

Flash Comment

Empire Energy Group Limited

Field, flows and flares – horizontal drilling good-to-go

Empire Energy Group Limited (ASX:EEG) is a junior oil and gas producer/explorer, with onshore Northern Territory (NT) and US oil/gas assets. EEG has the largest tenement position (28.9m acres) in the highly-prospective Greater McArthur Basin, which includes the Beetaloo Sub-basin. With the purchase of the Pangaea-EMG JV Beetaloo sub-basin acreage, there is a material uplift in the stated 2C contingent resources to 199Bcf gas/3.5mmbbls liquids, with significant upside potential. The NT energy basins are fast developing as a strategic source of liquids-rich gas to meet east coast Australia's future energy needs and potential supply for Darwin's expanding LNG export terminals, amid strong policy/funding support from territory and federal governments. Positive look-through data from other regional operators, including Origin Energy/Falcon and Santos/Tamboran, adds more grist to the emerging Beetaloo Sub-basin commercialisation model. EEG is well funded for its next phase of drilling works, with \$19mn of federal government grants across 3 H-wells in the 100% owned EP187 tenement. EEG's economic case could materially progress over the next 12 months, as more findings and offtake options take shape.

Business model

Empire Energy Group (EEG) is a junior oil and gas producer/exploration company, focused on maturing its portfolio of onshore, long-life oil and gas fields. The company holds substantial exploration acreage (28.9m acres) in the world-class McArthur-Beetaloo basins in the Northern Territory and is actively progressing evaluation activity to support reserve bookings and underpin early gas development opportunities. Success could see first cash flow within 24-36 months (RaaS estimate), assisted by LPG liquid "credits". Lookthrough results from horizontal drilling in adjacent tenements will help define the development model. EEG's business case will also benefit from up to \$19.3mn in funding under the federal government's Beetaloo Strategic Basin Plan to develop infrastructure and drilling programs; plus an additional \$5.37mn in R&D funds.

EEG scores on multiple fronts

EEG continues to score on multiple fronts, as highlighted in its latest update, and is on track to meet our expectations. 1) Carpentaria-1 vertical Extended Production Testing restarted on 28 September, with flow rates lifting ~45% from 0.25mmcf/day prior to shutin, to average 0.364mmcf/day over the first 10 days of recommenced gas production. 2) The NT government has approved EEG's application to drill up to 7 horizontal wells and acquire a 2D in-fill seismic survey on EP187, with federal government funds of c.\$19mn likely supporting up to 25% of the cost of 3 wells. 3) Preparation of the Carpentaria-2H well-pad has begun, c.11km north of and targeting Velkerri shales more than 200m deeper than the C-1 well. Operations should commence by month-end. The preferred horizontal target will be determined after considering the results from both vertical sections, with the 'B' Shale being the strongest zonal contributor to date. 4) The EP187 in-fill 2D seismic survey will begin in the first week of November and together with the specific EEG data and regional results, should underpin the re-evaluation of attributable resources before mid-2022. The expanded data set should also support the definition of a well development model as a precursor to the economic/commercial phase.

Our mid-point valuation is \$1.04/share (\$622mn)

Our valuation range for EEG is \$400-\$738mn (\$0.64-\$1.19/share), with \$622mn or \$1.04/share at the mid-point. There are further look-through results to come and the next phase of EEG drilling and seismic is expected to provide potential to increase 2P+2C volumes, as well as better define and crystallise our asset valuation.

20th October 2021

EEG
\$0.365
\$221M
597M
~\$20M
~\$28M

Share price performance (12-months)



Upside Case

- EP187 programs accelerate and underpin a substantial Beetaloo business case
- Look-through success provides independent validation of the commercial model and crystallising of value
- EEG drilling success generates high-value, longterm strategic partnerships and funding options

Downside Case

- Gas rates are sub-commercial, negatively impacting regional permit values
- Additional equity financing becomes highly dilutive to per share growth opportunities
- Gas success in NT/Qld puts downward pressure on domestic gas prices, raising the commercialisation threshold

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Alex Underwood	Managing Director/CEO
Paul Espie AO	Non-Executive Chairman
Dr John Warburton	Non-Executive Director
Peter Cleary	Non-Executive Director
Louis Rozman	Non-Executive Director
Paul Fudge	Non-Executive Director

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FINANCIAL SERVICES GUIDE

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