensive (expense) income for the year	(108)	222
The Group's share of (loss) profit	-	-
Aggregate carrying amount of the Group's interest in this associate	-	-

The Group has discontinued the recognition of its share of losses of an associate. The amounts of unrecognised share of losses of this associate as at 31 March 2024, extracted from the relevant management accounts of an associate, both for the year and cumulatively, are as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Unrecognised share of (loss) profit of an associate for the year	(22)	44
Cumulative unrecognised share of losses of an associate	4,406	4,384

### 20. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Trade receivables and accrued income (Note) Bills receivables	511,398 526,199	212,891 740,819
Less: allowance for expected credit losses	1,037,597 (442)	953,710 (226)
	1,037,155	953,484

#### Note:

Income was accrued on the basis that coals are delivered to and accepted by the customer. Invoice will be issued within 3 months.

The Group generally allows a credit period of 30 to 60 days to its customers upon the issue of invoices, except for new customers, where payment in advance is normally required.

#### 20. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES (Continued)

The following is an ageing analysis of trade receivables and accrued income and bills receivables net of allowance for credit losses based on the date of revenue recognition:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
1 to 30 days	278,673	336,131
31 to 60 days	137,563	195,295
61 to 90 days	122,205	76,400
Over 90 days	498,714	345,658
	1,037,155	953,484

Details of impairment assessment of trade and bills receivables for the year ended 31 March 2024 and 2023 are set out in Note 39(b).

### Transferred financial assets that are not derecognised in their entirety

At 31 March 2024, the Group endorsed certain bills receivables accepted by banks in the PRC (the "Endorsed Bills") with a carrying amount of HK\$129,998,000 (2023: HK\$57,300,000) to certain of its suppliers in order to settle the trade payables and other payables due to such suppliers (the "Endorsement"). In addition, the Group discounted certain bills receivables accepted by banks in the PRC (the "Discounted Bills") to certain banks to finance its operating cash flows (the "Discount"); the related aggregate carrying amount as at 31 March 2024 amounted to HK\$131,912,000 (2023: HK\$347,754,000).

In the opinion of the Directors, the Group has retained the substantial risks and rewards, which include default risks relating to such Endorsed Bills and Discounted Bills, and accordingly, it continued to recognise the full carrying amounts of the Endorsed Bills and the associated trade payables and other payables settled amounting to HK\$129,998,000 (2023: HK\$57,300,000); and the Discounted Bills and the associated other payables amounting to HK\$131,912,000 (2023: HK\$347,754,000). Subsequent to the Endorsement and Discount, the Group did not retain any rights on the use of the Endorsed Bills and Discounted Bills, including the sale, transfer or pledge to any other third parties.

### Transferred financial assets that are derecognised in their entirety

At 31 March 2024, the Group had Endorsed Bills with an aggregate carrying amount of HK\$111,811,000 (2023: HK\$65,139,000) and Discounted Bills with an aggregate carrying amount of HK\$193,935,000 (2023: HK\$91,757,000) that have been transferred and derecognised (the "Derecognised Bills"). The Derecognised Bills have maturity of six months or less from the end of the reporting period. In accordance with the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC and relevant discounting arrangements with certain banks, the holders of the Derecognised Bills have a right of recourse against the Group if the accepting banks default (the "Continuing Involvement").

In the opinion of the Directors, the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards relating to the Derecognised Bills. Accordingly, it has derecognised the full carrying amounts of the Derecognised Bills. The maximum exposure to loss from the Group's Continuing Involvement in the Derecognised Bills and the undiscounted cash flows to repurchase these Derecognised Bills is equal to their carrying amounts. In the opinion of the Directors of the Company, the fair values of the Group's Continuing Involvement in the Derecognised Bills are not significant.

During the year, the Group has not recognised any gain or loss on the date of transfer of the Derecognised Bills. No gains or losses were recognised from the Continuing Involvement, both during the year or cumulatively.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 21. INVENTORIES

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Coal	379,617	283,090
Materials and supplies (Note)	23,052	20,292
	402,669	303,382

#### Note:

For the year ended 31 March 2024, the Group recognised a write-down of inventories to net realized value of HK\$Nil (2023: HK\$22.3 million).

### 22. OTHER RECEIVABLES, PREPAYMENTS AND DEPOSITS

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Other receivables	42,483	28,250
Prepayments	17,670	19,320
Deposits	2,999	11,343
VAT receivables (Note (b))	280,000	197,328
Others	-	372
	343,152	256,613
Less: allowance for expected credit losses	(1,846)	(1,846)
	341,306	254,767

#### Notes:

- (a) Details of impairment assessment of other receivables and deposits for the year ended 31 March 2024 and 2023 are set out in Note 39(b).
- (b) VAT receivables that are due from the MTA have been accumulated to date since 2017. VAT receivables mainly arise from services paid for its mining related activities conducted by the Group's subsidiary in Mongolia, MoEnCo. These VAT receivables are unable to off-set against sales VAT as export sales of end products of mineral resources are subject to VAT zero tax rate according to the Mongolia VAT law, which represents the majority of the sales of MoEnCo. However, according to the prevailing tax rules and regulations in Mongolia, a taxpayer may offset future taxes and royalties' payable to the MTA against VAT receivables that are subject to approvals from the MTA and the Ministry of Finance.

Included in the balance are VAT receivables amounting to HK\$94.9 million (MNT41.1 billion) that have been confirmed by the MTA, representing its VAT receivables up to 31 December 2020. VAT receivables have indefinite lives once confirmed by the MTA. The Group has submitted a number of requests to the MTA to offset its confirmed VAT receivables with other taxes payable due to the MTA but has been rejected on the basis that any request will be put on hold until the tax inspection including other taxes is concluded. The Group anticipates that the recovery will proceed once the tax dispute with the MTA is settled and would be recovered in full. However, the timing of completion and the actual approval cannot be anticipated. For details of the tax dispute case, please refer to Note 11 to the financial statements.

### 23. FINANCIAL ASSET AT FVTPL

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Equity security of company listed in Hong Kong	30,874	51,598

Fair values are determined with reference to quoted market bid prices.

### 24. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Bank balances and cash	97,826	60,264

There was no short-term deposit placed for both years. Cash at bank earns interest at rates based on daily bank deposit rates.

At the end of the reporting period, the cash and bank balances of the Group denominated in Renminbi ("RMB") amounted to HK\$63,779,000 (2023: HK\$37,379,000). The RMB is not freely convertible into other currencies, however, under PRC's Foreign Exchange Control Regulations and Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange Regulations, the Group is permitted to exchange RMB for other currencies through banks authorised to conduct foreign exchange business

Details of impairment assessment of cash and cash equivalents for the year ended 31 March 2024 and 2023 are set out in Note 39(b).

#### 25. TRADE PAYABLES

The ageing analysis of trade payables presented based on invoice date at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
0 to 30 days	164,312	201,344
31 to 60 days	41,107	5,509
61 to 90 days	30,226	5,222
Over 90 days	101,761	40,515
	337,406	252,590

The trade payables are normally settled on 30-day terms.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 26. OTHER PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Other payables (Note (a))	271,900	395,511
Accrued staff costs	8,240	5,681
Balance payment for Khushuut road (Note (b))	35,958	35,958
Other tax payables (Note (c))	554,481	344,860
	870,579	782,010

#### Notes:

- (a) Included in balance are payables arising from the transferred bills receivables that do not satisfy for derecognition (Note 20)
- (b) The amount represents the retainage of road paving of the Khushuut road.
- (c) Since 1 July 2021, royalty tax on sales of coal in Mongolia has been calculated at a market rate which is published by the Ministry of Finance on a monthly basis. As at 31 March 2024, HK\$546,402,000 (2023: HK\$338,644,000) was recorded as royalty tax payable.

### 27. CONTRACT LIABILITIES

Details of contract liabilities are as follows:

Short-term advances received from customers	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Sale of goods and services	9,627	67,967

Contract liabilities include short-term advances received to deliver clean coal and services. The decrease in contract liabilities in 2024 was mainly due to the decrease in short-term advances received from customers before the completion of performance obligation.

### 28. LEASE LIABILITIES

# Maturity analysis:

	2024	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within one year	5,961	3,056
Within a period more than one year but not more than three years	2,584	4,751
	8,545	7,807
Less: amount due for settlement with 12 months shown		
under current liabilities	(5,961)	(3,056)
	2,584	4,751
	2,304	4,731
	2024	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Lease liabilities:		
Current liabilities	5,961	3,056
Non-current liabilities	2,584	4,751
	8,545	7,807

The weighted average incremental borrowing rates applied to lease liabilities range from 4.25% to 13.2% (2023: 3.98% to 13.20%).

## 29. BORROWINGS

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
At amortised cost		
Advances from a Director – unsecured (Note (a))	1,006,689	1,302,017
Interest-bearing bank borrowing – secured (Note (b))	-	-
Convertible notes – unsecured (Note 30(a))	3,491,687	3,054,605
Loan note – unsecured (Note 30(b))	580,545	474,140
	5,078,921	4,830,762
	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Analysed for reporting purposes as		
Current liabilities	5,078,921	1,302,017
Non-current liabilities	-	3,528,745
	5,078,921	4,830,762

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 29. BORROWINGS (Continued)

### Reconciliation liabilities arising from financing activities

	Advances from a Director HK\$'000 (Note (a))	Interest- bearing bank borrowing HK\$'000 (Note (b))	Convertible notes HK\$'000	Loan note HK\$'000	Lease liabilities HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022 Financing cash flows Interest charge (Note 9) Inception of leases Foreign exchange translation	1,707,679 (534,280) 128,618 –	66,630 (63,481) 1,076 – (4,225)	2,673,167 - 381,438 - -	387,451 - 86,689 - -	7,372 (6,745) 357 6,986 (163)	4,842,299 (604,506) 598,178 6,986 (4,388)
At 31 March 2023 Financing cash flows Interest charge (Note 9) Inception of leases Foreign exchange translation At 31 March 2024	1,302,017 (403,800) 108,472 - - 1,006,689	- - - - -	3,054,605 - 437,082 - - - 3,491,687	474,140 - 106,405 - - 580,545	7,807 (6,681) 853 6,783 (217) 8,545	4,838,569 (410,481) 652,812 6,783 (217) 5,087,466

#### Notes:

#### 30. CONVERTIBLE NOTES AND LOAN NOTE

#### (a) Convertible notes

The movement of the debt and derivative components of convertible notes for the year is set out below:

	Debt component HK\$'000	Derivative component HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	2,673,167	828,515	3,501,682
Interest charge	381,438	-	381,438
Changes in fair value of derivative component	–	303,323	303,323
At 31 March 2023	3,054,605	1,131,838	4,186,443
Interest charge	437,082	-	437,082
Changes in fair value of derivative component	–	(959,326)	(959,326)
At 31 March 2024	3,491,687	172,512	3,664,199

<sup>(</sup>a) The advances are related to the facility granted by Mr. Lo as set out in Note 1. The amounts are unsecured and repayable on demand. Mr. Lo has undertaken not to demand repayment until the Group has sufficient cash to make repayment and the repayment will not affect the Group's liquidity position. The interest expense is charged at the Hong Kong Dollar Prime Rate plus 3% per annum for both years.

<sup>(</sup>b) The secured loan from a Mongolian bank was fully repaid during the year ended 31 March 2023 and the collateral, an equivalent carrying value of coal inventory at Khovd aimag, Darvi Soum, Murun bag, was discharged accordingly in the same year.

### 30. CONVERTIBLE NOTES AND LOAN NOTE (Continued)

### **Convertible notes (Continued)**

### 2020 Convertible Notes with maturity date 6 March 2025

In prior years, the Company issued HK\$2,424,822,000 3% convertible note to CTF (the "3% CTF Convertible Note"), HK\$542,315,000 3% convertible note to Golden Infinity (the "3% GI Convertible Note") and HK\$499,878,000 3% convertible note to another independent third party (the "3% ZV Convertible Note"). These convertible notes matured on 21 November 2019.

#### CTF and Golden Infinity Convertible Notes

On 6 March 2020, the Company issued 3% convertible notes with a principal amount of HK\$2,809,671,052 and HK\$628,387,371 to CTF and Golden Infinity respectively (the "2020 Convertible Notes") to replace the 3% CTF Convertible Note and the 3% GI Convertible Note.

The 2020 Convertible Notes with principal amount of HK\$3,438,058,423 have a maturity period of five years from the issue date to 6 March 2025. They can be converted into 1 ordinary share of the Company of HK\$0.02 each for every HK\$1.2 at the holders' option at any time since the issue date up to the date immediately prior to their maturity date. The outstanding principal amount would be redeemed at par value on the maturity date or at the issuer's option redeemed at par plus outstanding coupon payment at any time between the issue date and the maturity date. Interest of 3% per annum will be paid in arrears on the maturity date.

The 2020 Convertible Notes contain two components, a debt component and a derivative component with a conversion option derivative of the holders and a redemption option derivative of the issuer. The effective interest rate of the debt component is 14.26%. The Company may at any time before the maturity date by written notices to the holders, redeem the principal amount of the 2020 Convertible Notes (in whole or in part) with accrued interest. The conversion option and the redemption option are treated as a simple compound embedded derivative measured at fair value.

Binomial Valuation Model is used for the valuation of the derivative component. The major inputs into the model were as follows:

	6 March 2020	31 March 2023	31 March 2024
Stock price	HK\$0.63	HK\$1.05	HK\$0.65
Exercise price	HK\$1.2	HK\$1.2	HK\$1.2
Volatility (Note (i))	71.98%	77.91%	105.99%
Dividend yield	0%	0%	0%
Option life (Note (ii))	5 years	1.93 years	0.93 years
Risk free rate	0.67%	3.31%	4.10%

#### Notes:

- (i) The volatility used in the model was determined by reference to the historical volatility of the Company's share
- The option life was based on the maturity date of the notes.

The fair value of the derivative component of the 2020 Convertible Notes was determined with reference to a valuation report carried out by the Independent Valuer.

No conversion was made during both years.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 30. CONVERTIBLE NOTES AND LOAN NOTE (Continued)

#### (b) Loan note

The 3% ZV Convertible Note matured on 21 November 2019. On 21 November 2019, Mr. Lo took up the full amount owing to the 3% ZV Convertible Note holder through Ruby Pioneer. Immediately after the aforesaid taking up, the Company and Ruby Pioneer entered into a standstill agreement pursuant to which Ruby Pioneer agreed to extend the note for five years from 21 November 2019 to 21 November 2024 at a coupon rate of 3% per annum ("RP Note"). The loan note contains no conversion or redemption option. Mr. Lo and Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei are directors of Ruby Pioneer.

### 31. DEFERRED INCOME

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
At beginning of the year	3,684	5,698
Granted (Note)	4,410	2,488
Credited to profit or loss	(5,932)	(4,083)
Exchange adjustment	(177)	(419)
At end of the year	1,985	3,684

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Analysed for reporting purposes as		
Current liabilities	1,509	1,591
Non-current liabilities	476	2,093
	1,985	3,684

#### Notes:

During the year ended 31 March 2024, the Group received government grants of HK\$4,410,000 (2023: HK\$2,488,000) and details are as follows:

- (a) The grants of HK\$143,000 (2023: HK\$1,114,000) received represents grants provided by governments in Hong Kong and the PRC to retain employees who may otherwise be made redundant. The grants are unconditional and granted on a discretionary basis to the Group during the year.
- (b) A special fund of HK\$4,267,000 (2023: HK\$1,374,000) was received for foreign trade and economic.

### 32. DEFERRED TAXATION

The following are the major deferred tax assets and liabilities recognised and movements thereon during the current year:

### **Deferred tax liabilities**

	Undistributed profits of a subsidiary HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	19,383
Charged to profit or loss	12,730
Utilised during the year	(11,713)
Exchange adjustments	(1,469)
At 31 March 2023	18,931
Charged to profit or loss	24,883
Utilised during the year	(12,581)
Exchange adjustments	(1,090)
At 31 March 2024	30,143

### **Deferred tax assets**

	Unrealised exchange difference on long-term borrowing HK\$'000	Depreciation and amortisation HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	27,145	12,702	39,847
(Charged) credited to profit or loss	(12,360)	13,180	820
Exchange adjustments	–	(501)	(501)
At 31 March 2023	14,785	25,381	40,166
(Charged) credited to profit or loss	(14,785)	(232)	(15,017)
Exchange adjustments	–	(365)	(365)
At 31 March 2024	-	24,784	24,784

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 32. DEFERRED TAXATION (Continued)

Deferred tax asset is recognised for tax losses carried forward to the extent that the realisation of the related tax benefit through future taxable profits is probable. The Group has tax losses arising in Hong Kong of HK\$46,972,000 (2023: HK\$46,972,000) that are available indefinitely for offsetting against future taxable profits of the companies in which losses arose. No deferred tax assets have been recognised as it is not probable that there will be sufficient future taxable profits to utilise these tax losses.

As at 31 March 2024, deferred tax assets of HK\$116,930,000 and HK\$Nil (2023: HK\$158,175,000 and HK\$342,332,000) have not been recognised in respect of deductible temporary differences of HK\$467,719,000 (2023: HK\$655,809,000) arising from depreciation and amortisation and HK\$Nil (2023: HK\$1,369,327,000) arising from unrealised exchange losses respectively, as it is not probably there will be sufficient future taxable profits to utilise these deductible temporary differences.

According to the "Arrangement between the PRC and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income" and Guoshuifa 2008 No. 112, where the Hong Kong resident company directly owns at least 25% of the capital of the PRC company, 5% dividend withholding tax rate is applicable and is applied in the calculation of deferred tax liabilities arising from the undistributed profits of a PRC subsidiary of the Group.

#### 33. PROVISION FOR REHABILITATION

The Group makes full provision for the future cost of rehabilitating mine sites and related production facilities on a discounted basis at the time of developing the mines and installing and using those facilities. The rehabilitation provision represents the present value of rehabilitation costs relating to mine sites, which are expected to be incurred up to the end of mine life in 2037. These provisions have been created based on the Group's estimates. Assumptions based on the current economic environment have been made and management believes that these assumptions are reasonable bases to be based upon to estimate the future liability. These estimates are reviewed regularly to take into account any material changes to the assumptions because of changes in laws and regulations, public expectations, prices, discovery and analyses of site conditions and changes in technology to restore the mine sites. However, actual rehabilitation costs will ultimately depend upon future market prices for the necessary rehabilitation works required that will reflect market conditions at the relevant time. Furthermore, the timing of rehabilitation is likely to depend on when the mines cease to produce at economically viable rates. This, in turn, will depend upon future coal prices, which are inherently uncertain. The discount rate used in the calculation of the provision as at 31 March 2024 was 13% (31 March 2023: 14%).

# 33. PROVISION FOR REHABILITATION (Continued)

The following table shows the movement in provision for rehabilitation:

	HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	24,221
Additions	2,000
Interest charge (Note 9)	1,028
Foreign exchange translation	123
At 31 March 2023	27,372
Additions	3,719
Interest charge (Note 9)	3,049
Foreign exchange translation	(868)
At 31 March 2024	33,272

# 34. SHARE CAPITAL

SHARE CAPITAL		
	2024	2023
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Authorised:		
15,000,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.02 each	300,000	300,000
	Number of	
	ordinary shares	
	at HK\$0.02 each	Amount
Issued and fully paid:		
At 1 April 2022, 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024	188,125,849	3,763

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### 35. SHARE-BASED PAYMENT

### Equity-settled share option scheme

Under the share option scheme adopted by the Company on 30 August 2012 (the "**Share Option Scheme**"), options were granted to certain Directors, employees and consultants of the Group entitling them to subscribe for shares of the Company. The Company operates the share option scheme for the purpose of providing incentive or reward to eligible participants who contribute to the success of the Group's operations. Options may be exercised at any time from the date of grant of the share options. Share options granted were immediately vested at the date of grant. The Share Option Scheme was expired on 29 August 2022 but the share options already granted are still exercisable pursuant to their term of grant.

The number of shares in respect of which options had been granted and remained outstanding under the Share Option Scheme as at 31 March 2024 was 16,300,000 (2023: 16,300,000), representing 8.7% (2023: 8.7%) of the shares of the Company as at 31 March 2024.

The total number of the Company's shares which may be issued upon the exercise of all options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme and other share option schemes of the Company shall not exceed 10% of the aggregate of the shares of the Company in issue at the date when shares of the Company were first listed on the Stock Exchange.

The overall limit on the number of shares which may be issued upon the exercise of all outstanding options granted and yet to be exercised under the Share Option Scheme of the Company must not exceed 30% of the shares in issue from time to time.

The exercise price of share options is determinable by the directors, but may not be less than the higher of (i) the Stock Exchange closing price of the Company's shares on the date of offer of the share options; (ii) the average Stock Exchange closing price of the Company's shares for the five trading days immediately preceding the date of offer; and (iii) the nominal value of a share.

No expense was recognised by the Group for both years ended 31 March 2024 and 2023 in relation to share options under the Share Option Scheme granted by the Company.

As the fair value of the services cannot be estimated reliably, the binomial valuation model has been used to estimate the fair value of the options.

### 35. SHARE-BASED PAYMENT (Continued)

### Equity-settled share option scheme (Continued)

Movements of share options outstanding and their weighted average exercise prices are as follows:

#### 2024

			Number of options			
Grant date	Exercise	Exercisable period	Outstanding at 1 April 2023	Granted during the year	Lapsed during the year	Outstanding at 31 March 2024
Grant date	price (riits)	Excitisable period	2023	yeur	year	2024
18 January 2021	1.31	18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	16,300,000	-	-	16,300,000
			16,300,000	-	-	16,300,000
Exercisable at 31 M	arch 2024					16,300,000
Weighted average	exercise price (H	K\$)	1.310	N/A	N/A	1.310

#### 2023

			Number of options			
	Exercise		Outstanding at 1 April	Granted during the	Lapsed during the	Outstanding at 31 March
Grant date	price (HK\$)	Exercisable period	2022	year	year	2023
1 September 2017 18 January 2021		01-09-2017 to 31-08-2022 18-01-2021 to 17-01-2026	13,900,000 16,300,000	- -	(13,900,000)	- 16,300,000
			30,200,000	-	(13,900,000)	16,300,000
Exercisable at 31 Ma	arch 2023					16,300,000
Weighted average ex	xercise price (H	K\$)	1.747	N/A	2.260	1.310

No share options were exercised for both years.

At the end of the reporting period, the Company had 16,300,000 share options outstanding under the Scheme. The exercise in full of the outstanding share options would, under the present capital structure of the Company, result in the issue of 16,300,000 additional ordinary shares of the Company and additional share capital of HK\$21,353,000 (before issue expenses).

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 36. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 March 2024, the Group had capital commitments contracted for but not provided in the consolidated financial statements amounting to HK\$22,702,000 (2023: HK\$37,243,000). These commitments are for the following projects:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Other exploration related commitments	3,078	5,759
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	982	1,081
Road improvement and transportation of mining equipment	12,455	15,101
Expansion of wash plant	5,838	14,976
Others	349	326
	22,702	37,243

### 37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

All of the following related party transactions constitute a fully exempted connected transaction or continuing connected transaction as defined in Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules, except for transaction in respect of coal transportation services with related party disclosed in Note 37(d).

### (a) Advances from Mr. Lo

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Balance of advances (Note 29) Effective interest charge for the year (Note 29)	1,006,689 108,472	1,302,017 128,618

## (b) Convertible note payable to and interest charge on convertible note by a related party – Golden Infinity

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Convertible note Coupon interest charge on convertible note	669,669	765,067
for the year (Note (ii))	18,852	18,852

#### Notes:

<sup>(</sup>i) Mr. Lo has a controlling interest in Golden Infinity. Details of the convertible note held by Golden Infinity are set out in Note 30(a).

<sup>(</sup>ii) The amount represents coupon interest charge on a convertible note. The effective interest expense on a convertible note for the year is approximately HK\$79,942,000 (2023: HK\$69,771,000).

### 37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (Continued)

### (c) Loan note by a related party - Ruby Pioneer

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Loan note Coupon interest charge on loan note for the year (Note (ii))	580,545 17,246	474,140 17,246

#### Notes:

- (i) Mr. Lo and Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei are the directors of Ruby Pioneer. Details of the loan note by Ruby Pioneer are set out in Note 30(b).
- (ii) The amount represents coupon interest charge on a loan note. The effective interest expense on a loan note for the year is approximately HK\$106,405,000 (2023: HK\$86,689,000).

### (d) Transactions with related party

Nature of transactions	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Reimbursement of sharing of administrative services from a related party (Note (i) & (ii))	7,653	7,416
Coal transportation services provided by a related party (Note (i)) and (iii))	162,148	149,529
Geochemical analysis services provided by a related party (Note (i))  Vehicle rental services provided by a related party (Note (i))	150 10	94

#### Notes:

- (i) Except for Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald and Mr. Tang Chi Kei who are the directors of the Company, the directors of the Company and the ultimate holding company of the related parties are the same.
- (ii) On 10 July 2015, the Group entered into a share of administrative service agreement with a related party. The service is charged at cost basis. The Group further renewed the contract with the related party on 19 July 2023 and extended the agreement for a period of 1 year.
- (iii) The transaction in respect of the logistics services for coal transportation in the PRC provided to the Group constitutes continuing connect transaction as defined in Chapter 14 A of the Listing Rules.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (Continued)

### (e) Balance with related parties

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Rental deposits paid to related parties (Note (i))  Lease liabilities (Note (i) and (iii))  Balance of sharing of administrative services from a related	379 3,835	401 801
party (Notes (ii) and (iv))  Balance of coal transportation services provided by a related party (Notes (ii) and (v))	28,686 2,764	21,034

#### Notes:

- (i) Mr. Lo, Mr. Rex Lo and Mr. Chris Lo are the directors of the related parties or ultimate holding company of the related parties.
- (ii) Except Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald and Mr. Tang Chi Kei who are the directors of the Group, the directors of the Company and the ultimate holding company of the related parties are the same.
- (iii) During the years ended 31 March 2024 and 2023, the Group entered into new lease agreements for the use of the properties with the related companies for 2 years. The Group has recognised an addition of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities of HK\$6,432,000 and HK\$6,432,000 respectively (2023: addition of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities of HK\$518,000 and HK\$518,000 respectively).
- (iv) The balance is non-trade in nature, unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.
- (v) The balance is trade in nature, unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

### (f) Key management compensation

The remuneration of Directors, represented key management of the Group, during the year was as follows:

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Basic salaries, other allowances and benefits in kind Contributions to Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme	56,447 90	68,163 91
	56,537	68,254

Note:

During the year ended 31 March 2024, no share options were granted to the Directors (2023: Nil).

#### 38. **CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Group manages its capital to ensure that entities in the Group will be able to continue as a going concern while maximising the return to shareholders through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance. The Group's overall strategy remains unchanged from prior years.

The capital structure of the Group consists of debts, which includes advances from a Director and an interestbearing bank borrowing disclosed in Note 29, convertible notes disclosed in Note 30(a) and loan note disclosed in Note 30(b), net of cash and cash equivalents and equity of the Group, comprising share capital and reserves.

Management of the Group reviews the capital structure regularly, taking into account the cost and risk associated with the capital. The Group will balance its capital structure through the issue of new shares, the issue of new debt or the redemption of the existing debts.

#### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### Categories of financial instruments

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Financial assets Financial assets at amortised cost Financial asset at FVTOCI (debt instrument) Financial asset at FVTPL	652,418 526,199 30,874	310,676 740,819 51,598
Financial liabilities  Measured at amortised cost  Embedded derivative component of convertible notes  measured at FVTPL	5,667,499 172,512	5,514,821 1,131,838

#### (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Group's financial instruments include trade receivables, other receivables and deposits, bills receivables at FVTOCI, financial assets at FVTPL, an amount due from an associate, cash and cash equivalents, trade payables, other payables and accruals, advances from a Director, interest-bearing bank borrowing, convertible notes and a loan note. Details of the financial instruments are disclosed in the respective notes. The risks associated with these financial instruments include market risk (currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risks), credit risk and liquidity risk. The policies on how to mitigate these risks are set out below. There has been no significant change in the Group's exposure to market risks or the manner in which it manages and measures the risk. Management manages and monitors these exposures to ensure appropriate measures are implemented on a timely and effective manner.

#### Market risk

#### Currency risk

The Group mainly operates in Hong Kong, the PRC and Mongolia. The exposure to foreign currency risk mainly arises from trade and bills receivables, other receivables and deposits, an amount due from an associate, cash and cash equivalents, trade payables, other payables and accruals, advances from a Director, interest-bearing bank borrowing, convertible notes and a loan note denominated in currencies other than functional currency of the relevant group entities.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Market risk (Continued)

#### (i) Currency risk (Continued)

The carrying amounts of the Group's foreign currency denominated monetary assets and monetary liabilities at the reporting date are as follows:

	Liabilities		Assets		
	2024 2023 HK\$'000 HK\$'000		2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000	
HK\$	5,257,631	5,969,826	9,233	5,176	
RMB	17,936	18,217	38,599	2,473	
MNT	143,429	91,886	17,735	11,734	

The Group does not have a foreign currency hedging policy. However, management monitors foreign exchange exposure and will consider hedging significant foreign currency exposure should the need arise.

#### Sensitivity analysis

The currency risk on HK\$ is insignificant as the HK\$ is pegged to the US\$.

The Group is mainly exposed to the currencies of RMB and MNT against US\$, the functional currency of relevant group entities.

The following table details the Group's sensitivity to a 5% (2023: 5%) increase and decrease in US\$ against the relevant foreign currencies. 5% (2023: 5%) is the sensitivity rate used when reporting foreign currency risk internally and represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in the foreign exchange rates. The sensitivity analysis includes only outstanding foreign currency denominated monetary items. A positive/negative number below indicates a decrease/increase in post-tax profit or an increase/decrease in post-tax loss where US\$ weakening 5% (2023: 5%) against RMB and MNT respectively. For a 5% (2023: 5%) strengthening of US\$ against RMB and MNT respectively, there would be an equal and opposite impact on the profit/loss, vice versa.

	RMB		MNT	
	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Increase in profit (loss) for the year (Note)	1,033	(787)	(6,285)	(4,008)

#### Note:

This is mainly attributable to the exposure from outstanding trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents and trade and other payables denominated in RMB and MNT at the end of the reporting period.

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Market risk (Continued)

#### Interest rate risk

The Group is exposed to fair value interest rate risk in relation to fixed-rate lease liabilities, an interest-bearing bank borrowing (see Note 29), convertible notes (see Note 30(a)) and a loan note (see Note 30(b)). The Group is also exposed to cash flow interest rate risk in relation to variablerate bank balances (see Note 24) and advances from a Director (see Note 29).

The Group currently does not have an interest rate hedging policy. However, management monitors interest rate exposure and will consider other necessary actions when significant interest rate exposure is anticipated.

The Group's cash flow interest rate risk is mainly due to the Hong Kong Prime Rate in relation to advances from a Director.

#### Sensitivity analysis

The Group's interest rate risk arises principally from advances from a Director as the effect on bank balances is considered not significant. The sensitivity analysis below has been prepared assuming that the change in interest rate had occurred at the end of the respective reporting periods and had been applied to the exposure to interest rate risk for the existence of advances from a Director at that date and outstanding for the whole year. The 50 basis points represent the best estimation of the possible change in the interest rates over the period until the end of the next reporting period.

As at 31 March 2024, if interest rates had decreased/increased by 50 basis points and all other variables were held constant, the Group's loss for the year would decrease/increase by HK\$4,492,000 (2023: loss for the year would decrease/increase by HK\$5,799,000). The Group has no other significant interest rate risk.

#### (iii) Other price risk

#### Price risk on equity securities

The Group is exposed to equity price risk through its investment in listed equity security classified as financial asset at FVTPL. Management regularly reviews the expected returns from holding these investments on an individual basis.

The Group's equity price risk is mainly concentrated on an entity principally operating in the manufacture and sales of electronic fire equipment industry.

#### Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on the exposure to equity price risks at the end of the reporting period for financial assets at FVTPL.

If the listed share prices of the respective equity instruments had been 5% higher/lower, the profit for the year ended 31 March 2024 would increase/decrease by HK\$1,544,000 (2023: loss for the year would decrease/increase by HK\$2,580,000) as a result of the changes in fair value on financial asset at FVTPL.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Market risk (Continued)

#### (iii) Other price risk (Continued)

b. Price risk on embedded derivative components of the convertible notes (defined in Note 30(a))

The Company is required to estimate the fair value of the derivative component of the convertible notes with changes in fair value to be recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss as long as the convertible notes are outstanding. The fair value will be affected either positively or negatively, amongst others, by the changes in the Company's share price and share price volatility.

#### Sensitivity analysis

If the listed share price of the Company had been 10% higher/lower and all other input variables of the valuation model were held constant, the Group's profit for the year would decrease by HK\$8,274,000 (2023: loss would increase by HK\$35,500,000)/increase by HK\$6,628,000 (2023: HK\$29,211,000), as a result of changes in fair value of the derivative component of the convertible notes.

If the volatility of listed share prices of the Company had been 10% higher/lower and all other input variables of the valuation model were held constant, the Group's profit for the year would decrease by HK\$5,540,000 (2023: loss would decrease by HK\$1,146,000)/ increase by HK\$2,510,000 (2023: loss would increase by HK\$1,051,000), as a result of changes in fair value of the derivative component of the convertible notes.

In management's opinion, the sensitivity analyses above are unrepresentative of the inherent price risk as the pricing model used in the valuation of these embedded derivatives involves multiple variables and certain variables are interdependent.

### Credit risk and impairment assessment

As at 31 March 2024, the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk which would cause a financial loss to the Group due to failure to discharge an obligation by the counterparties was arising from the carrying amounts of the trade and bills receivables, other receivables and deposits, amount due from an associate and cash and cash equivalents as stated in the consolidated statement of financial position.

In order to minimise the credit risk, management of the Group has monitoring procedures to ensure that a follow-up action is taken to recover overdue debts. In addition, the Group performs impairment assessment under ECL model upon the application of HKFRS 9 on trade and bills receivables by reviewing the recoverable amount of each individual trade and bills receivables at the end of the reporting period to ensure that adequate impairment losses are made for irrecoverable amounts. In this regard, the Directors consider that the Group's credit risk is significantly reduced.

The Group measures the loss allowance on bank balances equal to 12m ECL. The credit risk on bank balances is limited because most of the cash and deposits are placed with reputable banks with high external credit rating assigned by international credit-rating agencies or state-owned banks in the PRC.

## 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)

The Group's internal credit risk grading assessment comprises the following categories:

Internal			
credit rating	Description	Trade receivables	Other financial assets
Low risk	The counterparty has a low risk of default and does not have any past-due amounts	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired	12m ECL
Watch list	Debtor frequently repays after due dates but usually settle in full after due date	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired	12m ECL
Doubtful	There have been significant increases in credit risk since initial recognition through internally developed information or external resources	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired
Loss	There is evidence indicating the asset is credit-impaired	Lifetime ECL – credit-impaired	Lifetime ECL – credit-impaired
Write-off	There is evidence indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and the Group has no realistic prospect of recovery	Amount is written off	Amount is written off

2024	Notes	Internal credit rating	12-month or lifetime ECL	Gross carrying amount HK\$'000
Financial assets at amortised costs				
Amount due from an associate (Note (i))	19	Loss	Lifetime ECL (credit impaired)	11,002
Other receivables and deposits (Note (i))	22	Low risk Loss	12m ECL (not credit impaired) Lifetime ECL (credit impaired)	43,636 1,846
				45,482
Trade receivables and accrued income (Note (iii))	20	Low risk	Lifetime ECL (not credit impaired)	511,398
(Note (III))				311,330
Cash and cash equivalent (Note (iv))	24	Low risk	12m ECL (not credit impaired)	97,826
Financial assets at FVTOCI				
Bills receivables (Note (ii))	20	Low risk	12m ECL (not credit impaired)	526,199

For the year ended 31 March 2024

# 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)

2023	Notes	Internal credit rating	12-month or lifetime ECL	Gross carrying amount HK\$'000
Financial assets at amortised costs				
Amount due from an associate (Note (i))	19	Loss	Lifetime ECL (credit impaired)	11,002
Other receivables and deposits (Note (i))	22	Low risk	12m ECL (not credit impaired)	37,747
		Loss	Lifetime ECL (credit impaired)	1,846
				39,593
Trade receivables and accrued income	20	Low risk	Lifetime ECL (not credit impaired)	
(Note (iii))				212,891
Cash and cash equivalent (Note (iv))	24	Low risk	12m ECL (not credit impaired)	60,264
Financial assets at FVTOCI				
Bills receivables (Note (ii))	20	Low risk	12m ECL (not credit impaired)	740,819

#### Notes:

(i) For the purpose of internal credit risk management, the Group uses historical repayment records to assess whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition for amount due from an associate and other receivables and deposits.

	Not yet past due HK\$'000	No fixed repayment terms HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
2024			
Amount due from an associate	_	11,002	11,002
Other receivables and deposits	43,636	1,846	45,482
	43,636	12,848	56,484

	Not yet past due HK\$'000	No fixed repayment terms HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
2023 Amount due from an associate		11 002	11,002
Other receivables and deposits	37,747	11,002 1,846	39,593
	37,747	12,848	50,595

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)

Notes: (Continued)

- For bills receivables at FVTOCI, the Group measures the loss allowance individually with reference to external credit ratings of the issuing counterparties which are banks in the PRC.
- (iii) For trade receivables and accrued income, the Group has applied the simplified approach in accordance with HKFRS 9 to measure the loss allowance at lifetime ECL. The Group determines the expected credit losses on these items individually.
- (iv) The credit risk on cash and cash equivalents is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. For the years ended 31 March 2024 and 2023, the Group has assessed the impairment of cash and cash equivalents and has concluded that the probability of defaults of the counterparty banks is insignificant and accordingly, no allowance for credit losses is provided.

The following table shows the movement in lifetime ECL that has been recognised for trade receivables and accrued income under the simplified approach:

	Lifetime ECL (not credit- impaired) HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	644
Reversal of Impairment losses recognised	(372)
Exchange adjustments	(46)
At 31 March 2023	226
Impairment losses recognised	229
Exchange adjustments	(13)
At 31 March 2024	442

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)

The following table show the reconciliation of loss allowances that has been recognised for bills receivables, amount due from an associate and other receivables and deposits:

	Bills receivables at FVTOCI 12m ECL (not credit- impaired) HK\$'000		Other receivables and deposits Lifetime ECL (creditimpaired) HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	1,089	10,993	1,846	13,928
Impairment losses recognised, net	1,613	9	-	1,622
Exchange adjustments	(84)	–	-	(84)
At 31 March 2023	2,618	11,002	1,846	15,466
Impairment losses recognised, net	6,059	-	-	6,059
Exchange adjustments	–	-	-	–
At 31 March 2024	8,677	11,002	1,846	21,525

Other than concentration risk on liquid funds which are deposited with banks that have good credit ratings, the Group has concentration of credit risk as 75.9% (2023: 65.0%) of the total trade and bills receivables was due from the Group's largest customer within the coal mining segment.

### Liquidity risk

In management of the liquidity risk, the Group monitors and maintains a level of cash and cash equivalents deemed adequate by management to finance the Group's operations and mitigate the effects of fluctuations in cash flows. Management monitors the utilisation of borrowings. The amount of net current liabilities is HK\$4,924,259,000 (2023: HK\$784,950,000).

As at 31 March 2024, the Directors are satisfied that the Group will be able to meet in full its financial obligations as they fall due in the foreseeable future as Mr. Lo has provided facilities amounting to HK\$1,900.0 million available for advances to the Group. Advances from a Director of HK\$1,006.7 million under these facilities as at 31 March 2024 comprised a principal amount and accrued interest of HK\$968.4 million and HK\$38.3 million respectively. The balance of the unutilised facilities of HK\$931.6 million remained valid until 24 March 2026 and Mr. Lo has undertaken not to demand for repayment until the Group has sufficient cash to make a repayment and the repayment will not affect the Group's liquidity position.

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Liquidity risk (Continued)

The following tables detail the Group's remaining contractual maturity for its non-derivative financial liabilities with agreed repayment periods. The tables have been drawn up based on the undiscounted cash flows of financial liabilities based on the earliest date on which the Group can be required to pay. The tables include both the interest and principal of cash flows. To the extent that interest flows are floating rate, the undiscounted amount is derived from interest rate at the end of the reporting period. The contractual maturity is based on the earliest date on which the Group may be required to pay.

#### 2024

	Weighted average effective interest rate borrowing	Less than 1 month or repayable on demand HK\$'000	1 to 3 months HK\$'000	3 months to 1 year HK\$'000	1 to 5 years HK\$'000	Total undiscounted cash flows HK\$'000	Carrying amount at 31 March 2024 HK\$'000
Trade payables ( <i>Note 25</i> ) Other payables ( <i>Note 26</i> )	-	337,406 228,274	- 3,674	- 18,224	- 1,000	337,406 251,172	337,406 251,172
Advances from a Director – floating rate (Note 29)	8.88%	1,006,689	-	-	-	1,006,689	1,006,689
Convertible notes (debt component) – fixed rate (Note 30(a))  Loan note – fixed rate (Note 30(b))  Lease liabilities	14.26% 22.37% 8.63%	- - 547	- - 1,686	3,954,050 661,183 4,141	- - 2,608	3,954,050 661,183 8,982	3,491,687 580,545 8,545
	0.00 /0	1,572,916	5,360	4,637,598	3,608	6,219,482	5,676,044

#### 2023

	Weighted average effective interest rate borrowing	Less than 1 month or repayable on demand HK\$'000	1 to 3 months HK\$'000	3 months to 1 year HK\$'000	1 to 5 years HK\$'000	Total undiscounted cash flows HK\$'000	Carrying amount at 31 March 2023 HK\$'000
Trade payables (Note 25)	-	252,590	_	_	_	252,590	252,590
Other payables (Note 26)	_	405,237	7,123	18,767	342	431,469	431,469
Advances from a Director –	8.63%	1 202 017				1 202 017	1 202 017
floating rate (Note 29)  Convertible notes (debt component) –	0.0370	1,302,017	_	_	-	1,302,017	1,302,017
fixed rate (Note 30(a))	14.26%	_	_	_	3,954,050	3,954,050	3,054,605
Loan note – fixed rate (Note 30(b))	22.37%	_	_	_	661,183	661,183	474,140
Lease liabilities	7.56%	555	800	2,016	4,989	8,360	7,807
		1,960,399	7,923	20,783	4,620,564	6,609,669	5,522,628

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

# (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (Continued) Liquidity risk (Continued)

The amounts included above for variable interest rate instruments for non-derivative financial liabilities are subject to change if changes in variable interest rates differ to those estimates of interest rates determined at the end of the reporting period.

#### (c) Fair value measurements of financial instruments

# Fair values of the Group's financial assets and financial liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis

Fair value measurements and valuation processes

The Executive Directors are responsible for determining the appropriate valuation techniques and inputs for fair value measurements. In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Group uses market-observable data to the extent it is available. Where Level 1 inputs are not available, the Group engages third party qualified valuers to perform the valuation. The Executive Directors work closely with the qualified external valuers to establish the appropriate valuation techniques and inputs to the model. The Executive Directors review the cause of fluctuations in the fair value of the assets and liabilities.

Information about the valuation techniques and inputs used in determining the fair values of various assets and liabilities is disclosed above.

The Group's financial assets at FVTPL, FVTOCI and embedded derivative component of convertible notes are measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period. The following table gives information about how the fair values of these financial assets and financial liabilities are determined (in particular, the valuation technique(s) and inputs used), as well as the level of the fair value hierarchy into which the fair value measurements are categorised (Levels 1 to 3) based on the degree to which the inputs to the fair value measurements are observable.

Financial assets/ financial liabilities	Fair value as 2024 HK\$'000	at 31 March 2023 HK\$'000	Fair value hierarchy	Valuation technique(s) and key input(s)	Significant unobservable input	Relationship of unobservable input to fair value
Listed equity security classified as financial asset at FVTPL	30,874	51,598	Level 1	– Quoted bid prices in an active market	N/A	N/A
Bills receivables at FVTOCI	526,199	740,819	Level 2	Discounted cash flow: Future cash flows are estimated based on discount rate observed in the available market	N/A	N/A
Embedded derivatives component of convertible notes	172,512	1,131,838	Level 3	- Binomial Valuation Model - The key inputs are stock price, exercise price, option life, risk free rate, volatility, discount rate and dividend yield	Volatility is 105.99% (2023: 77.91%)	A slight increase in the volatility would result in significantly higher fair value measurement, and vice versa (Note)

Note:

Sensitivity analysis is performed in Note 39(b).

There was no transfer between Levels 1, 2 and 3 for both years.

### 39. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

### (c) Fair value measurements of financial instruments (Continued)

Fair values of the Group's financial assets and financial liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis (Continued)

Reconciliation of Level 3 fair value measurements of financial liabilities

	Embedded derivatives component of convertible notes HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022	828,515
Changes in fair value recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss	303,323
At 31 March 2023 Changes in fair value recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss	1,131,838 (959,326)
At 31 March 2024	172,512

### Fair values of the Group's financial assets and financial liabilities that are not measured at fair value on a recurring basis

The Directors consider that the carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded at amortised cost in the consolidated financial statements approximate their fair values.

### **40. MAJOR NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS**

Save as disclosed elsewhere, the Group has no other major non-cash transactions for both years.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 41. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - THE COMPANY

	2024 HK\$'000	2023 HK\$'000
Non-acceptance and a second		
Non-current assets Interests in subsidiaries	1,587,713	713,303
Interest in an associate	1,567,715	715,505
Amounts due from subsidiaries	41,494	220,401
	1,629,207	933,704
Current assets		
Other receivables, prepayments and deposits	612	616
Amount due from an associate	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents	9,343	5,290
	9,955	5,906
Current liabilities		
Other payables and accruals	7,947	7,474
Advances from a Director	1,006,689	1,302,017
Amount due to a subsidiary	496,857	262,136
Convertible notes	3,664,199	_
Loan note	580,545	_
	5,756,237	1,571,627
Net current liabilities	(5,746,282)	(1,565,721)
Total assets less current liabilities	(4,117,075)	(632,017)
Non-current liabilities		
Convertible notes	-	4,186,443
Loan note	-	474,140
	-	4,660,583
Net liabilities	(4,117,075)	(5,292,600)
Financed by:		
Capital and reserves		
Share capital	3,763	3,763
Reserves	(4,120,838)	(5,296,363)
Capital deficiencies to owners of the Company	(4,117,075)	(5,292,600)

### 42. RESERVES - THE COMPANY

	Share options reserve HK\$'000	Capital Contribution reserve HK\$'000	Accumulated losses HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 April 2022 Loss and total comprehensive	33,454	334,220	(4,147,905)	(3,780,231)
expense for the year Share option lapsed	– (21,288)	- -	(1,516,132) 21,288	(1,516,132) <i>–</i>
At 31 March 2023  Profit and total comprehensive income for the year	12,166	334,220	(5,642,749) 1,175,525	(5,296,363) 1,175,525
At 31 March 2024	12,166	334,220	(4,467,224)	(4,120,838)

#### Note:

Under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (as amended), the contributed surplus is distributable to shareholders, subject to the condition that the Company shall not declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of the contributed surplus if (i) it is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due; or (ii) the realisable value of its assets would thereby be less than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium account.

For the year ended 31 March 2024

### 43. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

Details of the Group's principal subsidiaries at 31 March 2024 and 2023:

Name of subsidiaries	Place of incorporation/ establishment	Particulars of issued share capital/ registered capital			Effective Place of		Place of operation	Principal activities
			2024	2023				
Gamerian Limited*	British Virgin Islands	1 share of US\$1.00	100%	100%	Hong Kong	Investment holding		
Mongolia Energy Corporation (Greater China) Limited*	Hong Kong	2 shares with no par value	100%	100%	Hong Kong	Management services		
Mongolia Energy Corporation (HK) Limited*	Hong Kong	1 share with no par value	100%	100%	Hong Kong	Management services		
Mongolia Energy Corporation Services Limited*	Hong Kong	2 shares with no par value	100%	100%	Hong Kong	Provision of secretarial and nominee services		
MoEnCo	Mongolia	1,010,000 shares of US\$1.00 each	100%	100%	Mongolia	Minerals exploration and mining activities		
MEC Trans LLC	Mongolia	MNT4,556,575,582	100%	100%	Mongolia	Provision of coal transportation service		
烏魯木齊蒙富礦業有限公司#	The PRC	RMB14,299,899	100%	100%	The PRC	Provision of mining and exploration advisory service		
新疆蒙科#	The PRC	RMB216,415,136	100%	100%	The PRC	Trading of coal and operation of coal washing plant		

<sup>\*</sup> Subsidiaries directly held by the Company

The above table lists the subsidiaries of the Group which, in the opinion of the Directors, principally affected the results or assets of the Group. To give details of other subsidiaries would, in the opinion of the Directors, result in particulars of excessive length.

None of the subsidiaries had issued any debt securities at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

<sup>#</sup> Wholly foreign owned enterprise established in the PRC

# FIVE YEARS SUMMARY OF RESULTS, ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Results of the Group for the year ended 31 March							
	2020 (Restated)	2021 (Restated)	2022	2023	2024			
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000			
Turnover	1,124,996	858,417	1,562,718	2,905,309	3,173,215			
(Loss) Profit attributable to								
owners of the Company	(425,438)	1,795,091	(349,052)	(1,603,099)	1,677,921			
(Loss) Earnings per share								
(HK\$)	(Restated)	(Restated)						
– Basic	(2.26)	9.54	(1.86)	(8.52)	8.92			
– Diluted	(2.26)	0.37	(1.86)	(8.52)	8.92			

	Assets and liabilities of the Group at 31 March							
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024			
	(Restated) HK\$'000	(Restated) HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000			
Total assets	2,212,426	3,537,943	3,620,557	2,800,827	4,215,361			
Less: total liabilities	(6,433,784)	(5,931,780)	(6,332,949)	(7,137,673)	(6,900,614)			
Total net liabilities	(4,221,358)	(2,393,837)	(2,712,392)	(4,336,846)	(2,685,253)			

#### **CORPORATE INFORMATION**

### **DIRECTORS**

### **Executive Directors**

Mr. Lo Lin Shing, Simon (Chairman) Ms. Yvette Ong (Managing Director)

Mr. Lo, Rex Cze Kei Mr. Lo, Chris Cze Wai

#### Non-executive Directors

Mr. To Hin Tsun, Gerald Mr. Lo, James Cze Chung

### **Independent Non-executive Directors**

Mr. Tsui Hing Chuen, William ,,

Mr. Lau Wai Piu

Mr. Lee Kee Wai, Frank

### **COMPANY SECRETARY**

Mr. Tang Chi Kei

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

Ernst & Young Registered Public Interest Entity Auditors

### PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Public Bank (Hong Kong) Limited Hang Seng Bank Limited

### PRINCIPAL SHARE REGISTRAR

MUFG Fund Services (Bermuda) Limited 4th floor North Cedar House 41 Cedar Avenue Hamilton HM 12 Bermuda

### **BRANCH SHARE REGISTRAR**

Tricor Standard Limited 17/F., Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong

### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Clarendon House Church Street Hamilton HM 11 Bermuda

# PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG

17/F, 118 Connaught Road West, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2138 8000 Fax: (852) 2138 8111

### **WEBSITE ADDRESS**

http://www.mongolia-energy.com

### STOCK CODE

276

### **CHINESE TRANSLATION**

The Chinese translation of this Annual Report is available on request from Mongolia Energy Corporation Limited ("MEC"). Where the English and the Chinese texts conflict, the English text prevails.

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