

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

6 January 2009

VIC/P46 offshore Otway Basin – Fermat-1 update

Essential Petroleum Resources Ltd (EPR) holds a 25% equity interest in the Fermat 1 exploration well, currently being drilled in permit VIC/P46, in the offshore Otway Basin.

As previously announced, EPR's ability to contribute to the cost of drilling of Fermat-1 is contingent upon it entering into a farm-out agreement with a third party, the terms of which must allow EPR to fulfill its Joint Venture obligations.

To date, the Company has not completed a farm-out of VIC/P46 and consequently it has not, as yet, met the December 2008 cash call requirements for the Fermat-1 drilling operations.

Under the provisions of the VIC/P46 Joint Venture Agreement, EPR has another 46 days to rectify this situation. The Company is, therefore, continuing in its endeavours to farm-out an interest in VIC/P46.

Interests in Fermat-1 are:

Beach Petroleum Limited (Operator)	50.00%
Mitsui E&P Australia Pty Ltd	25.00%
Essential Petroleum Resources Limited	25.00%



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