

Noble Corporation plc Reports Fourth Quarter And Full Year 2019 Results

19.02.2020 | [PR Newswire](#)

HIGHLIGHTS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS:

- Expanded presence and positioning in the Guyana-Suriname basin following a unique, Commercial Enabling Agreement (CEA) with ExxonMobil
- Noble Sam Croft added to CEA with one-year contract award
- 2019 operating days improved 18 percent with fleet uptime at 97 percent
- Fourth quarter contract drilling services revenue totaled \$441 million, inclusive of Noble Bully II contract buyout of \$167 million
- Regional operations to expand into Trinidad and Tobago following a contract award for the Noble Regina Allen

LONDON, Feb. 19, 2020 - [Noble Corporation plc](#) (NYSE: NE, the Company) today reported a net loss attributable to the months ended December 31, 2019 (fourth quarter) of \$33 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share, on total revenues of \$454 million. The fourth quarter included net favorable items totaling \$50 million, or \$0.20 per diluted share, as follows:

- Contract drilling services revenues totaling \$167 million (\$80 million net of associated costs, taxes and noncontrolling interests) (per diluted share) resulting from the previously announced Noble Bully II contract buyout with Royal Dutch Shell plc (RDS) (per diluted share)
- Non-cash loss on impairment, net of taxes, totaling \$17 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share, resulting from the impairment of the semisubmersible Noble Paul Romano and certain capital spares.
- Net expense of \$13 million, or \$0.05 per diluted share, relating to various non-cash discrete tax items.

Excluding the impact of the aforementioned items, [Noble Corporation plc](#) generated an adjusted net loss attributable to the three months ended December 31, 2019 of \$83 million, or \$0.33 per diluted share, on total revenues of \$287 million.

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2019, [Noble Corporation plc](#) reported a net loss attributable to the Company of \$2.81 per diluted share, of which a loss of \$4 million, or \$0.02 per diluted share, is related to discontinued operations. Total revenues for the year reached \$1.3 billion. Results for 2019 included net unfavorable items totaling \$323 million, or \$1.29 per diluted share, including noncontrolling interests, including the above mentioned fourth quarter items, in addition to previously announced asset impairment, contingency expense for the Paragon litigation matter, gain on debt extinguishments and discrete tax items recognized. After consideration of these net unfavorable items, [Noble Corporation plc](#) generated an adjusted net loss from continuing operations to the Company for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019, of \$374 million, or \$1.50 per diluted share, with total revenues of \$1.3 billion.

A Non-GAAP supporting schedule is included with the statements and schedules attached to this press release and can be found on www.noblecorp.com. It provides a reconciliation for revenues, net loss, income tax and diluted earnings per share for the year of 2019, and for the fourth quarter and full year of 2018.

Addressing the fourth quarter and full year performance, Julie J. Robertson, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of [Noble Corporation plc](#), noted, "We closed another quarter with strong operational performance, extending our record for consistency among the best in our industry. Our fleet uptime in the fourth quarter exceeded 97 percent, while quarterly contract drilling revenues and EBITDA were well ahead of our expectations.

"From an annual perspective, fleet operating days improved 18 percent when compared to 2018, due in part to the completion of operations on two recently acquired newbuild jackups, one of which, the Noble Joe Knight, began its multi-year contract during October. Also, we completed several advantageous rig mobilizations over the year, two of which allowed us to enter the prolific Guyana-Suriname basin. These rig moves have further enhanced our global fleet positioning as we evaluate opportunities in premium floating and jackup fleets."

Contract drilling services revenues for the fourth quarter totaled \$441 million, including \$167 million related to the Noble Bully II contract buyout with Shell. Excluding revenues from the buyout, contract drilling services revenues for the fourth quarter would have been \$274 million compared to \$259 million in the preceding quarter of 2019. The six percent improvement in revenues was due largely to the jackup rig fleet, which improved 11 percent compared to the previous quarter, increased mobilization revenues, and improved utilization in the floating rig fleet. These items were partially offset by reduced operating days for the Noble Bully II.

Contract drilling service costs in the fourth quarter totaled \$182 million, including costs of \$7 million relating to the Noble Bully II contract buyout with Shell. Excluding the buyout costs, adjusted contract drilling service costs would have been \$175 million or relatively flat when compared to \$175 million in the preceding quarter.

Excluding the impact of the Noble Bully II buyout, earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) reached \$83 million compared to \$68 million in the preceding quarter, while contract drilling margin improved to 36 percent compared to 33 percent in the same period of comparison.

Operating Highlights

Fourth quarter utilization across the Company's 12 floating rigs was 60 percent compared to 63 percent in the preceding quarter. Cold-stacked rigs, active floating utilization was 80 percent compared to 83 percent over the same period of comparison. Due to a reduction in operating days on the Noble Bully II following the previously noted contract buyout. With regard to the Noble Bully II, the Company recognized 63 operating days and \$14 million of contract drilling revenues in the fourth quarter due to a later start of operations on the contract buyout with Shell. Average daily revenues, adjusted for the contract buyout, improved to \$199,000 in the fourth quarter compared to \$199,000 in the same period of comparison.

\$190,000 in the preceding quarter, with higher dayrates experienced for the Noble Don Taylor, Noble Sam Croft and the Noble Sam Croft, which benefitted from enhanced daily revenues with the utilization of its managed pressure drilling system.

The previously reported CEA with ExxonMobil enhances the Company's presence in the Guyana-Suriname basin, with increased visibility, strong fleet utilization, and important economies of scale and logistical savings. Also, the agreement includes a new contract model and deepens Noble's relationship with a valued client, while positioning the Company for the possibility of further expansion. With regard to expansion, the Company announced that the Noble Sam Croft will be added to the CEA with a one-year term expected to commence in August 2020, following the conclusion of the rig's current drilling assignment offshore Suriname. The addition of Noble Sam Croft increases the total rig years awarded under the CEA to 4.5, with six additional years dependent on future decisions and government approvals. At December 31, 2019, seven of the Company's nine active floating rigs remained under contract.

The Company's 13-rig jackup fleet experienced an 11 percent increase in operating days during the fourth quarter, with 93 percent of the fleet operating during the quarter to 93 percent compared to 89 percent in the third quarter. The improvement in operating days followed the completion of operations on the Noble Joe Knight offshore Saudi Arabia and the Noble Houston Colbert in the UK North Sea, and a full return to operations on the Noble Scott Marks following the completion of a regulatory program during the third quarter. These events were offset by a decrease in operating days on the Noble Tom Prosser due to the rig's relocation to a new drilling location offshore Australia. In December, the Regina Allen was awarded a contract for operations offshore Trinidad and Tobago, with contract commencement during the first quarter of 2020. Following the recent exercise of an option well, the expected contract duration has increased to 190 days.

At December 31, 2019, all 13 of the Company's jackup rigs remained under contract. An estimated 58 percent of the fleet's operating days in 2020 were committed to contracts, or 62 percent, excluding the Noble Joe Beall, which the Company plans to complete the completion of its current contract.

Backlog, Capital and Balance Sheet

At December 31, 2019, the Company's estimated revenue backlog totaled approximately \$1.5 billion and reflects a reduction following the Noble Bully II contract buyout. Approximately \$833 million of the backlog was associated with the floating rigs operating with the jackup fleet. An estimated \$776 million of the revenue backlog is attributable to the year 2020. The 4.5 years of contract term under the CEA with ExxonMobil are subject to periodically adjusted market dayrates, and are excluded from the revenue backlog. The backlog can contribute an estimated \$312 million if an illustrative dayrate of \$200,000 and discount, net of performance bonus, of 5 percent are assumed over the term.

Capital expenditures for the fourth quarter and full year of 2019 were \$48 million and \$253 million, respectively, with the \$54 million seller-financed portion of the Noble Joe Knight purchase price. Expenditures for the full year were comprised of fleet maintenance, \$138 million for major projects, including rig reactivations and subsea spares, \$30 million for the purchase of the Noble Knight, and \$10 million of capitalized interest.

A strong liquidity position remains one of the Company's key priorities. At December 31, 2019, the Company maintained a cash and cash equivalents balance of \$660 million, plus an additional \$660 million under the Company's 2017 Credit Facility.

During December 2019, the Company used cash on hand to repay \$100 million of borrowings on the 2017 Credit Facility. The Company terminated its 2015 Credit Facility following the repayment of \$300 million of borrowings outstanding, utilizing the cash on hand available on its 2017 Credit Facility to do so. At December 31, 2019, borrowings outstanding on the 2017 Credit Facility were \$100 million.

Outlook

In closing, Ms. Robertson noted, "Offshore drilling activity continued to trend favorably during 2019 with the contracted counts, when compared to measures at December 2018, improving seven percent and 12 percent, respectively. As global demand through the year, meaningful dayrate appreciation was experienced across the industry's active rig fleet. As we enter 2020, global crude oil demand, due largely to the Coronavirus, have led to a decline in oil prices. Although we currently see no evidence of altering their spending plans, we recognize the heightened risk for reduced spending should the weakness persist. At present, as further industry gains are encouraging, With the exception of the UK North Sea, where some sluggishness is expected in 2020, opportunities for premium jackups remain healthy in the Middle East, Asia and Pacific Rim. In the floating rig fleet, the increase in mount in support of a heightened interest in offshore oil and gas resources among the industry's exploration and production companies, especially in regions such as Guyana, Suriname, Brazil and Mexico. These regions, as well as others in the Eastern Hemisphere, demonstrate strong oil and gas resource potential, leading to incremental rig needs as exploration and development continues."

About Noble Corporation plc

Noble is a leading offshore drilling contractor for the oil and gas industry. The Company owns and operates one of the most modern and technically advanced fleets in the offshore drilling industry. Noble performs, through its subsidiaries, contract drilling with 25 offshore drilling units, consisting of 12 drillships and semisubmersibles and 13 jackups, focused largely on ultra-deepwater and high-specification jackup drilling opportunities in both established and emerging regions worldwide. Noble is a public limited company in England and Wales with company number 08354954 and registered office at 10 Brook Street, London, W1S 1BG. Further information on Noble is available at www.noblecorp.com.

Forward-looking Disclosure Statement

Statements regarding contract backlog, costs, revenue, rig demand, fleet condition, operational or financial performance, dayrates, contract commencements, contract extensions, renewals or renegotiations, rig reactivations, letters of intent or cancellations, fundamentals, customer relationships and requirements, strategic initiatives, future performance, growth opportunities, market, market outlook, our financial position, business strategy, taxes and tax rates, liquidity, competitive position, capital expenditures, levels, as well as any other statements that are not historical facts in this release, are forward-looking statements that include uncertainties and assumptions. These include but are not limited to operating hazards and delays, risks associated with the U.S., actions or claims by regulatory authorities, customers and other third parties, legislation and regulations affecting compliance with regulatory requirements, factors affecting the level of activity in the oil and gas industry, supply and demand, factors affecting the duration of contracts, the actual amount of downtime, factors that reduce applicable dayrates, violations of laws, hurricanes and other weather conditions, market conditions, the future price of oil and gas and other factors detailed in our most recent Form 10-K, Form 10-Q's and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those expected or indicated.

Conference Call

Noble has scheduled a conference call and webcast related to its fourth quarter and full year 2019 results on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. U.S. Central Standard Time. Interested parties are invited to listen to the call by dialing 1-833-245-9653, or in the U.S. by dialing 1-647-689-4225, using access code: 4828326, or by asking for the [Noble Corporation plc](#) conference call. Interested parties may also listen to the call through the Internet through a link posted in the Investor Relations section of the Company's Website.

A replay of the conference call will be available on Thursday, February 20, 2020, beginning at 11:00 a.m. U.S. Central Standard Time, and on Friday, March 20, 2020, ending at 11:00 p.m. U.S. Central Daylight Time. The phone number for the conference call replay is 1-833-245-9653, or in the U.S. by dialing 1-647-689-4225, using access code: 4828326. The replay will also be available on the Company's Website following the end of the live call.

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended December 31, 2019 | | Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2019 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Operating revenues | | | |
| Contract drilling services | \$ 441,312 | \$ 292,049 | \$ 1,246,058 |
| Reimbursables and other | 12,776 | 17,843 | 59,380 |
| | 454,088 | 309,892 | 1,305,438 |
| Operating costs and expenses | | | |

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Contract drilling services | 181,821 | 178,666 | 698,343 |
| Reimbursables | 10,506 | 14,761 | 49,061 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 106,740 | 114,226 | 440,221 |
| General and administrative | 18,976 | 14,694 | 168,792 |
| Loss on impairment | 19,784 | 9,290 | 615,294 |
| | 337,827 | 331,637 | 1,971,711 |
| Operating income (loss) | 116,261 | (21,745) | (666,273) |
| Other income (expense) | | | |
| Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized | (71,224) | (73,741) | (279,435) |
| Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt, net | — | 6,866 | 30,616 |
| Interest income and other, net | 1,785 | 1,488 | 6,007 |
| Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes | 46,822 | (87,132) | (909,085) |
| Income tax benefit | 1,378 | 56,307 | 38,540 |
| Net income (loss) from continuing operations | 48,200 | (30,825) | (870,545) |
| Net loss from discontinued operations, net of tax | — | — | (3,821) |
| Net income (loss) | 48,200 | (30,825) | (874,366) |
| Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | (81,070) | (2,237) | 173,776 |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (700,590) |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | | | |
| Net loss from continuing operations | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (696,769) |
| Net loss from discontinued operations, net of tax | — | — | (3,821) |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (700,590) |
| Per share data | | | |
| Basic: | | | |
| Loss from continuing operations | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.79) |
| Loss from discontinued operations | — | — | (0.02) |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.81) |
| Diluted: | | | |
| Loss from continuing operations | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.79) |
| Loss from discontinued operations | — | — | (0.02) |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.81) |

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2019 December 31, 2018

ASSETS

Current assets

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 104,621 | \$ 375,232 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 198,665 | 200,722 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 118,821 | 83,102 |
| Total current assets | 422,107 | 659,056 |
| Property and equipment, at cost | 10,306,625 | 10,956,412 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (2,572,701) | (2,475,694) |
| Property and equipment, net | 7,733,924 | 8,480,718 |
| Other assets | 128,467 | 125,149 |
| Total assets | \$ 8,284,498 | \$ 9,264,923 |

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current liabilities

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Current maturities of long-term debt | \$ 62,505 | \$ — |
| Accounts payable | 108,208 | 125,557 |
| Accrued payroll and related costs | 56,056 | 50,284 |
| Other current liabilities | 290,159 | 189,616 |
| Total current liabilities | 516,928 | 365,457 |
| Long-term debt | 3,779,499 | 3,877,402 |
| Other liabilities | 329,099 | 367,490 |
| Total liabilities | 4,625,526 | 4,610,349 |

Commitments and contingencies

Equity

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total shareholders' equity | 3,658,972 | 4,253,171 |
| Noncontrolling interests | — | 401,403 |
| Total equity | 3,658,972 | 4,654,574 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total liabilities and equity | \$ 8,284,498 | \$ 9,264,923 |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

| | Twelve Months Ended December 31, | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 |
| Cash flows from operating activities | | |
| Net loss | \$ (874,366) | \$ (1,130,535) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash flow from operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 440,221 | 486,530 |
| Loss on impairment | 615,294 | 802,133 |
| (Gain) loss on extinguishment of debt, net | (30,616) | 1,793 |
| Changes in components of working capital: | | |
| Change in taxes receivable | (11,225) | 84,847 |
| Net changes in other operating assets and liabilities | 47,463 | (72,917) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 186,771 | 171,851 |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Capital expenditures | (268,783) | (194,779) |
| Proceeds from disposal of assets, net | 12,753 | 5,402 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (256,030) | (189,377) |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| Issuance of senior notes | — | 750,000 |
| Borrowings on credit facilities | 755,000 | — |
| Repayments of credit facilities | (420,000) | — |
| Repayments of senior notes | (400,000) | (972,708) |
| Debt issuance costsre | (1,092) | (15,639) |
| Purchase of noncontrolling interest | (106,744) | — |
| Dividends paid to noncontrolling interests | (25,109) | (27,579) |
| Taxes withheld on employee stock transactions | (2,779) | (3,470) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (200,724) | (269,396) |

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Net decrease in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash | (269,983) | (286,922) |
| Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash, beginning of period | 375,907 | 662,829 |
| Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash, end of period | \$ 105,924 | \$ 375,907 |

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES

FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL INFORMATION BY SEGMENT

(In thousands, except operating statistics)

(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended December 31, | | | | | | Three Months Ended | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------------|------------|
| | 2019 | | | 2018 | | | 2019 | |
| | Contract Drilling Services | Other | Total | Contract Drilling Services | Other | Total | Contract Drilling Services | Other |
| Operating revenues | | | | | | | | |
| Contract drilling services | \$ 441,312 | \$ — | \$ 441,312 | \$ 292,049 | \$ — | \$ 292,049 | \$ 259,428 | \$ — |
| Reimbursables and other | 12,776 | — | 12,776 | 17,843 | — | 17,843 | 16,098 | — |
| | \$ 454,088 | \$ — | \$ 454,088 | \$ 309,892 | \$ — | \$ 309,892 | \$ 275,526 | \$ — |
| Operating costs and expenses | | | | | | | | |
| Contract drilling services | \$ 181,821 | \$ — | \$ 181,821 | \$ 178,666 | \$ — | \$ 178,666 | \$ 175,929 | \$ — |
| Reimbursables | 10,506 | — | 10,506 | 14,761 | — | 14,761 | 13,779 | — |
| Depreciation and amortization | 103,778 | 2,962 | 106,740 | 110,372 | 3,854 | 114,226 | 109,616 | 3,139 |
| General and administrative | 18,976 | — | 18,976 | 14,694 | — | 14,694 | 17,565 | — |
| Loss on impairment | 19,784 | — | 19,784 | 9,290 | — | 9,290 | 595,510 | — |
| | \$ 334,865 | \$ 2,962 | \$ 337,827 | \$ 327,783 | \$ 3,854 | \$ 331,637 | \$ 912,399 | \$ 3,139 |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 119,223 | \$ (2,962) | \$ 116,261 | \$ (17,891) | \$ (3,854) | \$ (21,745) | \$ (636,873) | \$ (3,139) |
| Operating statistics | | | | | | | | |
| Jackups: | | | | | | | | |
| Average Rig Utilization | 93% | | | 94% | | | 89% | |
| Operating Days | 1,096 | | | 1,037 | | | 985 | |
| Average Dayrate | \$129,898 | | | \$121,949 | | | \$130,339 | |
| Floaters ⁽¹⁾ : | | | | | | | | |
| Average Rig Utilization | 60% | | | 56% | | | 63% | |
| Operating Days | 664 | | | 618 | | | 691 | |
| Average Dayrate | \$450,362 | | | \$267,737 | | | \$189,773 | |

Total (1):

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Average Rig Utilization | 77% | 75% | 76% |
| Operating Days | 1,760 | 1,655 | 1,676 |
| Average Dayrate | \$250,760 | \$176,443 | \$154,827 |

(1) The fourth quarter of 2019 includes the impact of the Noble Bully II contract buyout. Exclusive of this item, the average dayrate for the three months ended December 31, 2019 would have been \$198,956 for floaters and \$155,940 for total rigs.

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES

CALCULATION OF BASIC AND DILUTED NET INCOME/(LOSS) PER SHARE

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

The following table presents the computation of basic and diluted loss per share:

| | Three Months Ended December 31, Twelve Months Ended December 31 | | | |
|--|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 |
| Numerator: | | | | |
| Basic | | | | |
| Net loss from continuing operations | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (696,769) | \$ (885,050) |
| Net loss from discontinued operations, net of tax — | | — | (3,821) | — |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (700,590) | \$ (885,050) |
| Diluted | | | | |
| Net loss from continuing operations | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (696,769) | \$ (885,050) |
| Net loss from discontinued operations, net of tax — | | — | (3,821) | — |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (700,590) | \$ (885,050) |
| Denominator: | | | | |
| Weighted average shares outstanding - basic | 249,198 | 246,793 | 248,949 | 246,614 |
| Weighted average shares outstanding - diluted | 249,198 | 246,793 | 248,949 | 246,614 |
| Loss per share | | | | |
| Basic: | | | | |
| Loss from continuing operations | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.79) | \$ (3.59) |
| Loss from discontinued operations | — | — | (0.02) | — |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.81) | \$ (3.59) |
| Diluted: | | | | |
| Loss from continuing operations | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.79) | \$ (3.59) |
| Loss from discontinued operations | — | — | (0.02) | — |
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.81) | \$ (3.59) |

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES
NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION

Certain non-GAAP performance measures and corresponding reconciliations to GAAP financial measures

for the Company have been provided for meaningful comparisons between current results and prior operating periods. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's performance, financial position, or cash flows that excludes or includes amounts that are not normally included or excluded in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. In order to fully assess the financial operating results, management believes that the results of operations, adjusted to exclude the following items, which are included in the Company's press release issued on February 19, 2020, and discussed in the related conference call on February 20, 2020, are appropriate measures of the continuing and normal operations of the Company:

- (i) In the first quarter of 2019, a gain on debt extinguishment;
- (ii) In the second quarter of 2019, charge related to the Paragon litigation and a discrete tax item;
- (iii) In the third quarter of 2019, an impairment on one of our rigs and a loss on debt extinguishment; and
- (iv) In the fourth quarter of 2019, an impairment of a rig and capital spares, discrete tax items and the contract buyout with Shell.

These non-GAAP adjusted measures should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, contract drilling revenue, contract drilling cost, contract drilling margin, average daily revenue, operating income, cash flows from operations, or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP. Please see the following non-GAAP Financial Measures and Reconciliations for a complete description of the adjustments.

[Noble Corporation plc](#) AND SUBSIDIARIES

NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

(Unaudited)

| Reconciliation of Total Revenue | Three months ended December 31, Twelve months | | |
|--|---|------------|--------------|
| | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Total revenue | \$ 454,088 | \$ 309,892 | \$ 1,305,438 |
| Adjustments | | | |
| Noble Bully II - Shell contract buyout | (166,858) | — | (166,858) |
| Total Adjustments | (166,858) | — | (166,858) |
| Adjusted total revenue | \$ 287,230 | \$ 309,892 | \$ 1,138,580 |
| Reconciliation of Income Tax Benefit (Provision) | Three Months Ended December 31, Twelve Months | | |
| | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Income tax benefit (provision) | \$ 1,378 | \$ 56,307 | \$ 38,540 |
| Adjustments | | | |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Loss on impairment | (2,630) | — | (2,630) |
| Gain (loss) on debt extinguishment | — | 1,442 | 6,566 |
| Discrete tax items | 12,485 | (60,568) | (21,178) |
| Noble Bully II - Shell contract buyout | 2,452 | — | 2,452 |
| Total Adjustments | 12,307 | (59,126) | (14,790) |
| Adjusted income tax benefit (provision) | \$ 13,685 | \$ (2,819) | \$ 23,750 |

Reconciliation of Net Loss Attributable to [Noble Corporation plc](#) Three Months Ended December 31, Twelve Months

| | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (32,870) | \$ (33,062) | \$ (700,590) |

Adjustments

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Loss on impairment, net of tax | 17,154 | 9,290 | 612,664 |
| (Gain) loss on debt extinguishment | — | (5,424) | (24,050) |
| Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests | 78,019 | — | (186,969) |
| Discrete tax items | 12,485 | (60,568) | (21,178) |
| Legal contingencies | — | — | 100,000 |
| Noble Bully II - Shell contract buyout | (157,647) | — | (157,647) |
| Total Adjustments | (49,989) | (56,702) | 322,820 |
| Adjusted net loss attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (82,859) | \$ (89,764) | \$ (377,770) |

Reconciliation of Diluted EPS Attributable to [Noble Corporation plc](#) Three Months Ended December 31, Twelve Months

| | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Unadjusted diluted EPS attributable to Noble Corporation plc | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.13) | \$ (2.81) |

Adjustments

| | | | |
|--|---------|---------|--------|
| Loss on impairment | 0.07 | 0.04 | 1.40 |
| (Gain) loss on debt extinguishment | — | (0.02) | (0.10) |
| Discrete tax items | 0.05 | (0.25) | (0.09) |
| Legal contingencies | — | — | 0.40 |
| Noble Bully II - Shell contract buyout | (0.32) | — | (0.32) |

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Adjusted diluted EPS attributable to [Noble Corporation plc](#) \$ (0.33) \$ (0.36) \$ (1.52)

SOURCE: Noble Corporation
 Jeffrey L. Chastain, Vice President - Investor Relations and Corporate Communications, Noble Drilling Services Inc., 281-276-6383, or at jlchastain@noblecorp.com

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