



**PTTEP Australasia TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS
Incident Information #52**

Date: 1 October 2009 1355 WST

PTTEP Australasia is preparing for the final phase of the main drilling component of a relief well to stop the flow of oil, gas and water from the Montara well head platform in the Timor Sea.

Sophisticated electro magnetic ranging tools will then be used to intercept the existing leaking well before drilling into it and pumping heavy mud to stop the flow of oil, gas and water. The *West Triton* drilling rig is now prepared for this phase of the operation and is fully loaded with the heavy mud material.

A 12¼ inch hole was drilled to a depth of 2,375m on Tuesday (29 September).

A 95/8 liner was inserted into the relief well yesterday (30 September).

Work to cement it into place was completed today.

Drilling of an 8½ inch hole from 2,375m to the final target depth of 2,600m is expected to begin tomorrow (2 October).

The relief well drilling to full depth, interception and injection of heavy mud operation remains on schedule to take a total of three-and-a-half weeks (from the drilling start date of 14 September) to stop the leak.

Following the completion of the relief well operation, a specialist crew will board the *West Atlas* drilling rig and the Montara well head platform to further secure the well by plugging the well bore. This phase is expected to take about another week.

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