

20 February 2025

ASX Limited
ASX Market Announcements Office
Exchange Centre
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Via electronic lodgement

**Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited
2025 Half Year Financial Results**

Please find attached the following announcements for release to the market:

Appendix 4D

Condensed Interim Financial Report

✓ **1H25 Results Summary and Highlights**

This release has been authorised by the Board of Directors of Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited.

Yours faithfully,



Sylvie Dimarco
Company Secretary

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20 February 2025

Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited reports 1H25 results and 4.0 cps fully franked dividend

- Annual dividend yield of 6.8% and a grossed up dividend yield of 9.6%¹
- Fully franked interim dividend of 4.0 cents per share, consistent with FY24 interim and final dividend payment
- Company's profit reserve and franking account balance supports dividend payments over the long-term²
- Investment portfolio performance over 5 years of 10.2% p.a.³, outperforming the benchmark by 2.2% and in line with the Company's investment objective

Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited (ASX:PIC; the Company) today announced its results for the half year ended 31 December 2024, declaring a fully franked interim dividend of 4.0 cents per share, consistent with both the interim and final dividend payment in the 2024 financial year.

The Company reported a net operating profit after tax (NPAT) of \$5.9 million, an improvement on the 1H24 net loss after tax, mainly attributable to investment performance.

Commenting on the Company's half year results, Chairman Nancy Fox said, "The Board has consciously managed the Company's profit reserve to maximise the potential of providing shareholders with a reliable income stream, irrespective of market conditions. In a period of higher-for-longer interest rates and elevated levels of inflation that are impacting many, our approach sees our continued delivery of fully franked dividend payments.

"The fully franked interim dividend equates to an annual dividend yield of 6.8% and a grossed up dividend yield of 9.6%, both of which we believe are attractive outcomes for our shareholders¹.

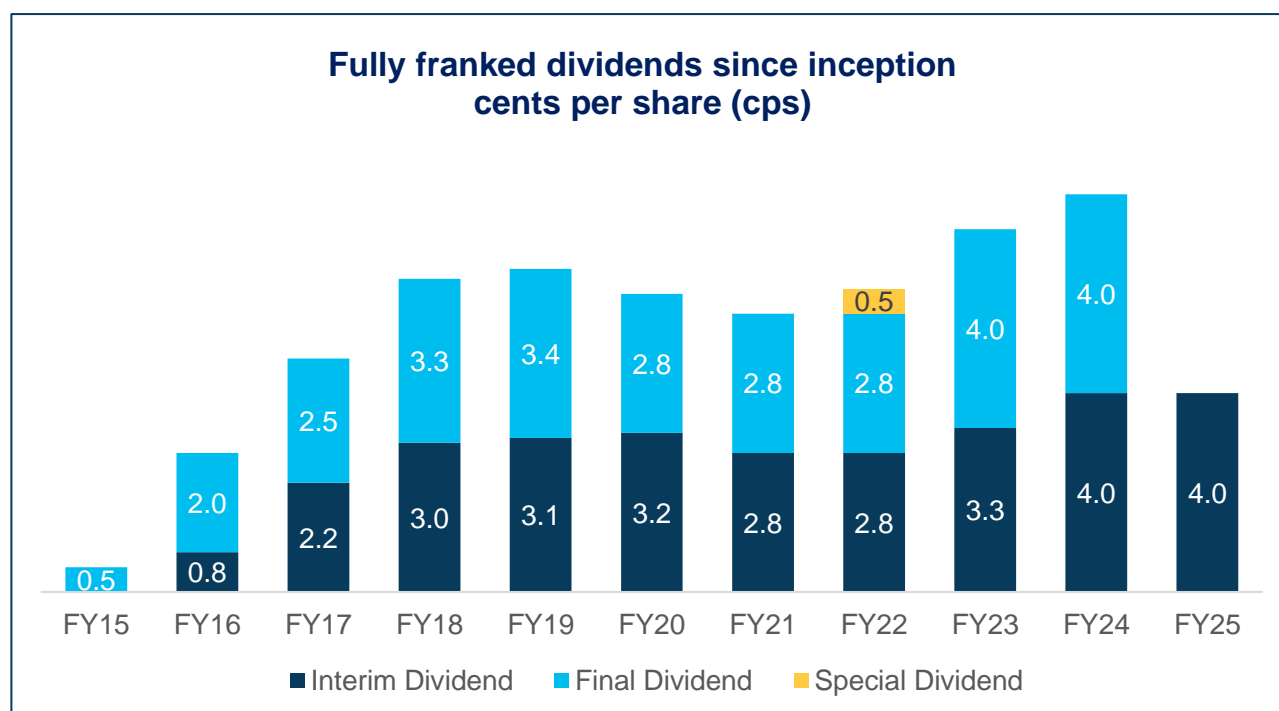
"Looking ahead, while there are many external factors that are contributing to a dynamic investment market environment, the strength of the Company's balance sheet is underpinned by the Company's profit reserve of \$73.1 million which provides for 2.4 years dividend coverage after the payment of the interim dividend⁴. The Company's franking account balance is \$14.6 million which provides for 1.1 years dividend coverage after the payment of the interim dividend⁴. This reflects the maturity of the Company as it recently surpassed its 10 year anniversary on the ASX and enables us to provide a reliable and long-term stream of fully franked dividends to our shareholders."

¹ Yield is calculated based on the dividends announced in the prior 12 months, being a total of 8.0 cents per share and the closing share price of \$1.185 as at 31 December 2024. Grossed up yield includes franking credits at a tax rate of 30%.

² No representation is made in relation to the payment of future dividends, which will be at the discretion of the Company's Board

³ The benchmark is the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index. Returns have been calculated on the growth of NTA after taking into account all operating expenses (including management fees) and assuming reinvestment of dividends and excluding tax paid. Any provisions for deferred tax on unrealised gains and losses are excluded. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. For details of the Company's investment performance, please visit <https://www.perpetualequity.com.au/tools-and-resources/research-reports>.

⁴ Profit reserve of \$73.1 million and franking account balance of \$14.6 million as at 31 December 2024 after taking into account the estimated payment of the interim dividend. The profit reserve equates to 19.1 cents per share and provides for 2.4 years dividend coverage based on a total dividend payment of 8.0 cents per share per annum. The franking account balance equates to 8.9 cents per share and provides for 1.1 years dividend coverage based on a total dividend payment of 8.0 cents per share per annum. This does not take into account any changes to share capital. No representation is made in relation to the payment of future dividends, which will be at the discretion of the Company's Board.



PIC 1H25 investment portfolio performance

The Company's investment portfolio performance for the six months to 31 December 2024 was 2.6%³ whereas the benchmark was 6.9%.

PIC Portfolio Manager Vince Pezzullo said, "In the last six months of 2024 (1H25) the portfolio struggled to keep up with a momentum driven market which saw stocks like Commonwealth Bank, to which we had minimal exposure due to valuation, surge to over \$150 by close of year. In keeping with our quality value approach, we held up much better in the December month sell off.

"As 2025 ramps up and after financial markets initially embraced 'Trumponomics', attention is now turning to the challenges of delivery and containing excesses in the economy, including the potential for inflation to return. Our research shows equity markets in the United States continue to exhibit extreme exuberance and are once again trading at similar valuations to the Dotcom peak in 2000 and the post-COVID bubble in 2021. Australian equity valuations, whilst stretched in some sectors, are not as out of kilter overall, especially as resource companies trade near multi-year lows.

"This environment provides potential for volatility and companies across a range of sectors both in Australia and across the globe to be mispriced by the market. In turn, we see opportunity to capitalise on this to create upside potential over the long term."

Key dates for the interim dividend

- Ex date Wednesday 12 March 2025
- Record date Thursday 13 March 2025
- DRP election date Friday 14 March 2025
- Payment date Friday 4 April 2025

- Ends -

For further enquiries, please contact:

Investors

Karen Trau
Investor Relations
T: 02 9229 3138
E: karen.trau@perpetual.com.au

Media

Daniel Wright
Corporate Communications Manager
T: 0478 405 701
E: daniel.wright@perpetual.com.au

The issuer of the securities referred to in this announcement is Perpetual Equity Investment Company Limited ACN 601 406 419 (PIC). Further information on PIC is available at <http://www.perpetualequity.com.au/>.

PIC's investment portfolio is managed by Perpetual Investment Management Limited (ACN 000 866 535 AFSL 234426) (PIML), part of the Perpetual Group (Perpetual Limited ABN 86 000 431 827 and its subsidiaries). This information has been prepared by PIML. It is general information only and is not intended to provide you with financial advice or take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. You should consider, with a financial adviser, whether the information is suitable for your circumstances. This information does not constitute an offer, invitation, solicitation or recommendation with respect to the purchase or sale of PIC's securities. To the extent permitted by law, no liability is accepted for any loss or damage as a result of any reliance on this information. Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

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