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Introduction

This document, approved by EnQuest's Board of Directors, sets out EnQuest's policy and approach to conducting its tax affairs and dealing with tax risk. EnQuest's tax team will periodically review the document and the Board of Directors will approve any amendments. It is effective for the year ending 31 December 2020 and remains in effect until the Board of Directors approves any amendments recommended by the tax team.

Group tax policy

In line with our general business conduct, we are committed to complying with tax laws that apply in the jurisdictions in which we operate. We apply legitimate tax incentives and exemptions introduced by governments to promote investment and growth. We support predictable tax regimes that incentivise long-term investment.

Tax risk management and governance

EnQuest's Board of Directors has responsibility for complying with the tax laws in the territories within which the Group operates. The Board of Directors establishes the overall governance framework and tax falls within this framework.

Responsibility levels are communicated throughout the Group as part of the business management system and through an authority matrix which sets out, inter alia, delegated authority levels, segregation of duties and other control procedures.

Responsibility for oversight of all Group tax matters is delegated to the Chief Financial Officer, who is supported by the Group Head of Tax. The Group Head of Tax is responsible for ensuring that tax policies and procedures are in place, maintained and applied consistently in each jurisdiction in which the group operates. The Chief Financial Officer, supported by the Group Head of Tax, provides tax updates to the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors on a periodic basis.

Level of tax risk we are prepared to accept

EnQuest applies professional care and judgement in assessing tax risks in order to reach sound conclusions on how tax risks should be managed. Where there is uncertainty as to the application or interpretation of tax law, EnQuest may seek external advice from third party advisers to support the decision-making process.

Relationships with tax authorities

EnQuest seeks to comply with its tax filing, tax reporting and tax payment obligations globally. Our approach is to conduct all dealings with HMRC and other relevant bodies in a collaborative and courteous manner.

EnQuest seeks to take an active role in contributing to the tax policy-making process, where relevant, including taking part in formal and informal consultations in the jurisdictions in which we operate.

Attitude to tax planning

As noted in our Code of Conduct:

- We adhere to tax laws that apply in the jurisdictions we operate in and seek to reduce the risk of uncertainty or disputes;
- We endeavour to follow the intention of the law in a responsible manner where tax law, regulations and practices are unclear or ambiguous;
- We ensure all legislative and regulatory tax disclosure and transparency requirements are complied with; and
- We disclose tax information beyond the minimum requirements if it is considered appropriate and necessary.

EnQuest recognises that it has a responsibility to pay appropriate tax in each of the principal jurisdictions in which it operates. EnQuest aims to balance this with its responsibility to shareholders and other stakeholders to structure its affairs in an efficient manner.

This tax strategy applies to EnQuest PLC and its UK subsidiaries and branches in accordance with Paragraph 16(2), Schedule 19 of Finance Act 2016.