



Green helium for a high-tech world.

ASX Release

27 November 2023

Project Updates

- **Mbelele-2 reaches Total Depth of 763.5mMD in basement**
 - **Multiple zones of interest identified, logging and sampling now in progress**
 - **A\$4.6M unsecured loan linked to Tanzanian VAT refunds secured**
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Noble Helium Limited (ASX:NHE) (“Noble Helium” or “the Company”) has completed drilling Mbelele-2, reaching a 763.5mMD Total Depth (TD) in basement at the Company’s 100% owned North Rukwa Helium Project in Tanzania.

Justyn Wood, CEO Commented:

“It’s extremely pleasing to have completed the drilling stage at Mbelele-2 on time and safely, and with excellent borehole conditions so that we can now proceed to confidently collecting the data we need to define the helium associated with the Mbelele structure. Early indications are excellent and consistent with the results to date at Mbelele-1.”

Significant helium increases in the mud gas have confirmed multiple zones of interest in the Mbelele-2 wellbore, including some pre-drill zones of interest and additionally open-fractured basement, where the highest mud gas helium readings were encountered at multiples of background.

The wireline logging and sampling program is currently underway and preliminary results expected to be available in the near-term. The well will then be lined and suspended to allow for potential future flow testing after the coming wet season.

Mbelele-1 downhole samples are now being prepared for export from Dar es Salaam after securing the necessary government approvals for customs clearance. With the processes and procedures now in place, the Mbelele-2 samples will also be able to be exported shortly after acquisition and anticipate both Mbelele-1 and Mbelele-2 results to be available from mid-December.

The Company is also pleased to advise it has entered into an unsecured VAT loan agreement (**Loan Agreement**) pursuant to which a net total of A\$4.35 million will be advanced to the Company by sophisticated and professional parties, including Executive Chairman, Shaun Scott, and Non-Executive Director, Greg Columbus who will together advance A\$1.5 million.

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The Loan Agreement is provided on commercial and arms' length terms, is not convertible into shares and is repayable in cash. The funds advanced under the Loan Agreement will be used towards costs associated with the Company's drilling campaign at Mbelele-2 including Tanzanian VAT (Value Added Tax) and provide working capital.

The Company has applied for and/or is entitled to receive a significant refund of value added tax from the Tanzanian Revenue Authority (**VAT Refunds**), for the value added tax paid by the Company in 2023 in connection with the Company's drilling programs. The total VAT Refunds expected to be received are in excess of the VAT loan and are anticipated to be received progressively over the term of the Loan Agreement. Under the Loan Agreement, VAT Refunds are required to be applied in full towards repayment of amounts owing.

The material terms of the Loan Agreement are as follows:

- Loan Amount: \$4,627,661, with a net \$4,350,000 which will be immediately fully drawn upon by the Company.
- Establishment Fee: The Loan Amount includes a capitalised Establishment Fee of 6%
- Maturity Date: 31 December 2025.
- Interest rate: 15% per annum, which is payable quarterly in arrears.
- Security: Unsecured.
- Repayment: All amounts owing under the Loan Agreement must repaid on the Maturity Date, unless repaid earlier.
- Early Repayment: The Company must apply the VAT Refunds towards early repayment of the whole or part of the amounts owing under the Loan Agreement, within five (5) business days of receipt of each VAT Refund (excluding the first VAT Refund anticipated to be received by 31 December 2023). The Company can otherwise make voluntary prepayments towards the outstanding amounts on and from 30 June 2023.
- Conversion: The Loan Agreement does not include any right to convert the loan to NHE shares.
- Termination: The Loan Agreement shall terminate on the first to occur of an event of default, written agreement between the parties or repayment of all outstanding balances. The events of default are customary for agreements of this nature, such as insolvency and failure to perform an obligation under the Loan Agreement where the failure cannot be remedied.

The Loan Agreement contains other terms and conditions which are standard for agreements of this nature, including representations and warranties given by the lenders in favour of the Company.

Noble Helium's Board (other than Mr Scott and Mr Columbus who excluded themselves from the Company's decision making) determined the Loan Agreement to be reasonable, based on other third party offers received, providing a more prudent solution for this temporary cost than equity (which would be dilutive to shareholders).

This announcement has been authorised for release on ASX by Noble Helium's Board of Directors.

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Forward-looking statements

This announcement may contain certain “forward-looking statements”. Forward looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as, “expect”, “should”, “could”, “may”, “predict”, “plan”, “will”, “believe”, “forecast”, “estimate”, “target” and other similar expressions. Indications of, and guidance on, future earnings and financial position and performance are also forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements, opinions and estimates provided in this presentation are based on assumptions and contingencies which are subject to change without notice, as are statements about market and industry trends, which are based on interpretations of current market conditions. Forward-looking statements including projections, guidance on future earnings and estimates are provided as a general guide only and should not be relied upon as an indication or guarantee of future performance.

Competent Persons Statement

The technical information provided in this announcement has been compiled by Mr. Ashley Howlett, Exploration Manager, Professor Andrew Garnett, Non-Executive Director, and Mr. Justyn Wood, Chief Executive Officer, all of Noble Helium Limited. The resource estimates have been prepared in accordance with the definitions and guidelines set forth in the Petroleum Resources Management System, 2018, approved by the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

Mr Howlett is a qualified geologist with over 20 years technical, and management experience in exploration for, appraisal and development of, oil and gas resources. Mr Howlett has reviewed the results, procedures and data contained in this announcement and consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears.

Cautionary Statement for Prospective Resource Estimates

With respect to the Prospective Resource estimates contained within this report, it should be noted that the estimated quantities of gas that may potentially be recovered by the future application of a development project relate to undiscovered accumulations. These estimates have an associated risk of discovery and risk of development. Further exploration and appraisal is required to determine the existence of a significant quantity of potentially moveable helium.

Primary helium for a high-tech world.

Noble Helium is answering the world’s growing need for a primary, ideally carbon-free, and geo-politically independent source of helium. Located along Tanzania’s East African Rift System, the Company’s four projects are being advanced according to the highest ESG benchmarks to serve the increasing supply chain fragility and supply-demand imbalance for this scarce, tech-critical and high-value industrial gas.

Our flagship North Rukwa Project has an independently certified, summed unrisked mean Prospective Helium Resource of 176 billion cubic feet (equivalent to approximately 30 years’ supply). The project lies within the Rukwa Basin, which has the potential to be the world’s third largest helium reserve behind USA and Qatar.

Priced at up to 50 times the price of LNG in liquid form, helium is now essential to many modern applications as an irreplaceable element in vital hi-tech products such as computer and smartphone components, MRI systems, medical treatments, superconducting magnets, fibre optic cables, microscopes, particle accelerators, and space rocket launches – NASA is a major consumer. Rising demand and constrained supply are fuelling growth prospects within the global marketplace, particularly for cleaner “green helium” sourced from non-carbon environments. At present, more than 95% of the world’s helium is produced as a by-product of the processing of hydrocarbon-bearing gas.

Additionally, Noble Helium has commissioned the first ever Helium Atlas, with an exclusive five-year agreement allowing the Company to identify additional prospective areas to target for diversification. The Atlas uniquely positions Noble Helium as a world leading helium explorer.

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