



PTTEP Australasia TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS

Information Release Statement Incident Information # 13

Date: 27 August 2009 TIME 1600

PTTEP Australasia (PTTEP) can confirm the mobile offshore drilling rig *West Triton* left Batam Island in Indonesia, near Singapore at 1.45pm (WST) today.

The rig's departure was delayed due to difficulties preparing to leave its berth at Batam Island.

Two tugs will tow the rig at a speed of approximately 5 knots to a position within 2km of the Montara well head platform in the Timor Sea where the *West Atlas* is located to drill a relief well to stop the flow of oil and gas condensate.

Alternatives to control the well flow are also continuing to be investigated by PTTEP with an emphasis on safety and technical feasibility.

The company has sourced a Boeing 747 transport plane to fly equipment from Singapore to Darwin to deluge the Montara well head platform and the *West Atlas*.

Once the equipment arrives in Darwin it will be fitted aboard a dynamically positioned (DP) vessel. After a safety evaluation the vessel is expected to be site at the Montara well head platform within four days. A second DP vessel is being mobilised to Darwin to be fitted out with more deluge equipment.

Further observation flights were undertaken on the surface oil spill earlier today and showed the slick to be in a similar pattern as previous days, continuing in a north easterly direction away from the mainland.

The observation flights also included a pass over Ashmore Reef approximately 148 km WNW of the Montara well head platform. There was no oil sighted in the area. The slick is currently heading in the opposite direction from Montara, away from Ashmore Reef and Cartier Island.

Weather reports show a continued weak pressure gradient over the region with moderate winds. Winds are expected to increase over the weekend which should help to disperse the gas and water cloud coming from the well head platform.

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NOTE: This media statement and all previous statements issued by the company can be viewed at www.au.pttep.com.



**PTTEP Australasia
TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS
BACKGROUND**

PTTEP Australasia (PTTEP) operates two oil fields and is developing the Montara field in the Timor Sea.

MONTARA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Montara development project is located in the Timor Sea approx 650 km west of Darwin.

PTTEP owns and operates 100 per cent of the Montara Development Project, which comprises the Montara (AC/L7), Skua and Swift/Swallow (AC/L8) oil fields.

The development plan for the Montara Development Project involves nine producing wells, four in the Montara field; two in the Skua field and three in the Swift/Swallow field.

First production from the Montara project is targeted for the fourth quarter of 2009. Oil reserves from the four fields that comprise the Montara Development Project are approximately 37 million barrels.

JABIRU OIL FIELD

The Jabiru oil field is located in Production Licence AC/L1 in the Australian waters of the Timor Sea, approximately 650 kilometres west of Darwin.

The field was discovered in 1983 and production commenced in August 1986. Production is carried out utilising the Jabiru Venture, a Floating Production, Storage and Offloading facility (FPSO) converted from an oil tanker and which currently produces approximately 2700 barrels of oil a day.

The facility can be disconnected from its production riser in the event of emergencies.

CHALLIS OIL FIELD

The Challis oil field is located in Production Licence AC/L3 in the Australian waters of the Timor Sea, approximately 650 kilometres west of Darwin.

The field was discovered in 1984, with production commencing in 1989.

Production is carried out by a purpose-built FPSO barge, the Challis Venture, which is permanently moored over the field. It currently produces about 1500 barrels of oil per day.

PTTEP Australasia has 70.9375% interest and is the operator of the Jabiru and Challis fields in joint venture with Santos (10.3125%) and OMV (18.75%).



WEST ATLAS MOBILE OFFSHORE DRILLING UNIT

The *West Atlas* is a jack-up rig known as a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU), operated by Seadrill. It has been under contract to Coogee Resources, now known as PTTEP Australasia, since September 2007.

It is a self-contained combination drilling rig and floating barge, fitted with long support legs that can be raised or lowered independently of each other.

The rig is towed onto location with its legs up and the barge section floating on the water. Upon arrival at the drilling location, the legs are jacked down onto the seafloor, preloaded to securely drive them into the sea bottom, and then all three legs are jacked further down.

PTTEP AUSTRALASIA

PTTEP Australasia was previously Coogee Resources Ltd and was acquired by PTTEP in February 2009. Coogee acquired Newfield Exploration Australia in 2004 which owned the Jabiru and Challis interest and part of the Montara field.

PTTEP owns 100 per cent of PTTEP Australasia. PTTEP is a publicly listed company on the Thai stock exchange and is 65 per cent owned by PTT.

PTT is a publicly listed company on the Thai stock exchange. The company is 51.7 per cent owned by the Thai Ministry of Finance.