

## 78 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PREMIER OIL PLC //

We have audited the parent company financial statements of Premier Oil plc for the year ended 31 December 2008 which comprise the Balance Sheet, Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and the related notes 1 to 16. These parent company financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

We have reported separately on the group financial statements of Premier Oil plc for the year ended 31 December 2008 and on the information in the Remuneration Report that is described as having been audited.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the parent company financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the parent company financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the parent company financial statements give a true and fair view and whether the parent company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you whether in our opinion the Report of the Directors is consistent with the parent company financial statements. The information given in the Report of the Directors includes that specific information presented in the Chief Executive's and Financial Reviews that is cross referred from the Business Review section of the Report of the Directors.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited parent company financial statements. The other information comprises only the Report of the Directors, the Chairman's Statement and the Chief Executive's and Financial Reviews. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the parent company financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any further information outside the Annual Report.

### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the parent company financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the directors in the preparation of the parent company financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the parent company financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the parent company financial statements.

### Opinion

In our opinion:

- the parent company financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2008;
- the parent company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and
- the information given in the Report of the Directors is consistent with the parent company financial statements.

### Deloitte LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors  
London  
United Kingdom  
25 March 2009