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STAKEHOLDERS  
TO MEET LEADING  
INTERNATIONAL  
BUSINESSES IN  
WASHINGTON, D.C. TO  
DISCUSS INVESTMENT  
PARTNERSHIPS**

The Powering Africa: Summit will return to the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Washington D.C. from 28 February to 2nd March 2018 to discuss opportunities to develop and invest in power projects on the African continent.

Whilst the market has hesitated in some key economies, the likes of Uganda, Cote D'Ivoire, Senegal, Zambia and Ghana are booming with projects including the multibillion dollar Uganda-Tanzania Oil Pipeline, which currently has investors buzzing.

In larger economies including Morocco, Nigeria and Egypt, investors are honing in on a potential avalanche of projects. When these start crossing the finish line, the lives of millions will change for the better and host governments will be healthier than ever, allowing for more investment and global partnerships to take root.

On a recent trip to South Africa, U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry commented how energy increases security for the young. An obvious corollary is how increased security increases confidence which enables better learning, stronger ideas and employment, and in the end a more ready and able consumer - which will really turn the lights on across the continent.

South Africa is a different opportunity. With the Government's recent announcement that all outstanding renewable IPPs will be signed immediately, the billions of dollars committed to the country are theirs to lose. However, legal issues around the 'security of contracts' is now under the spotlight more than ever. This has sent ripples across the continent for investors employing huge workforces and committing millions in development costs before projects are even closed.

To support the above points, at the conference in Washington decision-makers will double down discussions to get projects moving. The Summit will explore tools being offered by Power Africa, World Bank, IFC and other institutional investors to stabilise market

conditions and provide predictability and security in the development phase of energy projects in Africa.

Left: Ed Royce, Chairman: U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, addresses delegates at the 3rd Powering Africa: Summit in March 2017

SOURCE EnergyNet

**SNC-LAVALIN AND  
SAUDI ARAMCO SIGN  
MOU SUPPORTING  
IN-COUNTRY  
OPPORTUNITIES**

SNC-Lavalin (TSX: SNC) and Saudi Aramco today signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") signalling SNC-Lavalin's continued commitment to creating and accelerating opportunities for local workforces in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The MoU supports Saudi Aramco's In-Kingdom Total Value Add ("IKTVA") program, which applies to Saudi Aramco suppliers and drives the localization of oilfield services and equipment value chain, to strengthen and diversify the Saudi economy; transfer technologies, skill and knowledge

through training and development; and create thousands of new jobs for the growing Saudi population.

Neil Bruce, President & Chief Executive Officer of SNC-Lavalin, was present for the signing, and said: "SNC-Lavalin has been operating in Saudi Arabia for over 40 years, with a clear commitment to developing local talent and creating opportunities for local supply chain. In recent years, our presence has grown rapidly, in large part due to our ongoing Saudization efforts and on ground presence."

"I am proud to sign the agreement today, which reflects our long-term commitment to the region and our valued and trusted relationship with Saudi Aramco, and gives a working platform to accelerate our ongoing efforts to meet and exceed the objectives set within the IKTVA initiative."

Christian Brown, President, Oil & Gas, SNC-Lavalin, added: "Our work for Saudi Aramco is of great importance to us; we have close to 10,000 team members working in the country and putting in place such a framework around iktva means we can continue to grow and execute additional scopes on behalf of Saudi Aramco."

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Our presence, scale and experience in the region mean we are well placed to implement this, and we see strong demand for similar initiatives supporting economies and social development in our active bidding."

About SNC-Lavalin

Founded in 1911, SNC-Lavalin is a global fully integrated professional services and project management company and a major player in the ownership of infrastructure. From offices around the world, SNC-Lavalin's employees are proud to build what matters. Our teams provide comprehensive end-to-end project solutions – including capital investment, consulting, design, engineering, construction, sustaining capital and operations and maintenance – to clients in oil and gas, mining and metallurgy, infrastructure and power. On July 3, 2017, SNC-Lavalin acquired Atkins, one of the world's most respected design, engineering and project management consultancies. [www.snclavalin.com](http://www.snclavalin.com)

SOURCE SNC-Lavalin

**TUNGHSU OPTOELECTRONIC, A LEADING CHINESE GRAPHENE APPLICATION PROVIDER, SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE INSTITUTIONS IN 5 ASIAN COUNTRIES**

On December 12, Tunghsu Optoelectronic signed Agreement on Cooperation for Jointly Building Smart Cities with the related institutions in

Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Mongolia to form a strategic partnership. Meanwhile, Tunghsu Optoelectronic also signed an Exclusive Agency Contract and Sale Contract of more than RMB 10 million with Okura Co., Ltd. for Graphene Thermolysis High Power LED Lights.

"The Belt and Road" initiative provides more strategic opportunities for corporations. The parties involved in the contracts have decided to build the development community in order to construct the IoT management platform for a smart city integrated with smart energy management, smart city administration, smart city safeguards, smart communication and smart transport to realize intelligent thermal management, intelligent lighting, intelligent travel and to speed up the establishment of smart cities, based upon the new technologies of graphene and the wide application of new energy vehicles, as well as big data, cloud computing and Internet.

Tunghsu Optoelectronic is the leading manufacturer and supplier of high-end intelligent equipment in China, which is a public listed corporation and the subsidiary of Tunghsu Group. Its business include the R&D and manufacturing of optoelectronic displaying materials, the high-end equipment manufacturing and system integration, the industrialization of graphene applications, the R&D and production of new energy vehicles, the construction of smart cities, etc. Therein, the construction of smart cities has the distinguishing feature, driven by the industry of graphene applications.

SOURCE Tunghsu

**BRUIN POINT HELIUM COMMENCES WORK PROGRAM**

Bruin Point Helium Corp. (the "Company" or "Bruin Point") (TSX Venture: BPX) Mr. Frank Jacobs, CEO, is pleased to provide this update on the commencement of the Company's work program. The Company is an early-stage helium exploration and development company recently listed on the TSX Venture Exchange which is now initiating the exploration of the acreage held by the Company for the potential of helium, carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons.

Founded in December 2014, Bruin Point was established to acquire and assess the helium potential of areas in North America. Identifying the rapid growth in demand for helium as a result of new applications across healthcare, technology and other industries, the Company secured a ten-year lease for 12 Federal licenses totaling 17,767 acres within the prolific resource-generating Greater Uinta Basin area in Carbon County, Utah.

The Greater Uinta Basin has potential for extraction of helium, carbon dioxide and both oil and gas. The acreage held by the Company is close to established oil production to the South West and carbon dioxide production to the west. An exploration well within the Bruin Point acreage and another well less than a mile from the acreage boundary both contained helium. Independent Qualified Reserves Evaluators Gustavson Associates LLC, based in Boulder Colorado, completed their National Instrument 51-101 report1 to assess the resource in August 2017. The encouraging report notes

that "the assets are placed in a good geological location for potential helium accumulations to be present".

Following several years of planning, Bruin Point can now commence the exploration of the acreage. Management visited the area and has recommended to the Board to acquire another 55 miles of reprocessed seismic data and plan for a vertical exploratory wells.

Bruin Point is led by a team with a track record of success. CEO Frank Jacobs, a petroleum engineer with 35 years of operational experience in drilling and production, is supported by Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer, Lawrence Pemble. Additionally, David Sidoo serves as Chairman and Nick DeMare as a Director. The Company holds a 100% working interest ("WI") and an 87.5% net revenue interest ("NRI"), with 10% being held by the BLM, Amerillo Field Office, and 2.5% to the original vendor of the assets.

Helium is the primary target of the firm's exploration efforts. The price of helium has doubled in the last decade and reliable demand projections forecast further growth, making this the perfect time to establish the Company's foothold in the market. Amid uncertainty of supply from Qatar, support for new North American helium players is expected to be strong.

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1 National Instrument 51-101  
- Resource Evaluation Report:  
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"Helium is a globally strategic element in emerging technologies, and by developing the resources of helium in North America we can create stable supply to meet growing demand," said Frank Jacobs, Bruin Point's CEO.

Additional details regarding Bruin Point's production plan and timeline will be available in the coming months. For more information about Bruin Point, please visit <http://www.bruinpoint.com/>.

About Bruin Point Helium  
Bruin Point Helium Corp., headquartered in British Columbia, Canada, is developing its helium asset in North America, covering 17,767 acres in the prolific southeast Carbon County district of Utah. Holding potentially globally significant helium reserves, Bruin Point Helium is poised to capture the opportunity offered by rising helium prices due to growing demand for helium globally being driven by new technology-based applications, and set against the limited supply of the gas on earth. Bruin Point Helium Corp. is listed on the TSX Ventures Exchange.

Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This news release may contain forward-looking statements that are based on the Company's current expectations and estimates. Forward-looking statements are frequently characterized by words such as "plan", "expect", "project", "intend", "believe", "anticipate", "estimate", "suggest", "indicate" and other similar words or statements that certain events or conditions "may" or "will" occur, and include, without limitation, statements regarding the Company's current plans. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from estimated or anticipated events or results implied or expressed in such forward-looking statements. Such forward looking statements are qualified in their entirety by the inherent risks and uncertainties surrounding future expectations, including that the Transaction contemplated herein is completed.

Forward-looking statements are based on a number of assumptions which may prove to be incorrect, including, but not limited to: the ability of Bruin Point to obtain necessary approvals to complete the Transaction or to satisfy the requirements of the TSXV with respect to the Transaction and the Bruin Point financing. The cautionary statements qualify all forward-looking statements attributable to Karoo and Bruin Point and persons acting on their behalves. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made and, except as may be required by applicable securities laws, the Company disclaims any intent or obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, and actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, undue reliance should not be put on such statements due to the inherent uncertainty therein.

SOURCE Bruin Point Helium Corp.

### JA SOLAR SETS NEW WORLD RECORD OF OUTPUT POWER FOR 60-CELL MODULES ASSEMBLED BY MONO-SI PERC CELLS

JA Solar Holdings Co., Ltd., one of the world's largest manufacturers of high-performance solar power products, today announces the output power of its 60-cell PV modules assembled by mono-Si PERC cells has exceeded 325W. The actual output power of 326.67 W measured and certified by TUV SUD sets a new world record for 60-cell mono-Si PV modules.

As one of the largest PV product manufacturers in the world, JA Solar has been instrumental in developing advanced PV technologies through invention and innovation. In 2010, the Company filed an invention application for its industrial PERC cell structure and the method of production, the patent was granted by the Patent and Trade Mark Office of Chinese National Bureau of Intellectual Properties in 2012. In 2013, JA Solar was the first company to break the 20% conversion-efficiency barrier for the industrial version of PERC solar cells using screen-printing metallization process, and started mass production of PERC-based cells and modules in the following year. JA Solar also holds the intellectual property rights for bifacial PERC cells with a Chinese patent granted by the National Bureau of Intellectual Properties of China in 2016. PERC technology has increasingly

become the mainstream approach for high-performance PV products in the past few years. According to SEMI PVITR, PERC products will account for 40% of total product shipments by 2020. The advance of PERC technology as well as the wide adoption of the technology have significantly impacted on the solar powered energy generation in terms of the reduction of levelized cost of energy and grid parity. Currently, the average power output of the 60-cell PV modules assembled with mono-Si PERC cells JA Solar offers is 300W. This newly set world record is a result of JA Solar's unwavering commitment of continuous performance improvement, as well as its strong R&D effort and drive devoted for advancing PV technology. It is also a result in preparation to meet the technological challenge of the "Front Runner" initiative as a showcase for the PV industry set forth by the Chinese government. PERC has been the favored products for the initiative since it officially started. In 2016, JA Solar provided 422MW PV modules with 40% of them being mono-Si PERC for the first 1GW demonstration phase of this "Front Runner" initiative as the largest module supplier in the project.

"Setting a new world record of over 325W output power from a 60-cell mono-Si PV module is remarkable achievement enabled by PERC technology," said Dr. Wei Shan, Chief Technology Officer of JA Solar. "It is also a testament of the unrivaled efforts at JA Solar that focus on developing high-efficiency, cost-

effective PV products meet the ever increased demand for clean energy through technological innovation and continuous performance improvement, as well as the commitment and the tradition of JA Solar to provide our customers high-performance PV products with high quality and reliability."

SOURCE JA Solar Holdings Co., Ltd.

### STERLING RESOURCES LTD. AND PETROTAL LTD. ANNOUNCE CLOSING OF USD\$34 MILLION BROKERED PRIVATE PLACEMENT FINANCING

Sterling Resources Ltd. ("Sterling" or the "Corporation") (TSXV: SLG) and PetroTal Ltd. ("PetroTal") are pleased to announce the closing of



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PetroTal's previously announced brokered private placement offering of 34,000,000 subscription receipts (the "Subscription Receipts") for aggregate gross proceeds of USD\$34 million (the "Financing"). The Financing was completed through a syndicate of investment dealers co-led by Eight Capital and Pareto Securities and including PillarFour Securities Inc. Each Subscription Receipt will be exchangeable into one common share in the capital of PetroTal without any further action required on the part of the holder of the Subscription Receipt and without payment of any additional consideration, upon the closing of the business combination of Sterling and PetroTal (the "Proposed Transaction") as further described in the filing statement of the Corporation dated November 29, 2017 (the "Filing Statement").

About Sterling is a publicly-traded company listed on the TSX Venture Exchange (the "TSXV") with its common shares listed and posted for trading on the TSXV under the symbol "SLG".

PetroTal, a company incorporated under the laws of Alberta, is a private junior oil and gas exploration, development and production company formed for the purpose of acquiring, and subsequently enhancing and producing oil and gas from properties in Latin America. PetroTal currently has no production and has not conducted active operations since its incorporation.

Forward-Looking Statements This press release contains forward-looking statements and forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable securities laws. The use of any of the words "expect", "anticipate", "continue", "estimate", "objective", "ongoing", "may", "will", "project", "should", "believe", "plans", "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking information or statements. The forward-looking statements and information are based on certain key expectations and assumptions made by Sterling, including expectations and assumptions concerning Sterling, PetroTal, the Proposed Transaction, the Financing, the timely receipt of

Sterling court, TSXV and regulatory approvals and the satisfaction of other closing conditions in accordance with the terms of the arrangement agreement entered into between Sterling and PetroTal. Although Sterling and PetroTal believe that the expectations and assumptions on which such forward-looking statements and information are based are reasonable, undue reliance should not be placed on the forward-looking statements and information because neither Sterling nor PetroTal can give any assurance that they will prove to be correct. By its nature, such forward-looking information is subject to various risks and uncertainties, which could cause the actual results and expectations to differ materially from the anticipated results or expectations expressed. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on this forward-looking information, which is given as of the date hereof, and to not use such forward-looking information for anything other than its intended purpose. Sterling and PetroTal undertake no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

Reader Advisory Completion of the Proposed Transaction is subject to a number of conditions, including but not limited to, TSXV acceptance. There can be no assurance that the Proposed Transaction will be completed as proposed or at all.

Investors are cautioned that, except as disclosed in the Filing Statement, any information released or received with respect to the Proposed Transaction may not be accurate or complete and should not be relied upon.

This press release is not an offer of the securities for sale in the United States. The securities have not been registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an exemption from registration. This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of the securities in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful.

The TSXV has in no way passed upon the merits of the Proposed Transaction and has neither approved nor disapproved of the contents of this press release.

Neither the TSXV nor its regulation services provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSXV) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

SOURCE Sterling Resources Ltd.

## OBSIDIAN ENERGY LTD. ANNOUNCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTMENT

OBSIDIAN ENERGY LTD. (TSX/NYSE – OBE) ("Obsidian Energy", the "Company", "we", "us" or "our") is pleased to announce that Mr. Gordon Ritchie has been appointed to the Obsidian Energy Board of Directors (the "Board").

George Brookman, Obsidian Energy's Acting Chairman of the Board commented, "We are so pleased to have Gord join our Board. Gord brings extensive financial and capital markets experience and we look forward to his contribution. Gord's addition is part of our ongoing commitment to ensure the right mix of skills and experience needed to steward our existing strategy."

"I am privileged to serve on Obsidian Energy's Board of Directors and excited to help execute the strategy set forth by Management and the Board," commented Mr. Ritchie.

Mr. Ritchie has over 37 years of experience in the financial services business where he recently retired as Vice Chairman of Royal Bank of Canada ("RBC") Capital Markets. He also served as Managing Director and Head of RBC's Global E&P Energy Group and spent six years as President and Chief Executive Officer of RBC Dominion Securities Corporation in New York. Mr. Ritchie also held the position of Co-Head of RBC's International Corporate Finance Group based in London, England.

Mr. Ritchie holds securities industry regulatory designations in Canada, the U.K., and the U.S., and served for two years as a member of the New York area Advisory Committee to the New York Stock Exchange Board of Directors. He currently serves on the board of two other public companies. Mr. Ritchie holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Alberta.

SOURCE Obsidian Energy Ltd.

## ONTARIO'S ELECTRICITY SYSTEM READY FOR WINTER

Ontario's high-voltage power system has adequate generation and transmission resources to maintain reliability and meet the province's forecasted electricity needs over the next 18 months. Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) 18-Month Outlook report, released

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today, assesses the grid's reliability from January 2018 to June 2019.

"Continuing the trend of the last few years, we're forecasting that Ontario will continue to experience flat growth in electricity demand," said Leonard Kula, Vice-President, Procurement, Acquisition and Operations and Chief Operating Officer. "We attribute this mainly to Ontarians' conservation efforts, generation on local distribution networks and the Industrial Conservation Initiative, which all work to reduce demand on the provincial power system and offset any expected growth we might see from increased population and economic expansion."

During the Outlook timeframe, 1,335 megawatts (MW) of generation are expected to be added to the provincial power system: 1,000 MW of gas, 275 MW of wind, 50 MW of solar, and 10 MW of hydroelectric power. On local distribution networks, an additional 200 MW of solar will be added, bringing total wind and solar capacity on local distribution networks to over 3,300 MW. As a result of the province's robust supply situation and flat yearly demand for electricity, the procurement phases of the IESO's Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) and microFIT programs have come to an end. These programs have been instrumental in helping Ontario establish the clean energy supply mix it has today.

Ontario's strong supply situation also means it is well-positioned to explore efficiencies that could be gained from market reforms. "The IESO is working to ensure that the many planned design changes improve how electricity is priced, scheduled and acquired to meet Ontario's

electricity needs reliably, transparently and at lowest cost," said Kula.

And while the province has sufficient generation and transmission resources to maintain reliability, there is still a need for greater flexibility to respond quickly to changing conditions. To this end, the IESO has secured two new energy storage facilities, representing 55 MW of regulation service that will help to balance supply and demand on a second-to-second basis. These new storage facilities represent one of the largest reductions in per-unit regulation costs since Ontario's electricity market opened in 2002 – a sign of the increased performance and cost-effectiveness of emerging technologies in Ontario.

About the 18-Month Outlook The IESO's 18-Month Outlook reports on the adequacy of Ontario's generation and transmission resources to meet the province's forecasted electricity needs over the next 18 months. The report looks at a variety of factors including weather forecasts, new planned generation and the health of the province's transmission infrastructure. It sets out a forecast for provincial electricity demand and measures the system's preparedness to maintain reliable operations.

About the IESO The IESO manages the province's power system so that Ontarians receive power when and where they need it. It plans and prepares for future electricity needs and works with its partners to guide conservation efforts. The IESO is also leading a Market Renewal Program, which will enhance the way electricity is

priced, scheduled and procured to meet Ontario's current and future energy needs reliably, transparently, efficiently and at lowest cost. For more information, please visit [www.ieso.ca](http://www.ieso.ca).

SOURCE Independent Electricity System Operator

## LIGHTNING INDUSTRIES PARTNERS WITH OILENGY FOR COMMERCIALIZATION AND PRODUCT PROMOTION IN MULTIPLE GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS

Lightning Ventures Inc. (CSE: LVI) (Frankfurt: 1HM) (the "Company") is pleased to announce that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Lightning Industries, has contracted with Oilengy Mexico S.A. de C.V. ("Oilengy") to install, operate, and maintain the Pemex pilot project on behalf of Lightning Industries. The pilot will commence during the week of January 11th through the 15th on a well in the Tamaulipas field. Oilengy will be responsible for preparing the reports presented to Pemex at the conclusion of the pilot.

In addition, Lightning Industries entered into a Strategic and Commercial Alliance Agreement with Oilengy to promote Lightning's product lines in Mexico, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Argentina.

Don Rainwater, President and CEO, commented: "Oilengy México is based in Monterrey, N.L., México and has extensive experience in the oil and

gas sectors in Latin America. Latin American oil production is dominated by Brazil, Mexico, and Venezuela. These countries rank as the world's ninth, tenth and twelfth largest oil producers, respectively. Our alliance will expedite market penetration and accelerate revenue opportunities in these key petrochemical geographical segments."

About Lightning Ventures

Lightning Ventures Inc. (CSE: LVI) (Frankfurt: 1HM) is an oil and gas industrial services company. It operates a specialty manufacturing business based in Hobbs, New Mexico through its subsidiary Lightning Industries, Inc., which provides products to enhance efficiency and increase the production of oil and gas wells.

Further information about Lightning Ventures is available under its profile on the SEDAR website [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and at [www.lightningind.com](http://www.lightningind.com).

Neither the Canadian Securities Exchange nor its Market Regulator (as that term is defined in the policies of the Canadian Securities Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of this release.

This news release may contain forward-looking statements based on assumptions and judgments of management regarding future events or results. Such statements are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties which could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those reflected in the forward-looking statements. The company disclaims any intention or obligation to revise or update such statements.

SOURCE Lightning Ventures Inc.



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