

ASX RELEASE

Powerhouse Ventures Limited (ASX: PVL)

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### **New Investments (Quantum and AI) & Burleigh Ventures Fund update**

#### **Highlights:**

- **\$500,000 tranchised investment in Veriquantix, a quantum-based cybersecurity company pioneering eavesdropping detection on fiber optic networks as a drop-in product for data centers**
- **\$250,000 investment proposal in Sirius-beta Labs, a B2B company in situated reasoning for dual use commercial and national security applications**
- **Both investments will be transferred into the Critical Infrastructure Opportunities Fund under Powerhouse's Burleigh Ventures brand**
- **These positions will complement other unique exposures the Fund will have to the global mega trends of quantum, AI, and space technologies**

Powerhouse Ventures Limited ("PVL" or the "Company") (ASX: PVL) is pleased to advise it has made its final portfolio investments in cutting edge technology companies ahead of the proposed forthcoming launch of the Critical Infrastructure Opportunities Fund.

The quality of these two investments reinforces the Powerhouse team's ability to source and access deals and help position the companies for success. PVL shareholders are gaining access to global mega trends through early, hard-to-access positions. Quantum eavesdropping (data security in the age of quantum computing) and situated reasoning (enterprise-level decision making tools for critical domains) both embody our critical infrastructure thematic.

#### **Background**

Our corporate strategy presentation lodged with ASX on 28 February 2025 outlined our strategy to be more selective in using our balance sheet for portfolio investments in unlisted, longer duration companies. We advised that our investment focus would turn to the incubation of new and existing fund products

(Aliwa Funds and Burleigh Ventures) as well as supporting our new corporate advisory business unit.

The driver of this strategy is to increase overall shareholder returns by converting PVL into an operational business with different business units, market exposures, and ability to capture leveraged returns from an agile, high conviction platform.

As the first step in the execution of this overarching strategy, we then advised the market (refer ASX release dated 24 March 2025) of our initiative to launch our maiden unlisted technology fund, the Burleigh Ventures "Critical Infrastructure Global Opportunities Fund".

This Fund has been designed to provide unique access to globally significant technologies in AI, Quantum, Space, and the enabling materials needed for them. In our view, these technologies represent some of the best opportunities for significant long-term investment returns given the sheer scale in two critical global mega-trends underway in energy and data, being:

- 1) how humanity produces and uses energy; and
- 2) how we access and compute data.

### **Veriquantix Investment**

We have helped structure the foundational shareholding, alongside a leading Australian Venture Capital firm and a prominent Australian superannuation fund. This technology is being spun-out from the University of Queensland and the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Engineered Quantum Systems.

Veriquantix is seeking to add a unique, quantum-based security layer to existing optical communication networks with an immutable, instantaneous, and precise detection device of eavesdropping on data cables.

Protecting data against theft is one of the greatest challenges facing digital society and encryption alone is not enough to secure our data. A classical signal traveling through optical cables can be tapped, and the information gained can be copied and stored for later decryption. Moreover, the advent of quantum computers, machines capable of breaking most cryptographic codes, introduces yet more challenges in protecting data.

Veriquantix is developing a “Quantum Link Verification” technology to inspect and alert the presence of an intrusion in optical communication. The technology uses a quantum signal to verify the line which transmits full bandwidth data carried by classical signals so that any attempt to copy or tamper with a quantum signal leaves a strong detectable trace that the channel is compromised. Importantly, the technology is protocol agnostic and compatible with current transmission data speeds.

The Company won (first out of 27) the pitch competition at the Australian Cyber Exchange (run by Tech Council of Australia) in Sydney April 2025 and has garnered interest in trials from prominent data center providers.

The Company has filed for all relevant global patents which will secure a moat as it seeks to demonstrate and commercialise the technology. Our total financial commitment (\$500,000 representing over 10% of the Company) has been tranced in two with the second, smaller tranche, subject to milestone achievements.

Our Chairman, James Kruger, a long-standing investor in quantum technologies, will be Veriquantix’s first Chairman.

### **Sirius-beta Labs Investment**

We have helped structure the foundational shareholding in this Australian-based startup developing situated reasoning technology to support next generation AI decision-making in novel, uncertain, and data-sparse environments.

Sirius-beta Labs core technology is built on research from the US Stanford Centre for the Study of Language and Information and other related US programs. The company has assembled a world-leading team both in Australia and the US of applied category-theoretic mathematicians, developers, and modelers. Backed by patents, their solution will support multiple modelling and data ingestion methods, enabling sophisticated, open world, traceable and context aware decision making.

At seed stage, the Company is developing its products alongside paid pilots focusing on specific real-world problems in both commercial and national security domains. The company is also in discussions with possible US-based integration partners.

A US-led Series A is planned for early next year. Subject to scale-back, our allocation and total financial commitment will be approximately \$250,000. Our chairman, James Kruger will become the Chairman of the Sirius-beta Lab's board.

### **Balance Sheet Strategy**

As outlined in our 24 March 2025 ASX release, PVL balance sheet investments that qualify for the Critical Infrastructure Opportunities Fund will be transferred on a par-basis in return for units in the Fund. PVL will thereby become a significant unitholder in the fund in a manner that is non-dilutionary to PVL shareholders whilst growing exposure to a larger pool of globally significant assets.

We are excited by this opportunity to put the Powerhouse Group on the map with a globally relevant and significant fund in the AI, Quantum and Space thematics.

We look forward to updating shareholders in the short term on the launch of the Burleigh Fund, progress on the investee companies and capital raising initiatives.

**James Kruger**  
**Executive Chairman**

### **ENDS**

*Authorised by the Board of Powerhouse Ventures Limited*

### **About Powerhouse Ventures Limited:**

Powerhouse is a high conviction, speciality investment house with an expanding range of funds management products, advisory and capital syndication services, and investor relations support. We focus on asset classes that are in short term market dislocation and under-appreciated and / or represent the next frontier of growth opportunity. We have high conviction on listed small caps, Australian carbon projects, and technologies that will develop into critical infrastructure.