



# Austin Exploration Limited

Based in Adelaide Australia: listed on the Australian Securities Exchange ("AKK")

**ASX Announcement**

**3 June 2010**

**For Immediate Release**

The Manager  
Companies Announcements Officer  
Australian Stock Exchange  
Electronic Lodgement

## Experienced Energy Executive Joins Austin Board

- **Dr Mark Hart appointed Director as Austin plans Cooper Basin drill start**

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

**The Board of Austin Exploration Limited** (ASX: "AKK") is pleased to announce the appointment of prominent United States-based energy executive and gas production expert, Dr W. Mark Hart, as a Director of the Company.

Dr Hart has more than 30 years of executive experience across the world in a number of major mining and energy corporations, including Newmont Mining Company, Cyprus Coal Australia, and leading clean-energy power generation company, NRG Energy Inc. and American Electric Power Fuel Supply Company.

President of Colorado-based energy consultancy, MATH Energy 1, Dr Hart also serves as a Visiting Professor at the Colorado School of Mines, where he teaches classes in carboneous fuels-to-liquids, gas and power, and is an Adjunct Professor.

Austin Exploration has taken on the services of Dr Hart as it prepares to embark upon its first oil & gas exploration project in the Cooper Basin of South Australia, in conjunction with joint venture partner, Adelaide Energy Limited (ASX: "ADE").

"We are delighted to have secured the services of someone with the extraordinary experience, vision and leadership skills of Dr Hart, who is widely respected around the world for his unrivalled knowledge and expertise in the mining and energy sectors," Austin Exploration Director, Guy Goudy, said.

"It is a real compliment to the scope and potential of Austin's growing portfolio that someone of this calibre is joining our Company as we prepare to embark on the next stage of our exploration program in one of the world's great oil and gas provinces here in South Australia," Mr Goudy said.

# Austin Exploration Limited

Based in Adelaide Australia: listed on the Australian Securities Exchange ("AKK")

"Dr Hart's vast knowledge, expertise and industry connections will add a new dimension and value for Austin Exploration and our shareholders. "We are keenly looking forward to working with him on our projects, both in the US and Australia"

In a high-profile career spanning 34 years, Dr Hart has successfully led organisations of between 200 and 10,000 employees in a variety of executive capacities in the United States, Australia, Italy, Canada, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East.

From 2001 to 2006, he served as Senior Vice President at NRG Energy, the second largest independent power producer in the world, where he oversaw the international business operations as president of 34 power plants in Europe, Latin America and the Middle East and as President and CEO of Sardegna Energy LTD.

Prior to joining NRG, Dr Hart was the Vice President and Managing Director of Newmont Mining's Canadian operations, as well as Vice President of Business Processes and Operations worldwide for the \$12 billion mining giant. He also worked for Cyprus Amax Minerals Corporation in various engineering and operations VP and SVP roles. He started in the energy business with Consol Energy as a labourer. Hart has also been the Chairman of 4 boards in various countries.

Dr Hart has a PhD in Mining Engineering and Environmental Management from the Colorado School of Mines, and an MBA from the University of Phoenix, as well as a Master's of Science in Mining Engineering from West Virginia University. He also holds mechanical and electrical engineering technology degrees from Fairmont State University.

## **MEDIA AND INVESTOR CONTACT:**

Guy Goudy  
Company Director  
Austin Exploration Limited  
0414 888 814  
[guyg@austinexploration.com](mailto:guyg@austinexploration.com)

Kenny Hill  
VP of Operations and Investor Relations  
Aus-Tex Exploration, Inc  
(01) 512 423-2547  
[Kenny@austinexploration.com](mailto:Kenny@austinexploration.com)

Please visit the company web site for more information on this property and other projects that the company maintains an interest in. <http://www.austinexploration.com/>