



## **GROUP INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Internal Auditing is an independent and objective assurance and consulting activity that is guided by a philosophy of adding value to improve the operations of PHINMA ENERGY CORPORATION. It assists PHINMA ENERGY CORPORATION in accomplishing its objectives by bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the organization's risk management, control, and governance processes.

### **ROLE**

The Group Internal Audit is established by the Board of Directors, through the Audit Committee, (hereafter referred to as the Board). The Group Internal Audit's responsibilities are defined by the Board as part of their oversight role.

### **PROFESSIONALISM**

The Group Internal Audit will govern itself by adherence to The Institute of Internal Auditors' mandatory guidance including the Definition of Internal Auditing, the Code of Ethics, and the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (Standards)*. This mandatory guidance constitutes principles of the fundamental requirements for the professional practice of internal auditing and for evaluating the effectiveness of the internal audit activity's performance.

The Institute of Internal Auditors' Practice Advisories, Practice Guides, and Position Papers will also be adhered to as applicable to guide operations. In addition, the Group Internal Audit will adhere to PHINMA ENERGY CORPORATION relevant policies and procedures and the Group Internal Audit's standard operating procedures manual.

### **AUTHORITY**

The Group Internal Audit, with strict accountability for confidentiality and safeguarding records and information, is authorized full, free, and unrestricted access to any and all of PHINMA ENERGY CORPORATION records, physical properties, and personnel pertinent to carrying out any engagement. All employees are requested to assist the Group Internal Audit in fulfilling its roles and responsibilities. The Group Internal Audit will also have free and unrestricted access to the Board.

## **ORGANIZATION**

The Chief Audit Executive will report functionally to the Board, through the Audit Committee, and administratively (i.e. day to day operations) to the Senior Management. This functional reporting relationship is performed by the Board through the following:

- Approval of the Group Internal Audit Charter.
- Approval of the risk-based internal audit plan.
- Receipt of communications from the Chief Audit Executive on the Group Internal Audit's performance relative to its plan and other matters.
- Approval of decisions regarding appointment and removal of the Chief Audit Executive.
- Make appropriate inquiries of management and the Chief Audit Executive to determine whether there are inappropriate scope or resource limitations.

The Chief Audit Executive will communicate and interact directly with the Board, including in executive sessions and between Board meetings as appropriate.

## **INDEPENDENCE AND OBJECTIVITY**

The Group Internal Audit will remain free from interference by any element in the organization, including matters of audit selection, scope, procedures, frequency, timing, or report content to permit maintenance of a necessary independent and objective mental attitude.

Group Internal Audit will have no direct operational responsibility or authority over any of the activities audited. Accordingly, they will not implement internal controls, develop procedures, install systems, prepare records, or engage in any other activity that may impair internal auditor's judgment.

Group Internal Audit must exhibit the highest level of professional objectivity in gathering, evaluating, and communicating information about the activity or process being examined. Group Internal Audit must make a balanced assessment of all the relevant circumstances and not be unduly influenced by their own interests or by others in forming judgments.

The Chief Audit Executive will confirm to the board, at least annually, the organizational independence of the Group Internal Audit.

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

The scope of Group Internal Audit encompasses, but is not limited to, the examination and evaluation of the adequacy and effectiveness of the organization's governance, risk management, and internal control processes as well as the quality of performance in

carrying out assigned responsibilities to achieve the organization's stated goals and objectives. This includes:

- Evaluating the reliability and integrity of information and the means used to identify, measure, classify, and report such information.
- Evaluating the systems established to ensure compliance with those policies, plans, procedures, laws, and regulations which could have a significant impact on the organization.
- Evaluating the means of safeguarding assets and, as appropriate, verifying the existence of such assets.
- Evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency with which resources are employed.
- Evaluating operations or programs to ascertain whether results are consistent with established objectives and goals and whether the operations or programs are being carried out as planned.
- Monitoring and evaluating governance processes.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the organization's risk management processes.
- Performing consulting and advisory services related to governance, risk management and control as appropriate for the organization.
- Evaluating specific operations at the request of the Board or management, as appropriate.

## **INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN**

At least annually, the Chief Audit Executive will submit to senior management and the Board an internal audit plan for review and approval. The internal audit plan will consist of a work schedule as well as budget and resource requirements for the calendar year. The Chief Audit Executive will communicate the impact of resource limitations and significant interim changes to senior management and the Board.

The internal audit plan will be developed based on a prioritization of the audit universe using a risk-based methodology, including input of senior management and the board. Any significant deviation from the approved internal audit plan will be communicated to senior management and the Board through periodic activity reports.

**REPORTING AND MONITORING**

A written report will be prepared and issued by the Chief Audit Executive or designee following the conclusion of each internal audit engagement and will be distributed as appropriate. Internal audit results will also be communicated to the Board.

The internal audit report may include management’s response and corrective action taken or to be taken in regard to the specific findings and recommendations. Management's response, whether included within the original audit report or provided thereafter (i.e. within thirty days) by management of the audited area should include a timetable for anticipated completion of action to be taken and an explanation for any corrective action that will not be implemented.

The Group Internal Audit will be responsible for appropriate follow-up on engagement findings and recommendations. All significant findings will remain in an open issues file until cleared.

The Chief Audit Executive will periodically report to senior management and the Board on the Group Internal Audit’s purpose, authority, and responsibility, as well as performance relative to its plan. Reporting will also include significant risk exposures and control issues, including fraud risks, governance issues, and other matters needed or requested by senior management and the board.

**Group Internal Audit Charter**

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Audit Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Senior Management

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Audit Committee