

## MANAGEMENT'S REPORT

### To the Shareholders of Gear Energy Ltd.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation of Gear Energy Ltd.'s annual financial statements. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies detailed in the notes thereto. In Management's opinion, the financial statements are in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and include certain estimates that reflect Management's best judgments.

Management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements. Management has developed and maintains an adequate system of internal control over financial reporting which provides reasonable assurance that all transactions are recorded, that the financial statements realistically report the Company's operating and financial results, and that the Company's assets are safeguarded from loss or unauthorized use. Management believes that this system of internal controls has operated effectively for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Company has effective disclosure controls and procedures to ensure timely and accurate disclosure of material information relating to the Company which complies with the requirements of Canadian securities legislation.

The Board of Directors has approved the information contained in the financial statements. Its financial statement related responsibilities are fulfilled mainly through the Audit Committee, which is composed entirely of independent directors with financial expertise. The Audit Committee meets regularly with Management and the external auditors to discuss reporting issues and ensures each party is properly discharging its responsibilities. The Audit Committee also considers the independence of the external auditors and reviews their fees.

The financial statements have been audited by Deloitte LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, on behalf of the shareholders.

(signed)  
Ingram Gillmore  
President and Chief Executive Officer

(signed)  
David Hwang  
Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer

February 21, 2024  
Calgary, Alberta



Deloitte LLP  
700, 850 2 Street SW  
Calgary, AB T2P 0R8  
Canada

Tel: 403-267-1700  
Fax: 587-774-5379  
www.deloitte.ca

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Shareholders of Gear Energy Ltd.:

### Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Gear Energy Ltd. (the "Company"), which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the consolidated statements of income and comprehensive income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policy information (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Key Audit Matter

A key audit matter is a matter that, in our professional judgment, was of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023. This matter was addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on this matter.

#### ***Property, Plant and Equipment – Development and Production ("D&P") assets — Refer to Notes 3, 5 and 7 to the financial statements***

##### *Key Audit Matter Description*

The Company's property, plant and equipment includes D&P assets. D&P assets are measured by depleting the assets on a unit-of-production basis ("depletion") based on total estimated proved and probable crude oil and natural gas reserves. The Company engages an independent external reserve evaluator to estimate crude oil and natural gas reserves using estimates, assumptions and engineering data. The development of the Company's reserves requires management to make significant estimates and assumptions related to future crude oil and natural gas prices, reserves, and future operating costs.

Given the significant judgments made by management related to future crude oil and natural gas prices, reserves, and future operating costs, these estimates and assumptions are subject to a high degree of estimation uncertainty. Auditing

these estimates and assumptions required auditor judgment in applying audit procedures and in evaluating the results of those procedures. This resulted in an increased extent of audit effort including the involvement of fair value specialists.

#### *How the Key Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit*

Our audit procedures related to future crude oil and natural gas prices, reserves, and future operating costs used to determine depletion included the following, among others:

- With the assistance of fair value specialists, evaluated future crude oil and natural gas prices by independently developing a reasonable range of forecasts based on reputable third-party forecasts and market data and comparing those to the future crude oil and natural gas prices selected by management.
- Evaluated the Company's independent external reserve evaluator by examining reports and assessing their scope of work and findings and assessing the competence, capability and objectivity by evaluating their relevant professional qualifications and experience.
- Evaluated the reasonableness of reserves by testing the source financial information underlying the reserves and comparing the reserve volumes to historical production volumes.
- Evaluated the reasonableness of future operating costs by testing the source financial information underlying the estimate, comparing future operating costs to historical results, and evaluating whether they are consistent with evidence obtained in other areas of the audit.
- Performed a retrospective review to evaluate management's ability to accurately forecast and to assess for indications of estimation bias over time.

## Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises Management's Discussion and Analysis.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We obtained Management's Discussion and Analysis prior to the date of this auditor's report. If, based on the work we have performed on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact in this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and

are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Kyle Hawkins.

/s/ Deloitte LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Calgary, Alberta  
February 21, 2024

**GEAR ENERGY LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
**As at December 31**

(Cdn\$ thousands)	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets		
Accounts receivable	\$ 12,412	\$ 12,674
Prepaid expenses	2,660	3,341
Inventory (Note 6)	6,791	8,178
Risk management contracts (Note 10)	-	1,057
	<b>21,863</b>	25,250
Deferred income tax asset (Note 12)	29,644	41,121
Property, plant and equipment (Note 7)	287,318	283,038
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 338,825</b>	<b>\$ 349,409</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 14,807	\$ 19,290
Decommissioning liability (Note 9)	6,300	6,931
	<b>21,107</b>	26,221
Debt (Note 8)	21,155	7,123
Decommissioning liability (Note 9)	59,822	64,451
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>102,084</b>	97,795
<b>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Share capital (Note 11)	348,905	348,005
Contributed surplus	18,330	17,837
Deficit	(130,494)	(114,228)
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>236,741</b>	251,614
<b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>	<b>\$ 338,825</b>	<b>\$ 349,409</b>

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

**Approved by the Board of Directors**

(signed)  
Don Gray  
Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director

(signed)  
Harry English  
Chair of the Audit Committee and Director

**GEAR ENERGY LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
**For the years ended December 31**  
(Cdn\$ thousands)

		Share Capital		Contributed Surplus		Deficit		Total Equity
Balance at December 31, 2021	\$	350,332	\$	19,337	\$	(170,621)	\$	199,048
Stock option exercise (Note 11)		2,549		(2,579)		-		(30)
Common shares repurchased (Note 11)		(4,876)		24		(432)		(5,284)
Share-based compensation (Note 11)		-		1,055		-		1,055
Dividends (Note 11)		-		-		(18,156)		(18,156)
Net income for the year		-		-		74,981		74,981
<b>Balance at December 31, 2022</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>348,005</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>17,837</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(114,228)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>251,614</b>
Stock option exercise (Note 11)		900		(919)		-		(19)
Share-based compensation (Note 11)		-		1,412		-		1,412
Dividends (Note 11)		-		-		(24,852)		(24,852)
Net income for the year		-		-		8,586		8,586
<b>Balance at December 31, 2023</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>348,905</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>18,330</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(130,494)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>236,741</b>

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

**GEAR ENERGY LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
For the years ended December 31

(Cdn\$ thousands, except per share amounts)	2023	2022
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Petroleum and natural gas sales (Note 15)	\$ 148,714	\$ 187,277
Royalties	(18,895)	(24,899)
	<b>129,819</b>	<b>162,378</b>
Realized gain (loss) on risk management contracts	2,369	(8,767)
Unrealized (loss) gain on risk management contracts	(1,057)	3,652
	<b>131,131</b>	<b>157,263</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operating	47,112	44,207
Transportation	7,821	7,696
General and administrative	7,207	7,096
Interest and financing charges	2,229	1,033
Depletion, depreciation and amortization (Notes 6 and 7)	42,943	37,370
Impairment reversal (Notes 6 and 7)	-	(10,023)
Accretion (Note 9)	2,244	2,255
Share-based compensation (Note 11)	1,412	1,055
Loss (gain) on foreign exchange	4	(193)
Bad debt	96	19
	<b>111,068</b>	<b>90,515</b>
Income before income taxes	<b>20,063</b>	<b>66,748</b>
Deferred income tax (expense) recovery (Note 12)	(11,477)	8,233
Net income and comprehensive income	<b>\$ 8,586</b>	<b>\$ 74,981</b>
Net income per share, basic (Note 11)	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.29
Net income per share, diluted (Note 11)	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.28

See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

**GEAR ENERGY LTD.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
For the years ended December 31

(Cdn\$ thousands)	2023	2022
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net income	\$ 8,586	\$ 74,981
Add items not involving cash:		
Unrealized loss (gain) on risk management contracts	1,057	(3,652)
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	42,943	37,370
Impairment reversal	-	(10,023)
Accretion	2,244	2,255
Share-based compensation	1,412	1,055
Bad debt	96	19
Deferred income tax expense (recovery)	11,477	(8,233)
Decommissioning liabilities settled (Note 9)	(6,115)	(6,288)
Change in non-cash working capital (Note 16)	1,889	2,285
	<b>63,589</b>	<b>89,769</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Change in debt under credit facilities	14,032	(19,232)
Exercise of stock options	(19)	(30)
Common shares repurchased (Note 11)	-	(5,284)
Cash dividends (Note 11)	(24,852)	(18,156)
	<b>(10,839)</b>	<b>(42,702)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Property, plant and equipment expenditures (Note 7)	(48,121)	(50,549)
Disposition of petroleum and natural gas properties (Note 7)	(184)	-
Change in non-cash working capital (Note 16)	(4,445)	3,482
	<b>(52,750)</b>	<b>(47,067)</b>
<b>INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	-	-
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	-	-
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
The following are included in cash flows from operating activities:		
Interest paid in cash	\$ 2,229	\$ 1,033
See accompanying notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements		



**GEAR ENERGY LTD.**  
**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(all tabular amounts in Cdn\$ thousands, except as noted)

**1. STRUCTURE OF THE BUSINESS**

The principal undertakings of Gear Energy Ltd. (the “Company” or “Gear”) are to carry on the business of acquiring, developing and holding interests in petroleum and natural gas properties and assets.

Gear was incorporated in Canada and its principal place of business is located at 800, 205 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2V7.

**2. BASIS OF PREPARATION**

These consolidated financial statements (the “financial statements”) have been prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”) and were prepared using accounting policies consistent with IFRS.

A summary of Gear’s material accounting policies under IFRS is presented in Note 3. The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis with the exception of risk management contracts which are measured at fair value.

The financial statements were authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on February 21, 2024.

**3. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

(a) Revenue recognition

Revenue associated with the sale of crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids (“NGLs”) owned by Gear is recognized when title is transferred from Gear to its customers. Gear’s commodity sales contracts represent a series of distinct transactions. Revenue is measured at the consideration specified in the contracts and represents amounts receivable for goods or services provided in the normal course of business. Substantially all revenue is based on floating prices. Gear considers its performance obligations to be satisfied and control to be transferred when all the following conditions are satisfied:

- Gear has transferred title and physical possession of the goods to the buyer;
- Gear has transferred the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods to the buyer; and
- Gear has the present right to payment.

Revenue is collected from Gear’s customers on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month following delivery. Gear does not have any contracts where the period between the transfer of the contracted goods and payment by the customer exceeds one year. As such, Gear does not adjust its revenue transactions for the time value of money. The contracts to sell the Company’s crude oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids have varying terms not longer than one year. As a result, Gear has immediately expensed costs of obtaining contracts as these costs would have been amortized within a period of one year.

(b) Joint arrangements

Gear does not have any joint venture arrangements. However, Gear conducts a portion of its activities through jointly controlled operations. These financial statements reflect only the Company’s proportionate interest in such activities. Joint control exists for contractual arrangements governing Gear’s assets whereby Gear has less than 100 per cent working interest, all of the partners have control of the arrangement collectively, and spending on the project requires unanimous consent of all parties that collectively control the arrangement and share the associated risks.

(c) Share-based compensation

The Company accounts for its share-based compensation plan using the fair value method estimated using the Black-Scholes model. Under this method, a compensation expense is charged over the vesting period for stock options granted using the graded vesting method with a corresponding increase to contributed surplus. Upon exercise of the stock options, consideration received, together with the amount previously recognized in contributed surplus is recorded as an increase to share capital. Forfeitures of stock options are estimated on the grant date and are adjusted to reflect the actual number of options that vest.

- (d) Crude oil inventory  
Crude oil inventory consists of amounts produced and in storage tanks and is recorded at the lower of cost, determined on a weighted-average basis, and net realizable value. Cost components include royalties, operating costs (other than transportation), and an estimated capital component based on depletion rates. Net realizable value is the estimated selling price in the normal course of business.
- (e) Property, plant and equipment (“PP&E”)  
Items of PP&E, which include oil and gas Development and Production (“D&P”) assets and Administrative assets, are measured at cost less accumulated depletion, depreciation, amortization, and accumulated impairment losses.

Gains and losses on disposals of properties are determined by comparing the proceeds to the carrying value of the property net of associated decommissioning liabilities and are recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income.

- (f) Leases  
Leases are capitalized as right of use assets with a corresponding lease liability. Lease liabilities are initially measured at the present value of future lease payments in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. The discount rate used to measure the lease liability is the rate implicit in the lease or the company’s incremental borrowing rate, if the rate implicit in the lease cannot be readily determined. The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made. Right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability, lease payments made at or before the commencement day, less any lease incentives received and any initial direct costs. They are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Certain lease payments will continue to be expensed in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income. These leases are contractual obligations that contain any of the following: are to explore for or use oil and gas; are variable payments; the Company does not control the asset; or no asset is identified in the lease.
- (g) Depletion, depreciation and amortization  
D&P assets are componentized into groups of assets with similar useful lives for the purposes of performing depletion calculations. Depletion expense is calculated on the unit-of-production basis based on:
- (i) total estimated proved and probable reserves calculated in accordance with National Instrument 51-101, Standards of Disclosure for Oil and Gas Activities;
  - (ii) total capitalized costs plus estimated future development costs of proved and probable reserves, including future estimated decommissioning costs; and
  - (iii) relative volumes of petroleum and natural gas reserves and production, before royalties, converted at the energy equivalent conversion ratio of six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one barrel of oil.

Administrative assets are depreciated using the declining balance method over the useful lives of the assets.

- (h) Impairment  
D&P assets are aggregated into cash-generating units (“CGUs”) for the purposes of impairment testing and depletion calculations. CGUs are groups of assets that generate independent cash inflows and are generally defined based on geographic areas, with consideration given to how the assets are managed.

D&P assets are reviewed for impairment at a CGU level quarterly or when indicators of impairment exist. When indicators of impairment exist, the carrying value of each CGU is compared to its recoverable amount which is defined as the higher of its fair value less cost of disposal (“FVLCD”) or its value in use (“VIU”). VIU is estimated as the present value of the future cash flows expected to arise from the continuing use of a CGU or an asset. FVLCD is the amount that would be realized from the disposition of an asset or CGU in an arm’s length transaction between knowledgeable and willing parties. FVLCD is based on the discounted after-tax cash flows of reserves using forward prices and costs, consistent with Company’s independent qualified reserves evaluators and may consider an evaluation of comparable asset transactions.

When the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount an impairment loss exists and is recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income.

Impairment losses recognized in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indicators that the impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased. In the event that an impairment loss reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount up to the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depletion and depreciation, had no impairment losses been previously recognized.

- (i) **Business combinations**  
Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method under IFRS 3 *Business Combinations*. Management's determination of whether a transaction constitutes a business combination or an asset acquisition is based on the criteria in IFRS 3. The identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured at their fair values at the acquisition date. The decommissioning liability associated with the acquired property is subsequently re-measured at the end of the reporting period using a risk-free discount rate, with any changes recognized in decommissioning liability and PP&E on the Consolidated Balance Sheet. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the fair value of the assets transferred, equity instruments issued, and liabilities incurred or assumed at the acquisition date. The excess of the acquisition cost over the fair value of the net assets acquired is recognized as goodwill. If the cost of the acquisition is less than the fair value of the net assets acquired, a gain on business combination is recognized immediately in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income. A deferred tax asset or liability arising from the acquired net assets is also recognized in a business combination. Any resulting goodwill or a gain resulting from a bargain purchase is not considered to be taxable. Transaction costs associated with a business combination are expensed as incurred.
- (j) **Financial instruments**
- (i) **Amortized cost**  
Accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, dividends payable and debt are measured at amortized cost. These classifications are initially measured at fair value and subsequent revaluations are recorded at amortized cost using the effective interest method.
- (ii) **Fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL")**  
Gear enters into risk management contracts in order to manage its exposure to market risks from fluctuations in commodity prices, foreign exchange rates and interest rates in the normal course of operations. Gear has not designated its risk management contracts as effective hedges, and thus has not applied hedge accounting. All risk management contracts are initially measured at fair value through profit or loss and are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income. The fair values of these derivative instruments are based on an estimate of the amounts that would be paid or received to settle these instruments at the balance sheet date.
- (k) **Decommissioning liabilities**  
Gear's oil and gas operating activities give rise to dismantling, decommissioning and site remediation activities. Gear recognizes a liability for the estimated present value of the future decommissioning liabilities at each balance sheet date using a risk free discount rate. The associated decommissioning cost is capitalized and amortized over the same period as the underlying asset. Changes in the estimated liability resulting from revisions to estimated timing, amount of cash flows, or changes in the discount rate are recognized as a change in the decommissioning liability and related capitalized decommissioning cost.
- Amortization of capitalized decommissioning costs is included in depreciation, depletion and amortization in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income. Increases in decommissioning liabilities resulting from the passage of time are recorded as accretion. Actual expenditures incurred are charged against the decommissioning liability.
- (l) **Deferred income taxes**  
Deferred tax is recognized using the balance sheet method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to temporary differences when they reverse, based on the laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting dates.
- Deferred tax is recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income except to the extent that it relates to items recognized directly in equity, in which case it is recognized in equity. Deferred tax assets are only recognized for temporary differences, unused tax losses and unused tax credits if it is probable that future tax amounts will arise to utilize those amounts.
- Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset if there is a legally enforceable right to offset, and they relate to income taxes levied by the same tax authority on the same taxable entity, or on different tax entities, but they intend to settle current tax liabilities and assets on a net basis or their tax assets and liabilities will be realized simultaneously.
- (m) **Normal course issuer bid ("NCIB")**  
When the Company repurchases its own common shares under an NCIB, share capital is reduced by the average carrying value of the shares repurchased. When the carrying value exceeds the purchase price the excess is credited to contributed surplus or conversely the excess of the purchase price over the carrying value is recognized as a deduction from retained earnings.

(n) Per share amounts

Basic per share amounts are computed by dividing net income or loss by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted per share amounts reflect the potential dilution that would occur if dilutive instruments were exercised, and common shares issued.

(o) Government grants / government assistance

Government grants are recognized when there is reasonable assurance that the Gear will comply with the conditions attached to them and the grants will be received. If a grant is received before it is certain whether compliance with all conditions will be achieved, the grant is recognized as a deferred liability until such conditions are fulfilled. When the conditions of a grant relate to income or expense, it is recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income in the period in which the expenditures are incurred or income is earned. When the conditions of a grant relate to an underlying asset, it is recognized as a reduction to the carrying amount of the related asset and amortized into income on a systematic basis over the expected useful life of the underlying asset through depletion and depreciation.

#### 4. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

In February 2021 the IASB issued amendments to IAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* to require entities to disclose their material accounting policy information rather than their significant accounting policies. To support this amendment the IASB also amended IFRS Practice Statement 2 *Making Materiality Judgements*. The amendments were adopted on January 1, 2023 and did not have a significant impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

#### 5. MANAGEMENT JUDGMENTS AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the reporting year. Actual results could differ from those estimated. The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities are discussed below.

Global markets and the Company's operations have continued to be impacted by inflationary pressures. Central banks around the world have raised interest rates over the course of 2023 to attempt to combat inflation which has resulted in economic slowdown. Future financial performance may be impacted as maintaining sustainable global market conditions is challenging due to future uncertainties.

In addition, climate change and the evolving worldwide demand for alternative sources of energy that are not sourced from fossil fuels could result in a change in assumptions used in determining the recoverable amount and could affect the carrying value of the related assets. As these issues become more of a regulatory focus by governments, future financial performance may be impacted. This also presents uncertainty and risk with respect to the Company, its performance and estimates and assumptions. The timing in which global energy markets transition from carbon-based sources to alternative energy or when new regulatory practices may be implemented is highly uncertain.

Changes to assumptions could result in a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

##### **Recoverability of asset carrying values**

The recoverability of D&P asset carrying values is assessed at the CGU level. Determination of what constitutes a CGU is subject to management judgments. The asset composition of a CGU can directly impact the recoverability of the assets included therein. In assessing the recoverability of oil and gas properties, each CGU's carrying value is compared to its recoverable amount, defined as the greater of its fair value less cost of disposal and value in use. Management has determined that Gear's asset base represents three CGUs. The first CGU is comprised predominantly of Gear's heavy and medium oil properties located in Eastern Alberta and Central Saskatchewan, the second is light oil properties located in Western Alberta and the third is comprised of light oil properties located in Southeast Saskatchewan. The properties contained in each CGU are in close proximity to each other, with similar cost structures and marketing arrangements. Gear applies information on estimates of future commodity prices, expected production volumes, quantity of reserves and resources, future development costs, future operating costs, discount rates and income taxes when determining an acceptable range of recoverable amounts.

Key estimates used in determining cash flows from the Company's reserves include:

- Reserves - Assumptions that are valid at the time of reserve estimation may change significantly when new information becomes available. Changes in forward price estimates, production costs, required capital expenditures or recovery rates may change the economic status of reserves and may ultimately result in reserves being restated.
- Crude oil and natural gas prices - Forward price estimates are used in the discounted cash flow model. These prices are adjusted for quality differentials, heat content and distance to market. Commodity prices can

fluctuate for a variety of reasons including supply and demand fundamentals, inventory levels, exchange rates, weather, economic and geopolitical factors.

- Discount rate - The discount rate used to calculate the net present value of cash flows is based on estimates of an industry peer group weighted average cost of capital as appropriate for each CGU being tested. Changes in the general economic environment could result in significant changes to this estimate.

#### **Accrual estimates**

Revenue, royalty, operating expense and capital amounts are estimated at each reporting date, before actual results are known. These estimates rely on management judgment and could vary from actual results.

#### **Depletion of oil and gas assets**

Depletion of oil and gas assets is determined based on estimated total proved and probable reserves as well as estimated future development costs. Assumptions that are valid at the time of reserve estimation may change significantly when new information becomes available. Changes in forward price estimates, production costs, required capital expenditures or recovery rates may change the economic status of reserves and may ultimately result in reserves being revised.

#### **Business combinations**

Determination of the fair value of acquired assets and liabilities in a business combination requires management to make assumptions and estimates about future events. The fair value of crude oil and natural gas interests is estimated with reference to the discounted cash flows expected to be derived from crude oil and natural gas production. These assumptions and estimates generally require judgment and include estimates of reserves acquired, liabilities assumed, forecast commodity prices, expected production volumes, future development and operating costs, income taxes, and discount rates. Changes in any of the assumptions or estimates used in determining the fair value of acquired assets and liabilities could impact the amounts assigned to the net assets acquired, goodwill or gain on business combination.

#### **Decommissioning liability**

The provision for abandonment and reclamation is based on current legal and constructive requirements, technology, price levels and expected plans for remediation. Actual costs and timing of cash outflows can differ from estimates because of changes in laws and regulations, public expectations, market conditions, discovery and analysis of site conditions and changes in technology.

#### **Derivative instruments**

The estimated fair value of derivative instruments resulting in financial assets and liabilities is reliant upon forward prices. Any change in the forward price curves could result in a change to the estimated valuation of the instruments.

#### **Employee compensation costs**

Compensation expense recorded for Gear's stock option plan is based on a Black-Scholes pricing model. The inputs to this model such as average expected volatility and estimated forfeiture rates rely on management judgment.

#### **Income taxes**

Tax regulations and legislation are subject to change and differing interpretations requiring management judgement. Deferred tax assets are recognized to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences, tax losses and tax loss carry-forwards can be utilized. Such assessment requires management judgement. Deferred tax liabilities are recognized when it is considered probable that the tax on temporary differences will be payable to tax authorities in future periods, which requires management judgement. Income tax filings are subject to audits and re-assessments and changes in facts, circumstances and interpretations of the regulations and legislation may result in a material increase or decrease in Gear's income tax assets and liabilities.

## **6. INVENTORY**

As at December 31, 2023, Gear recorded oil inventory valued at its production cost of \$6.8 million (December 31, 2022 - \$8.2 million). Gear records changes in both the capital and operating components of inventory to the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income.

During 2023 and 2022, Gear did not record an impairment on its inventory to reduce the carrying amount to the lower of cost and net realizable value. As at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, there were no indicators of impairment for inventory.

## 7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AND IMPAIRMENT

The following table reconciles Gear's property, plant and equipment:

<b>Cost</b> (\$ thousands)	<b>Development and Production Assets</b>	<b>Administrative Assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
Balance, December 31, 2021	885,911	1,487	887,398
Additions	50,465	84	50,549
Change in decommissioning costs	(2,434)	-	(2,434)
Balance, December 31, 2022	933,942	1,571	935,513
Additions	48,101	20	48,121
Dispositions	(21,936)	-	(21,936)
Change in decommissioning costs	1,632	-	1,632
Balance, December 31, 2023	961,739	1,591	963,330

<b>Depletion, depreciation and amortization</b>			
Balance, December 31, 2021	622,419	1,330	623,749
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	38,671	78	38,749
Impairment reversal	(10,023)	-	(10,023)
Balance, December 31, 2022	651,067	1,408	652,475
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	42,821	66	42,887
Dispositions	(19,350)	-	(19,350)
Balance, December 31, 2023	674,538	1,474	676,012

<b>Carrying amounts</b> (\$ thousands)	<b>Development and Production Assets</b>	<b>Administrative Assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
As at December 31, 2022	282,875	163	283,038
As at December 31, 2023	287,201	117	287,318

As at December 31, 2023, no indicators of impairment were identified related to Gear's CGUs. As a result of this assessment, impairment tests were not performed.

As at December 31, 2022, indicators of an impairment reversal were identified on Gear's Cash-Generating Unit ("CGU") #3 as a result of the increase in commodity prices. An impairment test was carried out at December 31, 2022 on CGU #3. The estimated recoverable amounts incorporated the net present value of the after-tax cash flows from proved plus probable crude oil and natural gas reserves of CGU #3 based on reserves estimated by Gear's independent reserves evaluator at December 31, 2022. As at December 31, 2022, the estimated recoverable amount, net of future asset retirement obligation expenditures for CGU #3 of \$73.2 million was based on a fair value less cost of disposal calculation using a discount rate based on an estimated industry weighted average cost of capital of 12 per cent. As a result of the impairment test performed at December 31, 2022, the recoverable amount of CGU #3 exceeded its carrying value, and a \$10.0 million impairment reversal, net of depletion, was recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income.

The following table details the forward commodity pricing used to estimate the recoverable amount of Gear's CGU #3 at December 31, 2022:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Western Canadian Select Crude Oil</b> (Cdn \$/bbl)	<b>Canadian Light Sweet Crude Oil</b> (Cdn \$/bbl)	<b>Light Sour Blend Crude Oil</b> (Cdn \$/bbl)	<b>AECO Gas</b> (Cdn \$/MMBtu)	<b>CAD\$/US\$ Exchange Rates</b>
2023	76.54	103.76	104.55	4.23	0.75
2024	77.75	97.74	98.50	4.40	0.77
2025	77.55	95.27	95.55	4.21	0.77
2026	80.07	95.58	96.83	4.27	0.77
2027	81.89	97.07	98.13	4.34	0.78
2028	84.02	99.01	100.09	4.43	0.78
2029	85.73	100.99	102.09	4.51	0.78
2030	87.44	103.01	104.13	4.60	0.78
2031	89.20	105.07	106.22	4.69	0.78
2032	91.11	106.69	107.61	4.79	0.78
2033	92.93	108.83	109.76	4.88	0.78
Remainder	+2.0%/yr	+2.0%/yr	+2.0%/yr	+2.0%/yr	0.78

The fair value less cost to sell values used to determine the recoverable amount of Gear's CGU #3 at December 31, 2022 were classified as a Level 3 fair value measurement as certain key assumptions are based on Management's best estimates.

## 8. DEBT

At December 31, 2023, Gear had the following credit facilities (collectively, the "Credit Facilities"):

Facility (\$ thousands)	Classification	Borrowing base		Maturity date
		December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	
Revolving term facility	Long term	40,000	34,500	May 25, 2025
Operating facility	Long term	10,000	7,500	May 25, 2025
Total		50,000	42,000	

At December 31, 2023 Gear had \$21.2 million drawn on the Credit Facilities (December 31, 2022 – \$7.1 million) and outstanding letters of credit of \$0.9 million (December 31, 2022 – \$0.9 million). The Credit Facilities do not carry any financial covenants.

The total stamping fees on the Credit Facilities, depending on Gear's Debt to EBITDA ratio, range between 250 bps to 400 bps on Canadian bank prime borrowings and between 350 bps and 500 bps on US dollar denominated SOFR loans and Canadian dollar bankers' acceptances. The undrawn portion of the Credit Facilities is subject to a standby fee in the range of 87.5 bps to 125 bps.

The next borrowing base review is expected to be completed on or about May 31, 2024.

## 9. DECOMMISSIONING LIABILITY

(\$ thousands)	Year ended	Year ended
	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Balance, beginning of year	71,382	79,064
Change in estimated future costs	(1,562)	11,339
Change in discount and inflation rate estimates	2,570	(14,338)
Additions	624	565
Dispositions	(2,984)	-
Liabilities settled – Gear	(6,115)	(6,288)
Liabilities settled – Government assistance	(37)	(1,215)
Accretion	2,244	2,255
Balance, end of year	66,122	71,382
Expected to be incurred within one year	6,300	6,931
Expected to be incurred beyond one year	59,822	64,451

The undiscounted and unescalated amount of the expected cash flows required to settle the decommissioning liability is estimated to be \$77.4 million as at December 31, 2023 (December 31, 2022 – \$87.6 million). The liability for the expected cash flows, as reflected in the financial statements, has been inflated at 2.00 per cent (December 31, 2022 – 2.00 per cent) and discounted using a risk-free rate of 3.02 per cent (December 31, 2022 – 3.28 per cent). Abandonments are expected to occur between 2024 and 2051 and related costs will be funded mainly from cash provided by Gear's operating activities. As part of the federal government's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, it would provide the oil and gas industry \$1.7 billion to clean up orphan and inactive wells in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia under a Site Rehabilitation Program ("SRP"). For the year ended December 31, 2023, the program provided Gear \$37 thousand (2022 – \$1.2 million) towards extinguishing decommissioning liabilities. Funding under the SRP ended during the first quarter of 2023.

## 10. RISK MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

Gear uses or plans to use a variety of derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to fluctuations in commodity prices, foreign exchange rates, and interest rates. Gear has not designated its risk management contracts as effective hedges, and thus has not applied hedge accounting. There were no risk management contracts in place as at December 31, 2023. As at December 31, 2022, the fair value associated with Gear's risk management contracts was an asset of \$1.1 million.

The following table summarizes the change in the net risk management contracts asset during the years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022:

(\$ thousands)	Year ended		Year ended	
	December 31, 2023		December 31, 2022	
Balance, beginning of year		1,057		(2,595)
Unrealized (loss) gain on risk management contracts		(1,057)		3,652
Balance, end of year		-		1,057

## 11. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Gear is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares and an unlimited number of preferred shares, issuable in series. Holders of common shares are entitled to dividends if declared by the Board, one vote per share, and upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, the remaining property and assets of Gear. There are no outstanding preferred shares as at December 31, 2023 or 2022.

### a) Share Capital

(thousands of shares and \$ thousands)	Year ended		Year ended	
	December 31, 2023		December 31, 2022	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Balance, beginning of year	260,693	\$ 348,005	260,169	\$ 350,332
Common shares repurchased	-	-	(3,639)	(4,876)
Stock option exercise	1,557	900	4,163	2,549
Balance, end of year	262,250	\$ 348,905	260,693	\$ 348,005

For the year ended December 31, 2023, 3.3 million stock options (December 31, 2022 – 6.7 million) were exercised for 1.6 million common shares (December 31, 2022 – 4.2 million). Of the total stock options exercised, 1.7 million stock options were exercised on a share-less basis (December 31, 2022 – 2.5 million).

### b) Normal Course Issuer Bid

On May 4, 2022, Gear announced the approval of its 2022 Normal Course Issuer Bid ("2022 NCIB") by the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX"). The 2022 NCIB allowed the Company to purchase for cancellation up to approximately 24.0 million of its outstanding common shares commencing on May 9, 2022. On May 8, 2023, the 2022 NCIB expired. Purchases were made on the open market through the TSX or alternative Canadian trading platforms at the prevailing market price of such common shares at the time of purchase. When the Company repurchased its own common shares, share capital was reduced by the average carrying value of the shares repurchased. When the carrying value exceeded the purchase price, the excess was credited to contributed surplus or conversely the excess of the purchase price over the carrying value was recognized as a deduction from retained earnings. The Company did not repurchase common shares during 2023. For the year ended December 31, 2022, 3.6 million common shares were repurchased at an average cost of \$1.45 per share.

Subsequent to year end, on February 21, 2024, the Board of Directors approved the filing of a 2024 Normal Course Issuer Bid ("2024 NCIB"). The TSX has approved Gear's 2024 NCIB to purchase, for cancellation, up to 24,171,076 of its outstanding common shares. Purchases under the 2024 NCIB may be made through the facilities of the TSX and is expected to commence on February 26, 2024, continuing until February 25, 2025, when the bid expires, or such earlier date on which Gear has either acquired the maximum number of common shares allowable under the 2024 NCIB or otherwise decides not to make any further repurchases under the 2024 NCIB.



c) **Stock Options**

Gear's stock option plan provides for the grant of options to purchase common shares of Gear to directors, officers, employees and consultants of Gear. Options under the option plan vest one third on each of the first, second and third anniversary dates of the date of grant and expire 30 business days after such vesting dates.

The following table summarizes Gear's stock option plan activity during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022:

(thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2023		Year ended December 31, 2022	
	Number of stock options	Weighted average exercise price	Number of stock options	Weighted average exercise price
Outstanding, beginning of year	16,856	\$ 0.99	16,755	\$ 0.57
Granted	5,631	1.00	8,559	1.38
Exercised	(3,288)	0.54	(6,702)	0.48
Expired	(1,306)	1.41	-	-
Forfeited	(923)	1.02	(1,756)	0.81
Outstanding, end of year	16,970	1.05	16,856	0.99
Exercisable, end of year	65	\$ 0.89	741	\$ 0.77

During 2023, Gear has recorded an expense of \$1.4 million (2022 – \$1.1 million) to share-based compensation expense recognizing the stock option activity for the period based on the fair value of options issued, amortized using a graded vesting calculation.

The following table summarizes a range of exercise prices, and the weighted average remaining contractual life for options as at December 31, 2023:

Exercise Price	Number of stock options (thousands)	Weighted average remaining contractual life (years)
\$0.18 – \$0.99	9,393	0.92
\$1.00 – \$1.50	7,577	1.07

The Black-Scholes option-pricing model was used to determine the fair value of stock options granted using the following assumptions:

	Year ended December 31, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022
Risk free interest rate (%)	3.99	3.18
Average expected life (years)	2.1	2.1
Average expected volatility (%)	21.0	24.9
Forfeiture rate (%)	10.0	10.0

d) **Weighted Average Common Shares**

(thousands, except per \$ share amounts)	Year ended December 31, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022
Basic	261,725	259,791
Diluted	263,276	264,213
Net income per share – basic	0.03	0.29
Net income per share – diluted	0.03	0.28

When the impact is anti-dilutive, stock options are excluded from the calculation of diluted weighted average common shares. For the year ended December 31, 2023, 15.4 million common shares (December 31, 2022 – 12.4 million) on exercise of stock options were excluded.

e) Dividends

Declaration date	Record date	Payment date	Dividends per common share		Dividends (\$ thousands)
May 4, 2022	May 16, 2022	May 30, 2022	\$	0.01	\$ 2,610
July 27, 2022	August 15, 2022	August 31, 2022		0.02	5,164
September 1, 2022	September 15, 2022	September 30, 2022		0.01	2,587
October 3, 2022	October 17, 2022	October 31, 2022		0.01	2,597
November 1, 2022	November 15, 2022	November 30, 2022		0.01	2,597
December 1, 2022	December 15, 2022	December 30, 2022		0.01	2,601
Total for the year ended December 31, 2022				0.070	\$ 18,156

Declaration date	Record date	Payment date	Dividends per common share		Dividends (\$ thousands)
January 3, 2023	January 16, 2023	January 31, 2023	\$	0.010	\$ 2,607
February 1, 2023	February 15, 2023	February 28, 2023		0.010	2,607
March 1, 2023	March 15, 2023	March 31, 2023		0.010	2,612
April 3, 2023	April 14, 2023	April 28, 2023		0.010	2,616
May 1, 2023	May 15, 2023	May 31, 2023		0.010	2,616
June 1, 2023	June 15, 2023	June 30, 2023		0.010	2,617
July 4, 2023	July 14, 2023	July 31, 2023		0.010	2,621
July 26, 2023	August 15, 2023	August 31, 2023		0.005	1,311
September 1, 2023	September 15, 2023	September 29, 2023		0.005	1,311
October 2, 2023	October 16, 2023	October 31, 2023		0.005	1,311
November 1, 2023	November 15, 2023	November 30, 2023		0.005	1,311
December 1, 2023	December 15, 2023	December 29, 2023		0.005	1,311
Total for the year ended December 31, 2023				0.095	\$ 24,852

During the year ended December 31, 2023, Gear declared \$24.9 million in dividends (2022 – \$18.2 million).

Subsequent to year end, on January 2, 2024, Gear declared a monthly dividend of \$0.005 per common share, designated as an eligible dividend, payable in cash to shareholders of record on January 15, 2024. The dividend was paid January 31, 2024.

Subsequent to year end, on February 1, 2024, Gear declared a monthly dividend of \$0.005 per common share, designated as an eligible dividend, payable in cash to shareholders of record on February 15, 2024. The dividend payment date is scheduled for February 29, 2024.

## 12. INCOME TAXES

The tax provision differs from the amount computed by applying the combined Canadian federal and provincial statutory income tax rates to income before deferred income tax expense as follows:

(\$ thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022
Income before income taxes	20,063	66,748
Canadian statutory rate <sup>(1)</sup>	23.8%	23.8%
Computed income tax expense at statutory rates	(4,775)	(15,886)
Effect on income tax of:		
Non-deductible items	(336)	(251)
Change in tax rates, adjustments, and true-up of pools	(49)	(309)
Change in tax assets recognized	(6,247)	24,807
Other	(70)	(128)
Deferred income tax (expense) recovery	(11,477)	8,233

(1) The statutory rate consists of the combined statutory tax rate for Gear.

(\$ thousands)	December 31, 2022	Recognized change through profit and loss	December 31, 2023
Deferred tax assets (liabilities):			
Property, plant and equipment			
Non-capital losses carry forward	64,322	7,684	<b>72,006</b>
Intangible and tangible pools	18,400	(11,866)	<b>6,534</b>
Decommissioning liability	16,989	(1,252)	<b>15,737</b>
Risk management contracts – liability (asset)	(252)	252	-
	99,459	(5,182)	<b>94,277</b>
Deferred tax asset not recognized	(58,338)	(6,295)	<b>(64,633)</b>
Net deferred tax asset	41,121	(11,477)	<b>29,644</b>

(\$ thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022
Deferred tax asset, beginning of the year	41,121	32,888
Deferred income tax (expense) recovery	(11,477)	8,233
Deferred tax asset, end of the year	29,644	41,121

Deferred income tax assets are recognized for tax loss and tax loss carry-forwards to the extent that the realization of the related tax benefit through future taxable profits is probable. As at December 31, 2023, a deferred tax asset in the amount of \$29.6 million was recognized, and \$64.6 million remains unrecognized, as Management did not find it probable that the benefit will be realized. As at December 31, 2022, Management did not recognize a deferred tax asset of \$58.3 million. Included in this tax basis are estimated non-capital loss carry forwards that expire in the years 2027 through 2043.

### 13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

#### Classification and Measurement

Gear's financial instruments on the Consolidated Balance Sheet are carried at amortized cost with the exception of risk management contracts, which are carried at fair value. As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, no significant differences existed between the carrying value of financial instruments and their estimated fair values.

All of Gear's risk management contracts are transacted in active markets. Gear classifies the fair value of these transactions according to the following hierarchy based on the amount of observable inputs used to value the instrument.

- Level 1 – Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date. Active markets are those in which transactions occur in sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.
- Level 2 – Pricing inputs are other than quoted prices in active markets included in Level 1. Prices in Level 2 are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date. Level 2 valuations are based on inputs, including quoted forward prices for commodities, forward exchange rates, time value and volatility factors, which can be substantially observed or corroborated in the marketplace.
- Level 3 – Valuations in this level are those with inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data.

Gear's cash is classified as Level 1 and risk management contracts are classified as Level 2. Assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment and may affect the placement within the fair value hierarchy level.

#### Market Risk Management

Gear is exposed to a number of different financial risks arising from normal course business exposures, as well as the Company's use of financial instruments. These risk factors include market risks relating to commodity prices, foreign currency risk and interest rate risk, as well as liquidity risk and credit risk. There have been no changes in the Company's objectives, policies or risks surrounding financial instruments.

Market risk is the risk or uncertainty arising from possible market price movements and their impact on the future performance of the business. The market price movements that could adversely affect the value of the Company's financial assets, liabilities and expected future cash flows include commodity price risk (crude oil, natural gas and NGLs), and foreign currency exchange risk.

(a) *Commodity price and foreign currency exchange risk*

Gear is subject to commodity price risk on the delivery of crude oil, and to a lesser extent, natural gas and NGLs. These prices have a significant impact on its financial condition and can be subject to volatility as a result of a number of different external factors. North American crude oil, natural gas and NGL prices are based upon US dollar denominated commodity prices. As a result, the price received by Canadian producers is affected by the Canadian/US dollar exchange rate. Gear manages the risks associated with changes in commodity prices and foreign currency exchange by entering into a variety of risk management contracts (see Note 10). There were no risk management contracts in place at December 31, 2023.

(b) *Interest rate risk*

Gear has variable interest rates on its Credit Facilities, therefore, changes in interest rates could result in an increase or decrease in the amount Gear pays to service its debt. Gear had no risk management contracts that would be affected by interest rates in place at December 31, 2023.

If the average interest rate were to increase or decrease by one per cent, it is estimated that Gear's net income would change by approximately \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2023 assuming that the debt outstanding under Gear's Credit Facilities at December 31, 2023 was outstanding for all of 2023.

(c) *Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Company believes that it has access to sufficient capital through internally generated cash flows and external sources (bank credit markets and equity financing, if required) to meet current spending forecasts.

Gear's Credit Facilities are periodically reviewed by its lenders through scheduled borrowing base reviews at which time the borrowing base of such facilities can be adjusted. In the event that the borrowing base is reduced below the amount drawn, Gear would have 30 days to eliminate the borrowing base shortfall by repaying the amount drawn in excess of the adjusted borrowing base. If this occurs, alternative external sources of funding will be necessary. After examining the economic factors that could cause liquidity risk, the Company believes it will have sufficient liquidity to support its operations and meet its financial obligations for at least twelve months. There can be no assurance that future borrowing base reviews will not result in a material reduction in the borrowing base, and that the necessary funds will be available to meet Gear's obligations as they become due. In addition, there can be no assurances that Gear's Credit Facilities will be extended beyond the May 25, 2025 maturity date. The next borrowing base review is expected to be completed on or about May 31, 2024.

All the accounts payable and accrued liabilities are due in less than one year.

(d) *Credit risk*

Gear is or may be exposed to third party credit risk through its contractual arrangements with its current or future joint venture partners, marketers of petroleum and natural gas and other parties. In the event such entities fail to meet their contractual obligations to Gear, such failures could have a material adverse effect. The Company manages the risk by reviewing the credit risk of these entities and by entering agreements only with parties that meet certain credit tests. The maximum credit risk that the Company is exposed to is the carrying value of accounts receivable and risk management contracts.

The majority of the credit exposure on accounts receivable at December 31, 2023 pertains to accrued revenue for December 2023 production volumes. Gear transacts with a number of oil and natural gas marketing companies. Marketing companies typically remit amounts to Gear by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month following production. A significant portion of Gear's accounts receivable is carried by three marketing companies. At December 31, 2023, 70 per cent of the total outstanding accounts receivable pertains to these companies. Gear did not have any other customers from which it had outstanding accounts receivable greater than 10 per cent of the total outstanding balance at December 31, 2023.

When determining whether amounts that are past due are collectable, management assesses the credit worthiness and past payment history of the counterparty, as well as the nature of the past due amount. Gear considers all amounts greater than 90 days to be past due. At December 31, 2023 \$0.3 million of accounts receivable are past due with all amounts collectable.

#### 14. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Gear's capital management objective is to maintain a structure that will allow it to:

- Fund its development and exploration program;
- Weather periods of low commodity prices in light of changes in economic conditions;
- Provide financial flexibility to execute on strategic opportunities; and
- Return funds where possible to shareholders.

Gear considers its capital structure to include shareholders' equity and net debt, which includes debt and working capital. As at December 31, these amounts are as follows:

(\$ thousands)	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Debt	21,155	7,123
Working capital surplus <sup>(1)</sup>	(7,056)	(4,903)
Net debt	14,099	2,220
Shareholders' equity	236,741	251,614
Total capital	250,840	253,834

(1) Excludes risk management contracts and decommissioning liabilities.

At certain times, Gear may incur debt as a result of a strategic acquisition or low commodity prices. Gear manages its capital structure and adjusts it in response to changes in economic conditions, the risk characteristics of its underlying assets, and the appetite for risk associated with access to capital. This is achieved by issuing new shares or adjusting its net debt position through the management of capital expenditures.

## 15. PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS SALES

Gear sells its production pursuant to variable-price contracts. The transaction price for these contracts is based on commodity prices adjusted for quality and other factors. The contracts to sell the Company's crude oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids have varying terms not longer than one year. The following table provides a summary of Gear's revenue streams:

(\$ thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022
Heavy oil	72,690	93,504
Light and medium oil	66,714	77,113
Natural gas liquids	4,700	6,547
Natural gas	4,610	10,113
Total petroleum and natural gas sales	148,714	187,277

## 16. SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES CASH FLOW INFORMATION

### Cash Flow Statement Presentation

The following table provides a detailed breakdown of the changes in non-cash working capital:

(\$ thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2023	Year ended December 31, 2022
Accounts receivable	104	(310)
Prepaid expenses	529	(129)
Inventory	1,294	(1,383)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(4,483)	7,589
Total	(2,556)	5,767
Operating Activities	1,889	2,285
Investing Activities	(4,445)	3,482
Total	(2,556)	5,767

## 17. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The following is a summary of Gear's contractual obligations and commitments as at December 31, 2023:

(\$ thousands)	Payments due by period				Total
	2024	2025	2026	2027	
Office leases <sup>(1)</sup>	572	357	120	30	1,079
Service agreement	224	224	-	-	448
<b>Total contractual obligations</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,527</b>

(1) Includes base rent and estimated operating costs.

Gear enters into commitments for capital and decommissioning expenditures in advance of the expenditures being made. At a given point in time, it is estimated that Gear has committed to capital expenditures equal to approximately one quarter of its capital budget by means of giving the necessary authorizations to incur the expenditures in a future period.

Gear is involved in litigation and claims arising in the normal course of operations. Management is of the opinion that pending litigation will not have a material impact on Gear's financial position or results of operations.

## 18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### Key Management Personnel Compensation

Gear has determined that the key management personnel of the Company consists of its officers and directors. The compensation included in general and administrative expenses relating to key management personnel for the year was \$2.0 million (2022 – \$2.7 million). In addition to the salaries paid to officers and fees paid to directors, Gear also provides compensation through participation in Gear's stock option plan.