

AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM NEWS

NOVEMBER 2002



INDUSTRY
TOURISM
RESOURCES

Proposed offshore acreage for release in 2003

A map is attached indicating the 35 areas currently proposed for release in 2003.

This preliminary advice is provided to industry to allow greater lead time for assessment of areas and to facilitate speculative seismic acquisition. It should be noted that while the proposed areas have not been finalised and are still subject to change, it is highly unlikely that areas will be added at this stage of the release process.

Re-released area from 2002 1st bidding round

Area W02-14 has been re-released for bidding (as set out in the next news item). It is expected that this will be the only area to be re-released into the round which closes for bidding on 10 April 2003.

The re-release of an area is at the discretion of the Joint Authority. The policy to re-release areas not bid on was adopted to enable permit holders to maintain their good standing after a permit is cancelled. However, the re-released areas are open to all interested bidders under the work program bidding system.

Areas currently available for bidding

	Areas	Bid Closing Date
2002 Re-release areas (1 st bidding round)	W02-14	10 April 2003
2002 Release areas (2nd bidding round)	NT02-2 to 9, W02-1 to 11, S02-1 to 8, V02-1, V02-3 to 4, T02-1 to 4	10 April 2003

Further information on these areas and application requirements can be found by visiting website www.industry.gov.au/petexp or by requesting a free CD-ROM by e-mailing petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au.

Do you want to advertise in the 2003 Acreage Release Package?

The acreage release package on CD-ROM is now distributed to over 900 people in the industry, both domestically and internationally (including USA, Canada, Japan, Korea, China, India, Europe and the UK).

Support industries, such as seismic companies, are able to advertise their products and services that are *applicable to the areas in the release package*.

Companies interested in placing advertising in the 2003 acreage release package should register their interest (no obligation) by e-mailing: petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au. Advertising is placed on the CD-ROM, and can be hotlinked to your company internet address. Similarly, the release package on the ITR website provides hotlinks to advertising companies.

The cost for advertising in the release package is A\$2,200, including 10% GST, for the equivalent of up to 4 x A4 pages. Expressions of interest should be received by 20 December 2002, with pdfs of your advertising to be forwarded to the above e-mail address by 24 January 2003.

Promotion of 2003 Australian offshore acreage

Departmental representatives will be available to discuss Australian offshore acreage matters at the following conferences:

NAPE Houston, USA 29-31 January 2003
(North American Prospect Expo)

APPEA Melbourne, Australia 23-26 March 2003
(Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association)

SEAPEX Singapore 9-11 April 2003
(South East Asia Petroleum Exploration Society)

AAPG Salt Lake City, USA 11-14 May 2003
(American Association of Petroleum Geologists)

Seminars will also be held in Beijing, Tokyo, Seoul and Taiwan in March/April 2003 (dates not set yet).

We would be happy to try and organise private meetings with companies in conjunction with these events. E-mail: petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au.

Change regarding renewal of permits

The *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Amendment Act 2002* (No 93 of 2002) received royal assent on 31 October 2002. This Act amended conditions for the renewal of exploration permits for areas offered by gazettal on or after 1 January 2003.

Permits granted from these areas may be renewed twice only. This will apply to the areas contained in the 2003 acreage release, and areas gazetted for re-release on or after 1 January 2003. It will not apply to the areas in the 2002 acreage release second bidding round.

Are you on our distribution list?

If you or your colleagues would like to receive future annual Offshore Petroleum Exploration Acreage Releases on CD-ROM and/or be notified when new editions of this Newsletter are issued, simply forward your address, phone/fax and e-mail details to the e-mail address below.

There is no charge for this service or the CD-ROM. This distribution list is not used for purposes other than notifying registered parties of relevant petroleum issues, as indicated above.

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This occasional newsletter was prepared by the Resources Division, Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources, Canberra, Australia.

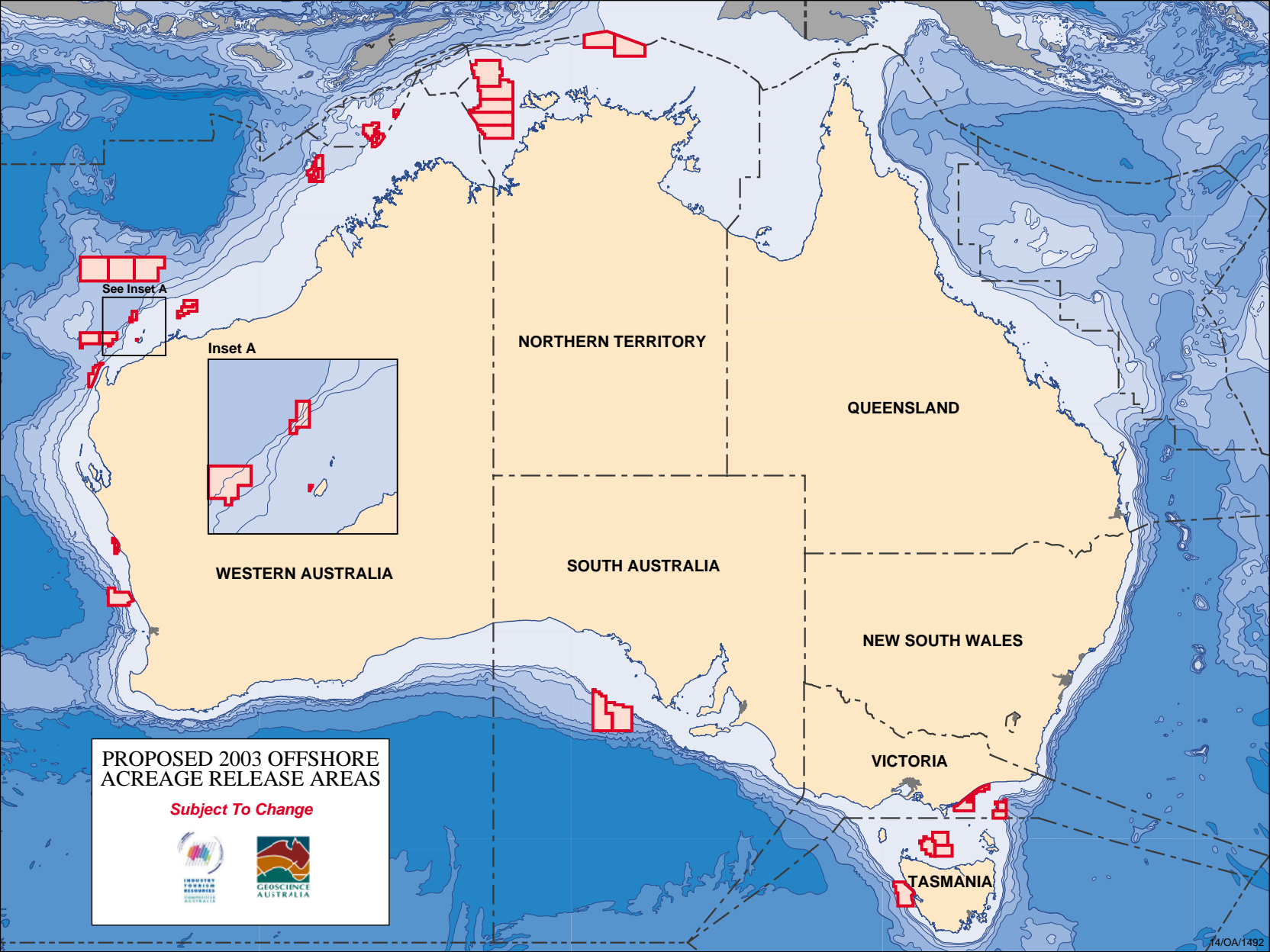
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NORTHERN TERRITORY

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

VICTORIA

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**PROPOSED 2003 OFFSHORE
ACREAGE RELEASE AREAS**

Subject To Change

