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6 February 2008

## **3D Oil Limited**

### **Drilling campaign to commence in Bass Strait**

Oil and gas explorer, 3D Oil Limited, is set to drill two wells in Bass Strait following the arrival in Australia of the newly built 'jack up' drilling rig, the West Triton.

The rig arrived in January in Western Port Bay on a transport vessel from Singapore and was successfully floated off in preparation for its first drilling engagements.

West Triton is scheduled to drill up to ten exploration and appraisal wells in Bass Strait for a variety of companies.

The rig's first three wells, to be drilled for US oil company, Apache Energy, are due to begin later this week.

3D Oil Limited's West Seahorse-3 well is expected to commence drilling late next month. That well will be followed by a second well for 3D Oil Limited, the Wardie 1 well.



*West Triton in Western Port Bay Victoria*

The Wardie structure is interpreted to contain potential additional oil reserves, which could ultimately be produced via the facilities to be established by 3D Oil on the West Seahorse field. Latest mapping indicates that it may in fact be larger than West Seahorse.

Worley Parsons has been commissioned by 3D Oil Limited to conduct a pre FEED (Front End Engineering and Design) study of the feasibility and costs associated with development options for the proposed West Seahorse development,

Under the development scenario envisaged West Seahorse will be developed as a stand alone option using an unmanned well-head platform with the oil piped to a small onshore stabilisation plant in Gippsland.

3D Oil Limited is the operator and 100% equity holder in two permits in Bass Strait; Vic/P57 in the Gippsland Basin, Victoria and T41-P in the Bass Basin, Tasmania.

The company is currently undertaking well planning, in conjunction with Australian Drilling Associates, operator of the West Triton rig, for the two wells.

Both wells will be drilled from the one location reducing rig down time and providing cost-effective commercialisation of the Wardie prospect in the event of a discovery.

### **West Seahorse Background**

The West Seahorse field lies within permit VIC/P57 approximately 2 km to the west of the producing Seahorse field.

West Seahorse-1 drilled in 1981, by Hudbay Oil Australia Limited followed the oil discovery in the neighbouring Seahorse field by Esso in 1978. The well intersected three separate oil accumulations with a potential fourth untested. The uppermost zone, within the top of Latrobe Group, flowed 1800 bopd. The current interpretation of the West Seahorse field shows it to be substantially larger than interpreted by previous operators.

Furthermore the West Seahorse-2 well appears to be located on the edge of the field, suggesting that larger hydrocarbon intersections might be encountered higher on the structure. The neighbouring Seahorse field has produced oil since 1990/1991 through a subsea completion connected to the Barracouta platform. A recent work-over of the Seahorse-1 well (2005) resulted in the well's return to production at 4000 bopd following a period of declining oil production.

VIC/P57 is flanked to the south by several oil and gas fields including the giant Barracouta and Snapper gas fields as well as the smaller Golden Beach, Mulloway/Whiptail, Seahorse, Wirrah, Whiting, Emperor and Sweetlips fields. Four recent wells have intersected hydrocarbons in areas adjacent to VIC/P57: Longtom-2 and 3, Grayling-1 and West Moonfish-1. West Seahorse

### **West Seahorse Field: Development Concept**

Assuming successful delineation drilling, the development of the West Seahorse field is expected to be based on an unmanned monotower producing from a single well with the potential for add-on including Wardie-1. The well is expected to produce at an initial oil rate of 4,200 stb/day/well and decline harmonically. The field is expected to produce for ten years. The well fluid will be exported to an onshore processing plant via eight inch pipeline. The produced solution gas will be dehydrated, recompressed and piped (via 2.5 inch pipeline) to the monotower for gas lift. The onshore facility will include crude stabilization, water treatment, chemical injection and utilities.

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