

1 Accounting policies

Argent Energy Limited (the “Company”) is a private company incorporated, domiciled and registered in the UK. The registered number is 05455240.

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 *Reduced Disclosure Framework* (“FRS 101”). The amendments to FRS 101 (2014/15 Cycle) issued in July 2015 and effective immediately have been applied.

In preparing these financial statements, the Company applies the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU (“Adopted IFRSs”), but makes amendments where necessary in order to comply with Companies Act 2006 and has set out below where advantage of the FRS 101 disclosure exemptions has been taken. The presentation currency of these financial statements is Sterling. All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest £1,000.

The Company’s ultimate parent undertaking, John Swire & Sons Limited, includes the Company in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of John Swire & Sons Limited are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU and are available to the public and may be obtained from 59 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6AJ.

In these financial statements, the company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 101 in respect of the following disclosures:

- Cash Flow Statement and related notes;
- Comparative period reconciliations of tangible fixed assets.
- Disclosures in respect of capital management;
- The effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs;
- Disclosures in respect of the compensation of Key Management Personnel; and
- Disclosures of transactions with a management entity that provides key management personnel services to the company.

As the consolidated financial statements of John Swire & Sons Limited include the equivalent disclosures, the Company has also taken the exemptions under FRS 101 available in respect of the following disclosures:

- Certain disclosures required by IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurement* and the disclosures required by IFRS 7 *Financial Instrument Disclosures*.

The Company proposes to continue to adopt the reduced disclosure framework of FRS 101 in its next financial statements.

Judgements made by the directors, in the application of these accounting policies that have significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in note 20.

1.1 Measurement convention

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.2 Going concern

Notwithstanding net current liabilities of £25,876,000 as at 31 December 2019 and a loss for the year then ended of £9,883,000, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors consider to be appropriate for the following reasons.

The directors have prepared cash flow forecasts for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements which indicate that, taking account of reasonably possible downsides, the company will have sufficient funds, through funding from its immediate parent, Argent Energy Holdings Limited to meet its liabilities as they fall due for that period. These forecasts have subsequently been stress-tested to include severe but plausible downsides to reflect the impact of the COVID-19 crisis which have taken into account reductions in revenue and the increased costs that the Company is likely to incur in order to maintain the continuity of business. Argent Energy Holdings Limited has indicated its intention to continue to make available such funds as are needed by the company for the period covered by the forecasts. As with any company placing reliance on other group entities for financial support, the directors acknowledge that there can be no certainty that this support will continue although, at the date of approval of these financial statements, they have no reason to believe that it will not do so.

Consequently, the directors have considered the impact of COVID-19 and are confident that the company will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements and therefore have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

1.3 Classification of financial instruments issued by the Company

Following the adoption of IAS 32, financial instruments issued by the Company are treated as equity only to the extent that they meet the following two conditions:

- (a) they include no contractual obligations upon the company to deliver cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another party under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the company; and
- (b) where the instrument will or may be settled in the company's own equity instruments, it is either a non-derivative that includes no obligation to deliver a variable number of the company's own equity instruments or is a derivative that will be settled by the company's exchanging a fixed amount of cash or other financial assets for a fixed number of its own equity instruments.

To the extent that this definition is not met, the proceeds of issue are classified as a financial liability. Where the instrument so classified takes the legal form of the company's own shares, the amounts presented in these financial statements for called up share capital and share premium account exclude amounts in relation to those shares.

1.4 Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the Company's functional currencies at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are retranslated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are retranslated to the functional currency at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the profit and loss account except for differences arising on the retranslation of qualifying cash flow hedges, which are recognised in other comprehensive income.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Non-derivative financial instruments

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise investments in equity and debt securities, trade and other debtors, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other creditors.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Trade and other creditors

Trade and other creditors are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Interest-bearing borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, interest-bearing borrowings are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

1.6 Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans and other long-term employee benefits

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where parts of an item of tangible fixed assets have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of tangible fixed assets.

Leases in which the Company assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased asset are classified as finance leases. All other leases are classified as operating leases. Leased assets acquired by way of finance lease are stated on initial recognition at an amount equal to the lower of their fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments at inception of the lease, including any incremental costs directly attributable to negotiating and arranging the lease. At initial recognition a finance lease liability is recognised equal to the fair value of the leased asset or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. The present value of the minimum lease payments is calculated using the interest rate implicit in the lease.

The company assesses at each reporting date whether tangible fixed assets (including those leased under the finance lease) are impaired.

Depreciation is charged to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of tangible fixed assets. The Land on which the plants are located is leased from Essar Oil UK Limited on a 25 year lease. Owned land is not depreciated. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

- Buildings - over 25 years
- Plant, machinery and vehicles - over 4 to 20 years

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each balance sheet date.

Notes *(continued)*

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.8 Intangible assets

The Company has utilised the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO) scheme since the Company commenced trading. It is able to obtain certificates for every litre of biodiesel it sells duty paid for transport use. These certificates can be sold to obligated parties who have a shortfall in the reporting period.

Certificates generated during the period are recognised at market value. Certificates for which there is no active market are not recognised.

Research and development

Expenditure on research activities is recognised in the profit and loss account as an expense as incurred. Expenditure on development activities is capitalised if the product or process is technically and commercially feasible and the Company intends and has the technical ability and sufficient resources to complete development, future economic benefits are probable and if the Company can measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development. Development activities involve a plan or design for the production of new or substantially improved products or processes. The expenditure capitalised includes the cost of materials, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of overheads and capitalised borrowing costs. Other development expenditure is recognised in the profit and loss account as an expense as incurred. Capitalised development expenditure is stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and less accumulated impairment losses.

1.9 Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is based on the weighted average principle and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the stocks, production or conversion costs and other costs in bringing them to their existing location and condition. In the case of manufactured stocks and work in progress, cost includes an appropriate share of overheads based on normal operating capacity.

1.10 Revenue recognition

Revenue is recorded at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for sale of goods and services in the ordinary nature of business. Revenue is shown net of Value Added Tax of goods and services provided to customers.

1.11 Expenses

Interest receivable and Interest payable

Interest payable and similar charges include interest payable, finance charges on finance leases recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method, and net foreign exchange losses that are recognised in the profit and loss account (see foreign currency accounting policy). Other interest receivable and similar income include interest receivable on funds invested and net foreign exchange gains. Interest income and interest payable is recognised in profit or loss as it accrues, using the effective interest method. Foreign currency gains and losses are reported on a net basis.

1.12 Taxation

Tax on the profit or loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the profit and loss account except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income, in which case it is recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the temporary difference can be utilised.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 Dividends

Dividends unpaid at the balance sheet date are only recognised as a liability at that date to the extent that they are appropriately authorised and are no longer at the discretion of the company. Unpaid dividends that do not meet these criteria are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

1.14 Borrowings

Borrowings are initially stated at the fair value of the consideration received. Finance costs are charged to the profit and loss account over the term of the borrowings so as to represent a constant proportion of the balance of capital repayments outstanding. Accrued finance costs attributable to borrowings where the maturity at the date of issue is less than twelve months are included in accrued charges within current liabilities. For all other borrowings, accrued finance charges and issue costs are added to the carrying value of those borrowings.

1.15 Impairment excluding stocks and deferred tax assets

Financial assets (including trade and other debtors)

A financial asset not carried at fair value through profit or loss is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. For financial instruments measured at cost less impairment an impairment is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the best estimate of the amount that the Company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised through the unwinding of the discount. When a subsequent event causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss.

Non-financial assets

The carrying amounts of the Company's non-financial assets, other than stocks and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. For goodwill, and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives or that are not yet available for use, the recoverable amount is estimated each year at the same time.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or its CGU exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the units, and then to reduce the carrying amounts of the other assets in the unit (group of units) on a *pro rata* basis.

1.16 Changes in accounting policies

In these financial statements the Company has changed its accounting policies in the following areas:

IFRS 16 has been applied from 1 January 2019 and requires that upon lease commencement, for all leases, a lessee recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability subject to two exemptions ('low-value assets' and short-term leases). This has resulted in the Company's operating leases being reflected as an asset as shown in Note 8 below, with a corresponding lease liability.