Suncor Energy offer to acquire Canadian Oil Sands Limited set to expire on Fri. January 8, 2016

* Suncor urges COS shareholders to tender their shares immediately to protect the value of their investment
* Suncor to host investment community webcast / Q&A tomorrow at 7:30 a.m. MT (9:30 a.m. ET) to discuss the value of its offer

(All dollar amounts referenced are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise specified)

Calgary, Alberta (Jan. 4, 2016) – Suncor Energy today urged shareholders of Canadian Oil Sands Limited (“COS”) to tender their shares to Suncor’s offer before it expires at 6:00 p.m. MT (8:00 p.m. ET) on Fri. January 8, 2016 and recommended that shareholders get instructions to brokers immediately to ensure that they are processed in time as certain brokers and intermediaries will have tender deadlines on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.

As announced on October 5, 2015, Suncor is proposing to acquire all of the outstanding shares of COS. Under the terms of the offer, each COS shareholder will receive consideration of 0.25 of a Suncor share per COS share. Based on the closing price of Suncor’s shares on December 31, 2015, the offer currently represents an implied value of $8.93 per COS share or a significant 44% premium to the pre-offer trading price of $6.19 per COS share.

In addition, COS shareholders will receive a 45% cash dividend increase. COS shareholders will also benefit from ongoing ownership in shares of Suncor, Canada’s leading integrated energy company. Suncor’s integrated business model and strong balance sheet have consistently delivered superior returns to shareholders throughout the price cycle. Over the five years ending October 2, 2015, through changing oil price environments, Suncor increased its dividend by 190% and delivered a total shareholder return of over 15%. During that same period, Canadian Oil Sands cut its dividend by 90% and its shareholders endured a negative total return of 69%.

“We are urging COS shareholders to act now to protect the value of their investment by tendering their shares to our offer,” said Steve Williams, Suncor’s president and chief executive officer. “In the ten months since we first approached COS about a friendly business combination, we believe COS’ prospects as an independent company in a ‘lower for even longer’ oil price environment have worsened considerably. We have made a full and fair offer that provides immediate value, a safer haven as compared to COS in an extremely difficult market environment and significant upside when commodity prices finally improve. That said, we can only invest so much time and money in this effort and will feel compelled to move on to other opportunities if we don’t see substantial support for our bid on Friday.”

Suncor urges COS shareholders to consider the following facts

1. If the offer is rejected, shares of COS may drop in value well below the unaffected pre-bid price of $6.19, based on other recent examples in the marketplace¹, the 20% drop in the price of benchmark WTI crude oil since Suncor announced its offer on October 5, 2015 and the continued operating challenges at Syncrude.
2. Based on the current oil price outlook, it could be many years before COS is able to pay down its debt levels and increase its dividend.  

3. COS’ only operating asset, Syncrude, continues to suffer operational challenges and has failed for the fourth consecutive year to achieve even the lowest-end of COS’ annual production guidance range. By tendering, COS shareholders will join Suncor, and we believe Suncor will have the capability and influence to drive real production improvements at Syncrude.

“We would be very pleased to welcome COS shareholders to Suncor,” said Mr. Williams. “Suncor’s integrated business model and strong balance sheet have consistently delivered superior returns to shareholders throughout the price cycle. We are well-positioned for the current market environment, and to fully capitalize when conditions improve. If we are successful, we will move quickly to eliminate COS’ administration costs and devote the resources necessary to work with our partners at Syncrude to achieve what we believe can be real and lasting operational improvements and create significant value for all of our shareholders.”

Conference call

Suncor will hold a teleconference and webcast to discuss its offer on Tues., January 5, 2016 at 7:30 a.m. MT / 9:30 a.m. ET. Representing management will be Steve Williams, Suncor president and chief executive officer. A question and answer period will follow brief remarks from management. Steve Douglas, vice president, Investor Relations will host the call.

To participate in the conference via webcast, go to suncor.com/webcasts.
To participate in the teleconference:
  • if calling from North America: 1-800-926-6571
  • if calling from outside North America: 1-212-231-2903

About Suncor’s Offer for COS

For more information about Suncor’s offer for COS, visit http://www.suncorofferforcanadianoilsands.com/

D.F. King has been retained as information agent for the offer. Shareholders may contact D.F. King at:
Toll Free in North America: 1-866-521-4427
Banks, Brokers and Collect Calls: 1-201-806-7301
Toll Free Facsimile: 1-888-509-5907
Email: inquiries@dfking.com

1 Three recent examples when a takeover was announced but not completed: (a) Strad Energy Services Ltd.’s share price on the TSX closed on December 31, 2015 at $1.63, which is 33% below its unaffected pre-offer price of $2.43; (b) Pacific Exploration & Production Corp.’s (formerly Pacific Rubiales Energy Corp.) share price on the TSX closed on December 31, 2015 at $1.71 which is 65% below its unaffected pre-offer price of $4.83; (c) K+S AG share price on the DAX closed on December 30, 2015 at €23.68 which is 17% below its unaffected pre-offer price of €28.63.

2 Analysis based on current strip pricing (e.g. the price of forward contracts to purchase WTI) and COS’ statement that its priority as a stand-alone business would be to pay down debt. On December 1, 2015, COS CEO Ryan Kubik said on a COS investor call: “We’ll prioritize debt reduction at this point in time and bring the leverage levels back down towards the lower end of our $1 billion to $2 billion debt range.”
NOTICE TO U.S. HOLDERS

The Offer is being made for the securities of a Canadian issuer by a Canadian issuer that is permitted, under a multijurisdictional disclosure system adopted by the United States, to prepare the Offer documents in accordance with the disclosure requirements of Canada. Shareholders in the United States should be aware that such requirements are different from those of the United States. The financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Offer documents have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and are subject to Canadian auditing and auditor independence standards, and thus may not be comparable to financial statements of U.S. companies.

Shareholders in the United States should be aware that the disposition of their shares in COS ("Shares") and the acquisition of Suncor common shares by them as described in the Offer documents may have tax consequences both in the United States and in Canada. Such consequences for shareholders who are resident in, or citizens of, the United States may not be described fully in the Offer documents.

The enforcement by shareholders of civil liabilities under U.S. federal securities laws may be affected adversely by the fact that each of Suncor and COS are incorporated under the laws of Canada, that some or all of their respective officers and directors may be residents of a foreign country, that some or all of the experts named in the Offer documents may be residents of a foreign country and that all or a substantial portion of the assets of Suncor and COS and said persons may be located outside the United States.

THE SUNCOR COMMON SHARES OFFERED AS CONSIDERATION IN THE OFFER DOCUMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ("SEC") OR ANY U.S. STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SEC OR ANY U.S. STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THE OFFER AND CIRCULAR. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

Shareholders should be aware that, during the period of the Offer, Suncor or its affiliates, directly or indirectly, may bid for or make purchases of Suncor common shares or Shares, or certain related securities, as permitted by applicable law or regulations of the United States, Canada or its provinces or territories.

On October 5, 2015 Suncor filed a registration statement on Form F-80, as amended from time to time, which includes the documents related to the Offer, with the SEC in respect of the Offer. This news release is not a substitute for such registration statement or any other documents that Suncor has filed or may file with the SEC or send to shareholders in connection with the Offer. INVESTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM F-80, AS IT MAY BE AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, AND ALL OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED OR TO BE FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFER AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE, AS WELL AS ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THOSE DOCUMENTS, BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN OR WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. You will be able to obtain a free copy of the registration statement on Form F-80, as well as other filings containing information about Suncor, at the SEC’s website (sec.gov).

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains certain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation (collectively, "forward-looking statements"), including statements about: the dividend increase expected to be
Suncor Energy is Canada’s leading integrated energy company. Suncor’s operations include oil sands development and upgrading, conventional and offshore oil and gas production, petroleum refining, and product marketing under the Petro-Canada brand. A member of Dow Jones Sustainability indexes, FTSE4Good and CDP, Suncor is working to responsibly develop petroleum resources while also growing a renewable energy portfolio. Suncor is listed on the UN Global Compact 100 stock index and the Corporate Knights’ Global 100. Suncor’s common shares (symbol: SU) are listed on the Toronto and New York stock exchanges.

For more information about Suncor, visit our web site at suncor.com, follow us on Twitter @SuncorEnergy, or come and See what Yes can do.

For more information please contact:
Investor inquiries:
800-558-9071