



PTTEP Australasia TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS

Information Release Statement Incident Information # 36

Date: 15 September 2009 1530 WST

Drilling is underway on a relief well to stop the leak of oil, gas and water from the Montara well head platform.

Work began yesterday (14 September 2009) at 1800 (CST) to drill to a depth of 2.6km to intersect the existing well. This will allow for the injection of heavy mud directly into the existing well bore to stop the flow. This operation is expected to take about three-and-a-half weeks to complete.

An initial 26-inch diameter hole was successfully drilled to a depth of 149m and a 20-inch conductor pipe has been run through and cemented into position.

The next step will be to drill a slightly smaller hole (17.5 inches in diameter) beneath that to a depth of 1622m. It is expected that this phase will be completed by the weekend.

As PTTEP announced on the weekend, visual assessments at the scene in the Timor Sea indicate that the rate of the flow of oil from the well head platform is reducing significantly. The latest AMSA observations today reaffirmed this.

As a result, AMSA has reduced its dispersant spraying program. No aerial spraying has occurred for some days. It has become increasingly difficult for the surface vessels to find suitable patches of oil to spray or pick up with the on-scene boom and skimming equipment.

http://www.amsa.gov.au/Marine_Environment_Protection/Montara_Well_Head_Platform/Media/Dispersant-table.pdf

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