



**Australian Government**

**Department of Industry  
Tourism and Resources**

# AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM NEWS

DECEMBER 2006

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## **Offshore Exploration Acreage Proposed for Release in 2007**

Thank you to all those companies who nominated acreage to be released in 2007.

The map attached to this edition of APN indicates the areas currently proposed for release in 2007. This preliminary advice is provided to allow industry greater lead time to assess areas and to facilitate acquisition of speculative seismic data.

Please note that the proposed areas have not been finalised and are still subject to change. The inclusion of additional areas is not anticipated. Minister Ian Macfarlane plans to announce the 2007 Acreage release package on 16 April 2007 at the APPEA annual conference in Adelaide, South Australia (15 to 18 April 2007).

Nominations for the 2008 release closed on 31 July 2007. All nominations for areas to be released are given serious consideration and are subjected to a rigorous assessment and short listing process. However, the release of a nominated area cannot be guaranteed.

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## **Re-release of 2006 Areas**

Two areas did not receive bids in the first bidding round of the 2006 Acreage Release that closed on 9 November 2006 and have been re-released at the discretion of the relevant Joint Authorities. Bidding for these re-released areas will close on Thursday 10 May 2007. The areas are:

### **W06-13 and V06-1**

The re-released areas are open to all interested bidders under the work program bidding system. The areas are also open for bidding by any company who wishes to fulfil its obligations under a good standing arrangement after cancellation of an exploration permit.

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## Summary of Areas Currently Available for Bidding

Release/ round	Areas	Bid Closing Date
2006 Acreage Release, Second Closing Round [14 areas]	NT06-1 to 4; T06-5; W06-1 to 5 and 9 & 10 and 19 & 20	<b>Thursday 10 May 2007</b>
Re-release of 2006 areas (from first close of bidding round) [2 Areas]	W06-13 and V06-1	<b>Thursday 10 May 2007</b>

Further information on these areas and application requirements can be found by visiting this website: [www.industry.gov.au/petexp](http://www.industry.gov.au/petexp) or by requesting a free CD-ROM by e-mail: [petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au](mailto:petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au)

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## Promotion of Australian Offshore Acreage

Representatives from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and Geoscience Australia will be available to discuss Australian offshore acreage releases, including the forthcoming 2007 release, at the following events and venues:

**NAPE Houston, Texas, USA 31 January-2 February 2007**  
*Includes NAPE International Forum on 31/01/07*  
(North American Prospect Expo)

**APPEA Adelaide, SA, Australia 15-18 April 2007**  
(Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association)

Please visit the Australian booth at either event. We would also be happy to organise private meetings with companies in conjunction with these events. Please contact us at E-mail: [petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au](mailto:petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au)

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## Do you want to advertise in the 2007 Acreage Release Package?

The acreage release package on CD-ROM is now distributed to over 1,300 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 advertising in the 2007 release package should register their interest (no obligation) by e-mailing: [petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au](mailto:petroleum.exploration@industry.gov.au) Advertising is placed on the CD-ROM, and can be hot-linked to your company internet address. The release package may also be accessed on the DITR website which will include the hotlinks.

The cost will be A\$2,200 (incl 10% GST), for the equivalent of up to 4 x A4 pages or A\$1,100 (incl 10% GST) for 2 x A4 pages. Expressions of interest should be received by 5 January 2007, with PDFs of the material to be forwarded to the above e-mail address by 19 January 2007.

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## **Geoscience Australia News**

### **Government invests in future energy security**

On 14 August 2006 the Australian Prime Minister announced a \$134 million new program funding to Geoscience Australia, as part of the Government's new energy security initiative. Geoscience Australia is currently consulting with industry on proposed study areas. Contact Dr Marita Bradshaw if you would like to contribute to this process, phone +61 (0)2 62499 452, e-mail: [Marita.Bradshaw@ga.gov.au](mailto:Marita.Bradshaw@ga.gov.au)

### **Data Supporting 2006 Acreage Release Areas**

The report on the Arafura and Money Shoal Basins, which were included in the 2006 offshore release, is now available as Geoscience Australia Record 2006/22, *Petroleum Geology of the Arafura and Money Shoal Basins* from the Geoscience Australia Sales Centre, phone +61 (0)2 6249 9966, e-mail: [sales@ga.gov.au](mailto:sales@ga.gov.au) .

### **Seismic Survey location maps for 2006 Acreage Release areas**

To assist explorers in locating geophysical survey data over the 2006 acreage release areas the Geophysical and Geological Data Repository have compiled interactive survey line location maps. These maps are available for viewing over the web at [www.ga.gov.au/oceans/ss\\_Acreage.jsp](http://www.ga.gov.au/oceans/ss_Acreage.jsp) or can be obtained from the Repository, phone +61 (0)2 6249 9222, e-mail [ausgeodata@ga.gov.au](mailto:ausgeodata@ga.gov.au) .

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## **Australian Petroleum Statistics**

The October 2006 issue of *Australian Petroleum Statistics* is now available, containing statistics on petroleum production, refining, consumption, stocks, imports and exports. OECD petrol and diesel prices for the June 2006 quarter are also available. Subscriptions cost \$270/year or \$27 per issue. Copies can be obtained by contacting Ms Rae Fisher Tel: +61 2 6213 7967, E-mail: [psims@industry.gov.au](mailto:psims@industry.gov.au) . Archived issues are also available electronically.

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## 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 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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