



**PTTEP Australasia TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS
Incident Information #91**

Date: 5 November 2009 1530 WST

PTTEP Australasia has conducted a close-in helicopter flight around the Montara well head platform and *West Atlas* drilling rig in the Timor Sea today to better assess the damage caused by fire which was extinguished earlier this week and plan for the next phase of the operation.

Thermal imaging technology being used on the support vessel *Nor Captain* has shown the main fire-damaged area on the *West Atlas* and well head platform has cooled down to the ambient air temperature.

This allowed the flight to be made safely and give the specialist team from ALERT Well Control their first close-up look since the fire was extinguished on Tuesday (3 November) after the well was 'killed'.

The team has been standing off, onboard the *Nor Captain*, monitoring the situation and is progressing plans to reboard the well head platform next week. This afternoon's flight allowed them to gather more visual data to help progress that planning.

PTTEP is carrying out a safety assessment for the reboarding operation and is working with the National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSA) to obtain approvals for the proposed reboarding operation.

Once aboard the well head platform, the team will conduct detailed assessments and safety preparations to determine how the next phase to plug and fully secure the H1 well will be carried out following the damage caused by the fire.

The Montara well head situation remains stable following the successful well kill operation.

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