

San Leon Energy Plc

1 September 2020

Oil & Gas

Something to Decklar



Key Data

Listing:	AIM
Ticker:	SLE
Shares Outstanding:	449.9m
Share Price:	£0.23
Market Cap:	£115.1m
Cash Balance:	£21m
Estimated Valuation:	£243m
Asset Location:	Nigeria

Reserves (MMBOE)			
(100%)			
1P	2P	3P	
48	63	79	

Resources (MMBOE)			
(100%)			
1C	2C	3C	
26	36	52	

Prospective Resources (BCF)			
(100%)			
Low	Best	High	
Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	
1	65	764	

Reserves estimated by FDC based on 2016 CPR.

Resources estimates from 2016 CPR.

Analyst

Lionel Therond CFA

lionel@fox-davies.com

Summary

San Leon Energy ("SLE") announced it has agreed a US\$7.5 million loan (5-year maturity with 10% coupon) to Deklar Petroleum Limited ("Decklar") against a 15% equity interest (+ 15% option) in the company. Decklar holds a Risk Service Agreement ("RSA") with Millenium Oil and Gas Company Limited ("Millenium") on the Oza field in Nigeria, which it was awarded during the 2003 Marginal Fields Bid Round with a 60% interest.

Oza is an onshore conventional oil field located in the northern part of Shell-operated OML 11, in the Abia State of eastern Niger Delta. Three existing Shell wells have produced over 1.0 MMbbl cumulatively from gross 2P Reserves estimates of 2.6 MMbbl, 2C of 23 MMbbl and Prospective Resources of 10 MMbbl. The SLE loan is part of a US\$26 million funding arrangement that Decklar intends to deploy to fast-track the initial development of the Oza Oil Field including a re-entry on the existing Oza-1 well, anticipated to test three oil bearing zones and place the well into production from two of the three zones tested.

This is another trademark "loan for free-equity" investment from SLE which provides a free access to a potential stream of future production cash flows from the Oza Field with a fairly low risk profile from the perspective of the asset (2P+2C) and partners (RSA and Loan Agreement include favourable cash sweeps).

Valuation

We leave our 45p price target and 53p NAV estimate unchanged. However, we see scope for potential upward revision to reflect value accretion of such deal whenever drilling results confirm the size of the opportunity.

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Valuation

We value SLE using a peer group analysis, i.e. public market valuation, to set our short-term price target and we estimate the long-term value potential from a DCF-based NAV calculation.

Public market valuation

We estimate the net remaining 2P reserves at ca. 62.9 MMboe, based on our assumptions of production and financial performance to date of the OML 18 asset since the date of the CPR. Please note that this estimate is somewhat negatively impacted by the long-term oil price assumption we use in our modelling of the asset (US\$55/bbl) which is lower than that used in the CPR.

SLE currently trades at an EV/2P multiple of US\$0.7 /boe, lower than the median multiple of US\$1.3 /boe for a peer group of publicly listed companies with assets in Nigeria, with a range of US\$0.5-2.5/boe (**Exhibit 1**).

We believe the public market markedly undervalues SLE, and that, given the quality and remaining potential of the OML 18 asset as well as the strong alignment of management (24% interest in SLE) with other shareholders, SLE should trade at the top end of that range.

Accordingly, we calculate a value of 46.5p per share by applying an EV/2P multiple of US\$2.5 /boe, based on our estimate of net 2P reserves remaining of 63MMboe, net cash available of US\$26 million and after adjusting for other assets (including the value of the ELI deal).

EXHIBIT 1: PEER GROUP VALUATION

Name	Price (local)	FX	EV (US\$M)	2P (MMboe)	EV/2P (US\$/boe)
ADM Energy	5.5	GBp	4.2	8.9	0.5
Africa Oil	1.1	CAD	201.5	80.6	2.5
Lekoil	2.8	GBp	18.3	22.7	0.8
Oando PLC	2.4	NGN	625.3	479.8	1.3
Seplat	51.6	GBp	726.5	481.0	1.5
Median					1.3
SLE	26.1	GBp	43.6	62.9	0.7
Estimated SLE value	46.5	GBp	157.2	62.9	2.5

Source: FDC, Bloomberg

NAV estimate

We estimate an NAV of 53p which includes the value of current net cash available, the net additional cash to accrue on the balance sheet from additional Loan Notes payments to end 2021, the present value of the Loan to ELI, the value of net remaining 2P reserves and 2C resources in OML 18 and FDC estimates of the value of other assets, including the value of the ELI deal. We currently carry no value for the Loan Agreement with Decklar (Exhibit 2).

EXHIBIT 2: NAV ESTIMATE

Item	Net SLE	Value
	(MMboe)	(US\$M)
Net 2P post 2021	53	89
Net 2C resources (valued at 2/3 of 2P boe)	36	40
Services revenue from drilling campaign in OML 18 (2022-25)		24
Barryroe		3
ELI 10% shareholding interest		35
NPV Loan to ELI		14
Cash balance		26
Loan Notes payments to December 2021		92
Capitalised G&A expenses		(28)
NAV		295
NAV per share (GBp)		53

Source: FDC

We value the net 2P reserves remaining from 2022 (after the last Loan Notes payment) to the end of economic life of the asset, using a lower long-term oil price assumption of US\$55 /bbl than that used in the CPR.

We value the contingent resources (2C) identified in the CPR, and that we assume have not yet been produced, by using an arbitrary 30 cents on the \$ value compared to the 2P reserves, which takes into account the risk attached to such contingent resources as well as their production horizon.

Our estimate of Capitalised G&A expenses is based on the 2018 G&A expense.

Research Disclosures

Lionel Therond CFA

Lionel has 30 years of experience in Oil & Gas and Banking. He is currently a Director of Fox-Davies Capital and a Director of Blue Oak Advisory, a London-based corporate finance boutique.

Until 2016, Lionel was Head of Oil & Gas Equity and Commodity Research and a Managing Director at Standard Bank, focusing on the financing of mid-size Oil & Gas companies in Emerging and Frontier Markets, in particular sub-Saharan Africa. Lionel joined Standard Bank from Fox-Davies Capital where he was Head of Oil & Gas Research. Prior to that, Lionel was an equity fund manager and buyside analyst with JPMorgan Asset Management in London, specialised in the Oil & Gas, Industrials and Media sectors. His oil industry experience includes nine years as a geoscientist with Royal Dutch Shell managing exploration projects internationally.

Lionel has an MBA from INSEAD, a DEA in Geology and Geophysics from Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine and a Diplôme d'Ingénieur Géologue from Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Géologie (Nancy, France). He is a CFA Charterholder and a Fellow of the Geological Society of London.

Contact: lionel@fox-davies.com

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Research disclosure as of 01 September 2020

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San Leon Energy Plc	

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Fox-Davies Capital Ltd

12 Hay Hill, Mayfair London W1J 6DQ UK

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Registered in England and Wales with company number 10165213 and registered address 5 Technology Park, Colindeep Lane, Colindale, London, United Kingdom NW9 6BX

Fox-Davies Capital (DIFC) Ltd.

Level 1, Gate Village Building 3

Dubai International Financial Centre
P.O. Box 507268, Dubai

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