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COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)b

Declaration by the directors of a holding company in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares

155<sub>(6)b</sub>

Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

Note Please read the notes on page 3 before completing

this form.

\* Insert full name of company

ØInsert name(s)
and address(es)
of all the directors

To the Registrar of Companies (address overleaf - Note 5)

CONSORT EU LIMITED

Name of company

HR8 1AU

For official use

Company Number

2907493

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|---------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|------|
| Alexand | ler Hunte:  | r of 35 | Pitten  | gullies | Brae, E  | Petercult                             | er, Aberd | leen AB14  | 0QU  |
| Jeffrey | Saunder     | s Macdo | nald of | 18114   | Langsbur | ry Drive,                             | Houston,  | Texas      |      |
| 77084,  | USA         |         |         |         |          | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |           |            |      |

† delete as appropriate

is inappropriate

[the-cole-director][all the directors]† of the above company (hereinafter called 'this company') do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

The business of the company is:

- # delete whichever # delete whic
  - (b) that of a person authorised under section 3 or 4 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 to earry on insurance business in the United Kingdom±
  - (c) something other than the above‡

| The company is <del>[th</del>  | <del>e]</del> [a] holding company o <u>f*</u> | Consort | Europe       | Hydrocar     | bons Lir        | mited         |
|--------------------------------|---|---------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
|                                |   |         | <del> </del> |              |                 | which is      |
|                                | nancial assistance in conn                    |         | the acqui    | sition of sh | ares            |               |
| in <del>[this company]</del> [ | Consort Group Limit                           | :ed     |              |              | <del>_//^</del> |               |
|                                |   |         | the          | holding co   | mpany of tl     | nis company]† |

Presentor's name, address and reference (if any):

Ledingham Chalmers Solicitors DX AB 15 Aberdeen Ref: RRU/JMI/PL For official use

General Section

Post room



COMPANIES HOUSE

0129 06/11*1*03



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The assistance is for the purpose of [that acquisition] [reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the purpose of that acquisition].† (note 1)

The number and class of the shares acquired or to be acquired is: 423,272 Ord A shares of £2.125ea/3,223,866 A Pref shares of £10ea/9,369,228 B Pref shares of £12ea

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering The assistance is to be given to: (note 2) Caledonia Oil and Gas Limited, a company registered in Scotland (Company No. 240197) and having its registered office at Johnstone House, 52-54 Rose Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1HA

The assistance will take the form of:

The Company entering into the following documents:-

- a Senior Credit Agreement and a Subordinated Credit Agreement (together "the Credit Agreements") among (1) the Company, (2) The Royal Bank of Scotland plc ("the Bank"), (3) Consort Caister Limited, (4) Consort Energy Trading Limited, (5) Consort Group Limited, (6) Consort Europe Hydrocarbons Limited, (7) Consort Europe Resources Limited, (8) Consort Median Limited, (9) Consort North Sea Limited, (10) Consort Resources Limited, (11) Offshore Oil and Gas Development Company Limited and (12) Caledonia Oil and Gas Limited
- 2. a Security Agreement among the same parties as above;
- 3. an Intercreditor Agreement among the same parties as above; and
- 4. an Inter-Company Funding Agreement among the same parties as above with the exception of the Bank.

† delete as appropriate

The person who [has acquired][will acquire] the share is:

Caledonia Oil and Gas Limited

The principle terms on which the assistance will be given are:

SEE PAPER APART

The amount (if any) by which the net assets of the company which is giving the assistance will be reduced by giving it is

The amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £ 0.00

The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is £ 0.00

The date on which the assistance is to be given is within 8 weeks of the date hereof

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Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

\* delete either (a) or (b) as appropriate 44 We have formed the opinion, as regards the company's initial situation immediately following the date on which the assistance is proposed to be given, that there will be no ground on which it could then be found to be unable to pay its debts. (note3)

- (a) {I / We have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during the year immediately following that date]\* (note 3)
- (b) [It is intended to commence the winding-up of the company within 12 months of that date, and I/we have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts in full within 12 months of the commencement of the winding up.]\* (note 3)

And ++ we make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared at ONE PLET PLACE

ON DOWN CLAM

Day Month Year

on 27110 2107

before me Known Alexandra Samuel S

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public of Justice of the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on a Commissioner for Oaths.

### **NOTES**

- For the meaning of "a person incurring a liability" and "reducing or discharging a liability" see section 152(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 2 Insert full name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) to whom assistance is to be given; if a recipient is a company the registered office address should be shown.
- Contingent and prospective liabilities of the company are to be taken into account - see section 156(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- The auditors report required by section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985 must be annexed to this form.

5. The address for companies registered in England and Wales or Wales is:-

The Registrar of Companies Companies House Crown Way Cardiff CF14 3UZ

or, for companies registered in Scotland:-

The Registrar of Companies 37 Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EB

# **CONSORT EU LIMITED**

# PAPER APART

- 1. the Credit Agreements in terms of which Consort Europe Hydrocarbons Limited would guarantee the liabilities and obligations of Caledonia Oil and Gas Limited, Consort Caister Limited and Consort Resources Limited to the Bank;
- 2. the Security Agreement in terms of which Consort Europe Hydrocarbons Limited would:-
  - (i) charge by way of an equitable mortgage in favour of the Bank all shares owned by it or held by any nominee on its behalf; and
  - (ii) charge by way of a floating charge in favour of the Bank the Borrowing Base Assets as defined therein

in security of the liabilities and obligations of Caledonia Oil and Gas Limited to the Bank;

- 3. the Intercreditor Agreement in terms of which Consort Europe Hydrocarbons Limited would become subject to the provisions therein relating to the ranking of debts as between the parties thereto; and
- 4. the Inter-Company Funding Agreement in terms of which Consort Europe Hydrocarbons Limited would be obliged to make available where necessary such amounts as may be payable from time to time by Caledonia Oil and Gas Ltd to the Bank.



**■ Ernst & Young LLP** 50 Huntly Street Aberdeen AB10 1ZN Phone: 01224 653000 Fax: 01224 653001 www.ey.com/uk

#### Private and confidential

The Directors Consort EU Limited Five Chancery Lane Clifford's Inn London EC4A 1BU 23 October 2003

MSB/DMacR/10-04

Direct Line: 01224 653286 Direct Fax: 01224 653116

e-mail: mscottbrown@uk.ey.com

**Dear Sirs** 

# Auditors' Report to the Directors of Consort EU Limited pursuant to Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors of Consort EU Limited dated 23 October 2003 in connection with the proposal that Consort Europe Hydrocarbons Limited ("the Company") should give financial assistance for the purchase of the whole of the issued share capital of its ultimate parent company, Consort Group Limited.

# **Basis of Opinion**

We have enquired into the state of the Company's affairs in order to review the bases for the statutory declaration.

## Opinion

We are not aware of anything to indicate that the opinion expressed by the directors in their declaration as to any of the matters mentioned in Section 156(2) of the Companies Act 1985 is unreasonable in all the circumstances.

Yours faithfully

Ernst & Young LLP Registered Auditor

Aberdeen

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