

## **Recommendation on selection of auditor**

Oslo, 01.03.2022

### **To the annual general meeting of Aker BP ASA**

Aker BP ASA conducted a competitive tender for audit services in 2021. Pursuant to Article 16, paragraph 2 of EU Regulation no. 537/2014, the Auditors Act and amendments in the Norwegian Public Limited Liability Companies Act, the Audit & Risk Committee shall make a recommendation to the Annual General Meeting of Aker BP ASA regarding the selection of an auditor. The recommendation shall identify at least two alternatives from which to select an auditor and shall make a justified recommendation for one of the auditors.

In order to comply with the independence requirements including the prohibited services listed in Article 5 in the EU Regulation referred to above, the election of the new auditor will be effective for the audit from the fiscal year starting with 1 January 2022. Aker BP ASA's current auditor, KPMG, will act as Aker BP ASA's auditor for the entire 2021 fiscal year audit and continue to act as the company's auditor until the completion of the limited review of Q1 2022 report, which is planned to be published 28 April 2022.

The reputable audit firms Deloitte, KPMG and PwC submitted offers. Other relevant providers of audit services were considered but did not take part in the competitive tender. After the tenders were received on 7 June 2021, a thorough review process was conducted, including presentations of the tenders and individual meetings with all tender participants. All tenders were evaluated against predefined selection criteria:

- Understanding of Aker BP (industry, business risk etc)
- Audit approach, including but not limited to ICFR audit integration
- Audit fee and fee level for non-audit services
- Reporting, feedback and knowledge sharing
- Team composition, competence, experience and service level
- Transition process

The tender participants are all highly competent and professional, and they are ranked among the best audit firms globally. They all scored high on the predefined selection criteria and were all assessed capable to provide effective and high-quality audit services to Aker BP. The final phase of the tender process included follow-up meetings, clarifications, reference checks and final fee negotiations.

Overall, the tender from PwC achieved the highest score; demonstrating a committed company with strong teams possessing industry knowledge, strong experience within E&P accounting and tax, efficient audit approach with well-integrated technology platform and embedded internal control (ICFR) in addition to a competitive audit fee.

Based on the conclusion from the tender process, the Audit & Risk Committee therefore recommends that PwC is elected as auditor for Aker BP ASA, effective from the fiscal year audit starting with 1 January 2022.

The Audit & Risk Committee would however like to thank KPMG for several years of delivering high-quality audit services and excellent expertise to Aker BP.

In accordance with Article 16, paragraph 2 of the EU regulation no. 537/2014, the Audit & Risk Committee confirms that the recommendation is free from influence by a third party and that no clause or contract are entered into between Aker BP and a third party limiting the alternatives available to the annual general meeting of Aker BP, as referred to in Article 37 of Directive 2006/43/EC.

*Audit & Risk Committee of Aker BP ASA*