China CBM Group Company Limited 中國煤層氣集團有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands and continued in Bermuda with limited liability) (Stock Code: 8270) (the "Commonry")

 $(the \ ``Company")$

AUDIT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 The audit committee (the "Committee") shall be appointed by the board of directors (the "Board") and shall be made up of at least three members (the "Members").
- 1.2 All Members shall be non-executive directors. The majority of which shall be independent non-executive directors ("**INEDs**") and at least one of whom shall have appropriate professional qualifications or accounting or related financial management expertise. The chairman of the Board shall not be a Member of the Committee.
- 1.3 A former partner of the Company's existing auditing firm should be prohibited from acting as a member of the Committee for a period of 2 years from the date of his ceasing:
 - (a) to be a partner of the firm; or
 - (b) to have any financial interest in the firm,

whichever is later.

- 1.4 Only Members of the Committee have the right to attend Committee meetings. Other individuals such as the chairman of the Board, the chief financial officer, the head of internal audit, other directors and representatives from the finance function, may be invited to attend all or part of any meeting as and when appropriate.
- 1.5 The external auditors will be invited to attend meetings of the Committee on a regular basis.
- 1.6 The chairman of the Committee (the "**Committee Chairman**") shall be appointed by the Board and must be an INED. In the absence of the Committee Chairman and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining Members present shall elect one of the Members to chair the meeting.

2. SECRETARY

- 2.1 The company secretary or his/her nominee shall act as the secretary of the Committee.
- 2.2 The Committee may from time to time appoint any other person with appropriate qualification and experience as the secretary of the Committee.

3. QUORUM, ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

- 3.1 The quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be two Members. A duly convened meeting of the Committee at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Committee.
- 3.2 Members may participate in a meeting by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting are capable of hearing each other.
- 3.3 Resolutions of the Committee at any meetings shall be passed by a majority of votes of the Members present.
- 3.4 A resolution in writing signed by all the Members of the Committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Committee duly convened and held.

4. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Committee shall meet at least two times each year. The external auditors or any Member of the Committee may request a meeting if they consider that one is necessary.

5. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- 5.1 Meetings of the Committee shall be convened by the secretary of the Committee at the request of any of its Members or at the request of external auditors if they consider it necessary.
- 5.2 Unless otherwise agreed, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed, shall be forwarded to each Member of the Committee and any other person required to attend at least 7 days before the date of the meeting. Supporting papers shall be sent to Committee Members and to other attendees as appropriate, at least 3 days in advance of the meeting (or other agreed period).

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- 6.1 The secretary shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of all meetings of the Committee, including recording the names of those present and in attendance.
- 6.2 The secretary shall ascertain, at the beginning of each meeting, the existence of any conflicts of interest and minute them accordingly.
- 6.3 Full minutes should be kept by the secretary. Draft and final versions of minutes of the meetings shall be sent to all Committee Members for their comment and records within a reasonable time after the meeting. Such minutes shall be open for directors' inspection.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Committee Chairman should, as far as practicable, attend the annual general meeting and make himself available to respond to any shareholder questions on the Committee's activities.

8. RESPONSIBILITY, POWERS AND DISCRETION

The responsibility of the Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its audit duties through the review and supervision of the Company's financial reporting, risk management and internal control systems. The Committee shall have the following responsibilities, powers and discretion:

Relationship with the Company's Auditors

- 8.1 to be primarily responsible for making recommendations to the Board on the appointment, reappointment and removal of the external auditor, and to approve the remuneration and terms of engagement of the external auditor, and any questions of its resignation or dismissal;
- 8.2 to review and monitor the external auditor's independence and objectivity;
- 8.3 to review and monitor the effectiveness of the audit process in accordance with applicable standards and to discuss with the external auditor the nature and scope of the audit and reporting obligations before the audit commences and ensure co-ordination where more than one audit firm is involved;
- 8.4 to develop and implement policy on engaging an external auditor to supply nonaudit services. For this purpose, "external auditor" includes any entity that is under common control, ownership or management with the audit firm or any entity that a reasonable and informed third party knowing all relevant information would reasonably conclude to be part of the audit firm nationally or internationally;

- 8.5 to report to the Board, identifying and making recommendations on any matters where action or improvement is needed; and
- 8.6 to act as the key representative body for overseeing the Company's relations with the external auditors.

Review of the Company's financial information

- 8.7 to monitor integrity of the Company's financial statements and the annual report and accounts, half-yearly report and quarterly reports, and to review significant financial reporting judgements contained in them. In reviewing these reports before submission to the Board, the Committee shall focus particularly on:
 - (i) any changes in accounting policies and practices;
 - (ii) major judgmental areas;
 - (iii) significant adjustments resulting from audit;
 - (iv) the going concern assumptions and any qualifications;
 - (v) compliance with accounting standards; and
 - (vi) compliance with the GEM Listing Rules and legal requirements in relation to financial reporting;
- 8.8 Regarding 8.7 above:
 - (i) Members of the Committee should liaise with the Board, senior management and the person appointed as the Company's staff responsible for the accounting and financial reporting function;
 - (ii) the Committee must meet, at least twice a year, with the Company's auditors; and
 - (iii) the Committee should consider any significant or unusual items that are, or may need to be, reflected in the report and accounts, it should give due consideration to any matters that have been raised by the Company's staff responsible for the accounting and financial reporting function, compliance officer (or person occupying the same position), or auditors.

Oversight of the Company's financial reporting system, risk management and internal control systems

- 8.9 to review the Company's financial controls, and to review the Company's risk management and internal control systems;
- 8.10 to discuss the risk management and internal control systems with management to ensure that management has performed its duty to have effective systems. This discussion should include the adequacy of resources, staff qualifications and experience, training programmes and budget of the Company's accounting, internal audit and financial reporting function;
- 8.11 to consider major investigation findings on risk management and internal control matters as delegated by the Board or on its own initiative and management's response to these findings;
- 8.12 to ensure co-ordination between the internal and external auditors and to ensure that the internal audit function is adequately resourced and has appropriate standing within the Company, and to review and monitor its effectiveness;
- 8.13 to review the Group's financial and accounting policies and practices;
- 8.14 to review the external auditor's management letter, any material queries raised by the auditor to management about accounting records, financial accounts or systems of control and management's response;
- 8.15 to ensure that the Board will provide a timely response to the issues raised in the external auditor's management letter;
- 8.16 to report to the Board on all matters in the Terms of Reference; and
- 8.17 to consider other topics, as defined by the Board.

Employees' Concerns

8.18 to review arrangements employees of the Company can use, in confidence and/or anonymous, to raise concerns about possible improprieties in financial reporting, internal control or other matters. The Committee should ensure that proper arrangements are in place for fair and independent investigation of these matters and for appropriate follow up action.

9. **REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 9.1 The Committee Chairman shall report formally to the Board on its proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities.
- 9.2 The Committee shall make whatever recommendations to the Board it deems appropriate on any area within its remit where action or improvement is needed.

10. OTHER MATTERS

The Committee shall:

- 10.1 be provided with sufficient resources to perform its duties, including access to the company secretariat for assistance as required;
- 10.2 be provided with appropriate and timely training, both in the form of an induction programme for new Members and on an ongoing basis for all Members;
- 10.3 give due consideration to applicable laws and regulations, including relevant corporate governance codes and the rules of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange as appropriate; and
- 10.4 oversee any investigation of activities which are within its terms of reference and act as a court of the last resort.

11. AUTHORITY

The Committee is authorized by the Board:

- 11.1 to investigate any activity within its terms of reference;
- 11.2 to seek any information it requires from any employee of the Group in order to perform its duties and all employees will be directed to co-operate with any request made by the Committee; and
- 11.3 to obtain, at the Company's expense, outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of outsiders with relevant experience and expertise if it considers this necessary.
- *Note:* If there is any inconsistency between the English and Chinese versions of these terms of reference, the English version shall prevail.