

Permits

Ashmore Cartier

AC-L1 (see also AC-L3)

Location: 650 km west of Darwin, Vulcan Sub-basin.

Ownership: ANADARKO PETROLEUM CORPORATION 14.7% through Anadarko Canada Corporation; COOGEE CHEMICALS PTY LTD 50%; EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION 6.25% through Ampolex Ltd; OMV AUSTRALIA PTY LTD 18.75% through Cultus Timor Sea Pty Ltd; SANTOS LTD 10.3%.

Operator office: Andy Jacob, managing director, Coogee Resources Pty Ltd, Level 1, 28-42 Ventnor Ave, West Perth, WA 6005. Ph: (08) 9483 9483. Fax: (08) 9226 2102.

Area: 336 km²

Projects: JABIRU.

Expiry date: 16/07/2006.

Comment: The Jabiru field was discovered in May 1983 and began producing in 1986, making it the first commercially developed oil field in the Timor Sea. The remaining exploration potential of the production licence was re-evaluated in 1997 and several prospective leads had been identified with an eye to further development. Further work was planned to mature the leads to drilling prospect status, including the application of other geological concepts to additional leads and prospects. In mid 1998, BHP Petroleum sold its interest to Gulf Australia Resources Ltd. The sale also included AC-L2, -3 and -4, containing the Challis-Cassini oil field. In July 1999, Newfield Exploration Australia acquired an interest in the permit from Gulf Australia, a subsidiary of Gulf Canada Resources Ltd. The 2000 drilling program began in March when Jabiru-14 oil development well, designed as a horizontal oil development well in the Jurassic Plover Reservoir was spudded. The main hole was drilled to 1,324m but experienced technical difficulties and Jabiru-14 ST1 wellbore was sidetracked from 792m. The well reached a TD of 2,161m and was abandoned. Jabiru-14 ST2 was kicked off from 1,354m in the Jabiru-ST1 wellbore, reached a TD of 2,161 MDRT and was plugged and suspended. By late 2001 no further activities had been reported. During 2003, Newfield Exploration withdrew from its Australian permits and its 50% interest in this permit was sold to Coogee Chemicals Pty Ltd. Coogee assumed operatorship of the permit and associated projects.

AC-L2 (see also AC-L1)

Location: Vulcan Sub-basin, Timor Sea.

Ownership: ANADARKO PETROLEUM CORPORATION 14.7% through Anadarko Canada Corporation; COOGEE CHEMICALS PTY LTD 50%; EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION 6.25% through Ampolex Ltd; OMV AUSTRALIA PTY LTD 18.75% through Cultus Timor Sea Pty Ltd; SANTOS LTD 10.3%.

Operator office: Andy Jacob, managing director, Coogee Resources Pty Ltd, Level 1, 28-42 Ventnor Ave, West Perth, WA 6005. Ph: (08) 9483 9483. Fax: (08) 9226 2102.

Area: 336 km²

Expiry date: 16/07/2006.

Comment: The successful Tenacious-1 discovery in AC-P17 had provided encouragement for the potential of this permit, with oil flowing from the Middle Jurassic sands of the Plover Formation and the younger Tithonian Sandstones. In 1998, BHP Petroleum Pty Ltd sold its interest to Gulf Australia Resources Ltd. In July 1999, Newfield Exploration Australia Ltd acquired the interest from Gulf. During 2003, Newfield Exploration withdrew from its Australian permit and its 50% interest in this permit was sold to Coogee Chemicals Pty Ltd. No further progress on this permit was reported.

AC-L3 (see also AC-L1)

Location: 20 km south of Jabiru, Vulcan Sub-basin.

Ownership: ANADARKO PETROLEUM CORPORATION 14.7% through Anadarko Canada Corporation; COOGEE CHEMICALS PTY LTD 50%; EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION 6.25% through Ampolex Ltd; OMV AUSTRALIA PTY LTD 18.75% through Cultus Timor Sea Pty Ltd; SANTOS LTD 10.3%.

Operator office: Andy Jacob, managing director, Coogee Resources Pty Ltd, Level 1, 28-42 Ventnor Ave, West Perth, WA 6005. Ph: (08) 9483 9483. Fax: (08) 9226 2102.

Area: 755 km²

Projects: CHALLIS-CASSINI.

Expiry date: 28/01/2009.

Comment: The Challis and Cassini fields began production in December 1989. The remaining exploration potential of the production licence was re-evaluated in 1997 and several prospective leads had been identified with respect to further development of Challis-Cassini. Further work was planned with the aim of maturing the leads to drilling prospect status, including the application of other geological concepts to additional leads and prospects. In mid 1998, BHP Petroleum sold its interest to Gulf Australia Resources Ltd and, in mid 1999, Gulf sold its interest to Newfield Exploration Australia. Newfield planned to drill an infill well on the field and in May 2000, Challis-15, a deviated oil development well, reached a TD of 1,533m. The well was unsuccessful and was plugged and abandoned. During 2003, Newfield Exploration withdrew from its Australian permit interests and its 50% interest in this permit was sold to Coogee Chemicals Pty Ltd. On acquiring its interest in the permit, Coogee also took over the operatorship of AC-L3 and the Challis-Cassini project. No progress on this permit had been reported.

AC-L4

Projects: SKUA.

Comment: AC-L4 was located 650 km west of Darwin, 300 km off the Kimberley coast and covered an area of 329 km². The Skua field was discovered in 1985 with the drilling of Skua-2. A total of nine exploration and development wells were drilled over the field, three of which were used for oil production. The licence also contained the Spruce prospect. Skua ceased production in February 1997 but the partners planned to explore other areas. In mid-1998, BHP Petroleum sold its interest to Gulf

Australia Resources Ltd. In October 1998, Cairn Energy Asia Ltd pulled out of Australia and disposed of its interest in the field. In July 1999, Newfield Exploration Australia acquired Gulf's interest. By late 1999, no further announcements had been made about development work on the permit, although, Australian Worldwide Exploration had acquired all Premier's Australian interests. In early 2000, reservoir simulation studies were undertaken to investigate the possibility of bringing the Skua oil field back on production. No results of these studies were announced. AWE withdrew from the permit in late 2001. In 2002, Santos withdrew from the permit. In early 2003, Newfield withdrew from all Australian operations and its joint venture partner Anadarko Petroleum subsequently relinquished the permit.

AC-L5 (see also AC-P8)

Location: 550 km NW of Darwin, Timor Sea.

Ownership: BHP BILLITON PETROLEUM PTY LTD 25% and 32.6125% of Laminaria through BHP Billiton Petroleum (North West Shelf) Pty Ltd; SHELL AUSTRALIA PTY LTD 25% and 22.4625% of Laminaria; WOODSIDE PETROLEUM LTD 50% and 44.9250% of Laminaria through Woodside Energy Ltd.

Operator office: Agu Kantsler, director new ventures, Woodside Energy Ltd, 1 Adelaide Tce, Perth, WA 6000. Ph: (08) 9224 4000. Fax: (08) 9224 5539.

Area: 166 km²

Projects: LAMINARIA-CORALLINA.

Expiry date: 05/02/2018.

Comment: The production licence was granted in February 1997. In 1998, Woodside, Shell Development and BHP Petroleum concluded an unithisation agreement over the Laminaria oil field which straddled AC-L5, AC-P8 and WA-260P. Corallina remained unchanged. Laminaria-6 development well was drilled in 1999. Oil production from the Laminaria-Corallina complex began in November 1999. In early 2000, a potential phase two Laminaria development consisting of up to three additional production wells was under consideration. Future activity depended on the results of an updated field development plan, due to be completed by the end of 2000, and prospectivity studies. No development drilling was undertaken and activities had focused on re-interpretation of reprocessed 3D seismic over the Laminaria and Corallina oil fields and rebuilding of a reservoir simulation model. Planning for a phase two Laminaria development consisting of two additional horizontal infill production wells was completed in early 2001. The wells were to be completed by mid 2002. In May 2002, Laminaria North-1 exploration well was spudded 670 km NW of Darwin at a water depth of 373m and with a planned TD of 3,300m. Woodside's interest in the well is 66.67% with Shell Development holding 33.33%. BHP Billiton elected not to participate in this well. The well was drilled to 3,420m, did not encounter any hydrocarbons and was plugged and abandoned. In June 2002, the Laminaria phase two project started production on schedule with first oil flowing on 11 June 2002. The project was designed to accelerate production and access incremental reserves from the Laminaria and Corallina fields, and had involved the drilling of two new wells, Laminaria-7 and -8, with subsea completions and tie-ins to the FPSO Northern Endeavour. During 2002/03 permit operator Woodside, was involved in sub-surface studies to evaluate recovery enhancement opportunities.

AC-P15

Comment: The 3,259 km² permit was located 600 km WNW of Darwin, Vulcan Sub-basin, North Timor Sea. A total of 1,618 km of 2D seismic was acquired during 1996. In February 1998, exploration well Fish River-1 was spudded. The well was sidetracked in March 1998, but later plugged and abandoned. In May 1998, the Banka Banka oil exploration well was also plugged and abandoned. No further work was reported until the Mallonee-1 exploration well was spudded in February 2002. This well was plugged and abandoned as a dry hole after reaching a TD of 2,345m. By May 2003, the permit, which had been under the operatorship of Santos Ltd, had been surrendered.

AC-P17

Location: Vulcan Sub-basin, Timor Sea.

Ownership: COSMO OIL COMPANY LTD 35% through Cosmo Oil Ashmore Ltd; OMV AUSTRALIA PTY LTD 65% through OMV Timor Sea Pty Ltd.

Operator office: Ric Malcolm, exploration manager, OMV Australia Pty Ltd, Level 28, 44 St Georges Tce, Perth, WA 6000. Ph: (08) 9223 5000. Fax: (08) 9223 5004.

Area: 494 km²

Projects: AUDACIOUS, TENACIOUS.

Expiry date: 08/07/2007.

Comment: The permit, which covered the Cartier Trough Margin, was awarded in 1996. The Hadrian-1, Augustus-1 and Douglas-1 wells, which had been drilled previously, had all produced oil shows. The work program included the drilling of two wells, the acquisition of 200 km 2D seismic, the purchase of speculative 3D seismic and reprocessing of 300 km seismic in the initial three-year period. The first prospect, Kym, was drilled to a TD of 2,201m in 1996, targeting the Plover Formation. No indications of hydrocarbons were encountered in the reservoir and the well was plugged and abandoned. The potential reserve base at Kym, which had many geological similarities to the adjacent Jabiru field, had been estimated at 200 mmbbl recoverable. Tenacious-1 was spudded in 1997 and was drilled to a TD of 3,205m. Evaluation of initial logs indicated a 5.5m hydrocarbon column at the top of the Tithonian Sandstones. The well was sidetracked to investigate the extent of the column and Tenacious-1ST1 was drilled to 3,010m. Evaluation of well results indicated a gross hydrocarbon column of 39.5m. A DST of the reservoir section flowed at a mechanically-restricted maximum stabilised rate of a record 7,667 bopd of 49 degree API, ultralight, low-sulphur oil. The well was suspended as a potential producer. In 1998, seismic mapping was undertaken over the Tenacious structure to define possible drilling locations. The joint venture approved the work program and budget which was to permit Cultus Petroleum NL to undertake geological and geophysical studies and engineering studies for the fast track development of the Tenacious field. In June 1999, a location was declared over Tenacious ST1 preliminary to securing a production licence. The company looked to develop Tenacious through a tie-in to its Jabiru facilities in the Timor Sea, 13 km from the Tenacious field, however, a standalone development was the preferred option. In July, Newfield Exploration Australia Ltd acquired Gulf Australia Resources Ltd's interest and, later in the year, Cultus was ac-