# **News Release**



## **26 February 2025**

## Financial results for the six months to 31 December 2024

- Revenue rises 12% growth maintained
- Operating cashflow up 30%
- Production up 21% on additional Mereenie acquisition
- Interim dividend AUD 1.5 cents per share totalling A\$3.4 million
- Shareholder NPAT excluding exploration expense up 30%
- Group NPAT down on prior corresponding period
- Presentation currency changed to Australian dollars \*

#### **Growth continues for Echelon**

Production, revenues and operating cashflows continued to grow for Echelon (ASX: ECH) in the six months to 31 December 2024.

Operating cashflows in the half-year were up by 30 percent compared to the prior corresponding period, from A\$19.3 million to A\$25.1 million.

Revenues grew 12 percent in the six months, from A\$47.5 million to A\$53.3 million.

Net profit after tax (NPAT) attributable to shareholders, excluding exploration expenses, was A\$8.4 million, an increase of 30 percent on December 2023.

Continuing cashflow growth is funding a dividend of AUD 1.5 cents per share. Since 2024, dividends of A\$13.4 million, or AUD 6 cents per share, will have been paid to Echelon shareholders.

Results Summary for six months	31 December 24	31 December 23 *	Change
Production (mboe)	824.9	682.3	21%
Revenue (A\$)	53.3	47.5	12%
Net operating cashflow (A\$)	25.1	19.3	30%
NPAT attributable to shareholders (excluding exploration) (A\$)	8.4	6.4	30%
NPAT attributable to shareholders (A\$)	3.7	6.4	(42%)
Group NPAT (A\$)	5.9	10.9	(46%)



### **Production**

Production for the period was up 21 percent to 824.9 thousand barrels of oil equivalent (mboe).

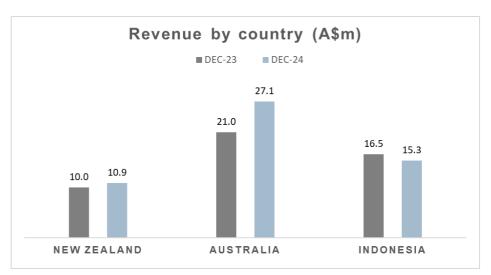
The uplift mainly reflected increases to production following the Group's acquisition in June 2024 of a further 25 percent interest in the Mereenie field in the Amadeus Basin, Northern Territory, Australia.

The additional interest in Mereenie contributed 183 mboe reflecting a 97 percent increase in Mereenie production from the prior corresponding period.

The excellent results of the Mereenie two well campaign, which completed in February 2025, will lift production capacity, providing up to 6 TJ/d under existing contracts with the Northern Territory Government as well as providing further gas for sale to a supply constrained market.

#### **Revenue Growth**

Revenues from production were strong, up 12 percent on prior corresponding period, as a result of the Group's strategy of seeking exposure to gas to support the energy transition, and high prices in each of Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia. Mereenie revenue across the Group was up 99.2 percent on prior year.



## **Exploration affected NPAT**

NPAT attributable to shareholders, excluding exploration expenses, was A\$8.4 million, an increase of 30 percent on December 2023.

NPAT attributable to shareholders was A\$3.7 million compared to A\$6.4 million in the corresponding six months of the previous financial year. The main component of the



change in NPAT was a rise in the exploration expense from A\$0.6 million to A\$5.3 million. This increase was largely driven by the Booth well dry hole in the Perth Basin, and costs related to drilling at the Mahato field.

## **Cue contribution**

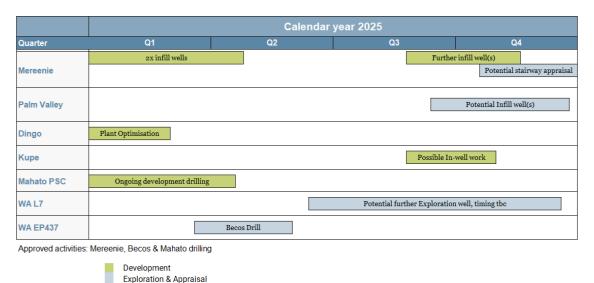
The Group's subsidiary, Cue Energy Resources (ASX: CUE) contributed a net profit of A\$4.3 million for the six months, down from A\$9.1 million in the prior corresponding period.

Cue declared an interim dividend of AUD 1.0 cents per share.

## Cash balance available for continued growth

The Group's cash at balance date was A\$41.8 million, including A\$17.1 million held by Cue, up from A\$38.6 million six months ago.

Expected activity before the end of the calendar year includes the Becos well at the Perth Basin, Australia in April, ongoing development drilling at Mahato, Indonesia, and infill wells at Mereenie, Australia.



#### Interim dividend declared

An interim dividend of AUD 1.5 cents per ordinary share will be paid on 31 March 2025 with a total value of A\$3.4 million. The record date for the dividend is 12 March 2025. The dividend will not be imputed or franked.

Shareholders are reminded to ensure banking details are up to date with the Group's share registry, Computershare.



## Strong results reflect success of strategic approach

Chief Executive Andrew Jefferies says the result is another pleasing outcome, with improved growth and shareholder returns from the Group's strategy of investment for growth.

"Our major strategic acquisition in the past year was to add 25 percent of the Mereenie asset, which is adding to our revenue and production volumes. It is vendor funded so there has been no need for additional shareholder capital. Our revenues are giving us the means to invest in development and exploration for further returns. We are delighted with the recent results of the two well campaign at Mereenie with flow-tests for both wells exceeding pre-drill expectations. The Echelon technical team's expertise drove the work that resulted in drilling and completing these wells underbalanced, avoiding damage to our producing formation and delivering significantly above previous results. The anticipated production increase strategically positions us to capitalise on the high spot prices ahead of the NGP opening.

"Exploration expenses were up due to a couple of disappointing results. In Western Australia the Booth well had good reservoir and structure, but no gas. In Indonesia at Mahato, Cue had a dry hole.

Despite this we have been able to sustain strong earnings through our diversification across jurisdictions, and assets that are performing well in markets with strong prices. In our key Northern Territory market, we signed an excellent 6-year contract with the Government, that underwrote our successful Mereenie well campaign. We continue to look forward to providing gas to the Nolans Mine for Arafura. Their planned facility will be using gas's reliable, high-energy, clean burning heat to produce minerals that are critical for renewables. It is nearby and has several growth options.

But there's more. We have attractive opportunities ahead both in our existing assets where the Mereenie well campaign's success will throw up further infill opportunities, as well as at Palm Valley where we plan more development wells to fill the plant back up, and Dingo near Alice Springs where there are production enhancement opportunities. We have acquired the EP145 permit adjacent to our Mereenie field with an early 80's discovery. Our technical team believe this is an overlooked gem and coupled with our recipe for drilling the prolific Pacoota reservoir applied just next door, we think there is big potential. We will work it up over the next couple of years with seismic and the drill bit.

Finally, we will drill the Becos well in EP437 Western Australia in the next couple of months, in an area we know has had hydrocarbons migrate through.



So another busy period: executing our strategy; pushing the technical envelope; and getting our foot on the assets that will build our future growth. All while growing revenues and cashflow, providing our shareholders dividends and keeping your lights on".

\* The Group has changed its presentation currency from New Zealand dollars to Australian dollars (AUD or A\$) from 1 July 2024. This aligns with the Group's presence in the Australian market, economic environment and strategic direction. Comparative figures have been restated to AUD. Please refer to the accompanying interim financial statements for more information.

Authorised for release by Andrew Jefferies, Managing Director, and Chief Executive Officer.

#### **About Echelon Resources Limited**

Echelon Resources Limited is a nimble Australasia-focused energy commodity exploration and production company, headquartered in Wellington, New Zealand. The Group is committed to undertaking development and exploration activities that are ethical and values-based, and underpinned by quality relationships, skills and values. It also strives to deliver strong ESG standards that meet the benchmarks expected by communities and regulators.

The Group's portfolio comprises a spread of wholly and partly owned onshore and offshore oil and gas assets, located in Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia. These stakes are held either directly by the Group, or indirectly through its circa 50% stake in ASX-listed Cue Energy Resources Limited.

Echelon's team of experienced energy sector experts, along with those of its key partners, are now working together to explore and develop multiple assets on the Group's books. These activities have comprised multiple exploration programs that continue to validate prospectivity within Echelon's asset portfolio. At the same time, the Group along with its joint venture partners remain on the lookout for opportunities to acquire additional value-accretive producing and exploration assets.

To learn more, please visit: www.echelonresources.com