

press release

5 February 2010

Lower gas and oil prices impacts BG groups revenues

- BG Group earnings for the period fell 38% to £465m
- The Share Centre maintains BG Group as its preferred gas producer

This morning BG Group announced its fourth quarter earnings had been heavily impacted by the gas price slump, despite stepping up its production levels. Nick Raynor, investment adviser at The Share Centre, explains what this means for investors.

“Although BG Group’s results revealed that earnings for the period fell 38% to £465m, down from £756m recorded in the final quarter of 2008, they were in line with market expectations. BG Group’s performance highlights the challenge faced by energy companies to deliver good value for customers while maintaining profit for shareholders.

“Following this morning’s announcement and greater economic concerns, BG Group’s shares fell 3 per cent. This, combined with a lower than expected dividend increase, is likely to have left shareholders feeling a little subdued. The final dividend was raised 10 per cent to 12.35 pence.

“Despite today’s results, BG Group remains our preferred gas producer. We believe it is only a matter of time before gas prices improve, as demand for cleaner sources of energy increases. Plus, the Group continues to benefit from the growing demand for Liquefied Natural Gas, aiming to become the world’s third largest supplier. BG Group remains a growth play for investors rather than an investment geared towards income generation.”

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Investing in general, and the products and services mentioned above may not be suitable for all: if in doubt, individuals should seek independent financial advice. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back their original investment. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The bases and levels of taxation relating to ISAs, CTFs and SIPPs are subject to change and the value of these tax allowances may depend upon the circumstances of the individual.

About The Share Centre:

The Share Centre was established in 1990 to provide value-for-money share services for private investors. Its range of services includes buying and selling shares (by Internet, telephone and post) and a comprehensive share administration and safe custody service. Tax-efficient investment 'wrappers' including ISAs, CTFs and SIPPs are also available.

The Share Centre's Advice Team provides comment on market sectors, individual shares and funds on www.share.com. Access is available to customers and registered users of the site. Registration is free. To understand how our Advice team arrive at their views please read our [Investment Research Policy](#).

In addition, account customers can receive individual telephone advice on UK-listed shares and on funds traded via the CoFunds trading platform.

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