



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ASX ANNOUNCEMENT- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday 30 July, 2009

#### **STUART GROWTH PROJECTS GAIN MOMENTUM**

Stuart Petroleum Limited (ASX code: STU) continued to improve its financial position during the June quarter of 2009 while progressing its Oliver oilfield appraisal and development project and Port Bonython fuels project.

The growth progress is included in Stuart's quarterly report for the three months to 30 June 2009, released today.

#### **Highlights**

- Stuart's sales revenue of A\$8.2 million and production were in line with the previous three months. Oil production for the June 2009 quarter totalled 75,236 barrels.
- Oil production for the full year ended 30 June 2009 totalled 338,693 barrels (569,562 for the previous full year) reflecting previously reported natural field decline. Sales revenue totalled A\$35.1 million for the year.
- Stuart's bank debt of A\$11.25 million at 30 June 2009 follows repayments from operating cash flows and the realisation of value from currency hedges and the closeout of the Company's commodity price hedges.

#### **Oliver Oilfield Appraisal and Development Project – Offshore Timor Sea**

Stuart's 50% owned Oliver oilfield appraisal and development project, located in the offshore Timor Sea permit, AC/P33, west of Darwin, made significant progress during the quarter:

- As announced on 1 June 2009, Stuart reported a major increase in potential hydrocarbons in place for the Oliver field. Mean oil and condensate in place increased by 50% to 84 million barrels (up from 56 million barrels previously) while mean gas in place climbed 165% to 810 billion cubic feet (BCF) (up from 305 BCF previously).
- The increase in hydrocarbons in place is expected to have a flow on effect to recoverable hydrocarbon volumes.

Stuart, as Operator of the permit, plans to drill the Oliver-2 appraisal well early in 2010.

## Port Bonython Fuels Project – South Australia

The strategically located Port Bonython Fuels project at Port Bonython in SA's Upper Spencer Gulf, incorporating a proposed 500 million litre per annum diesel storage and distribution facility, continued to move forward during the quarter:

- Port Bonython Fuels Pty Ltd (PBF), the project manager, entered into an Agreement with the SA Government to acquire land at Port Bonython on which to site the facilities.
- PBF lodged a project Development Application on 24 May 2009 for review by the South Australian Development Assessment Commission. The results of the review are expected in the September quarter of 2009.
- Commercial arrangements for the supply and marketing of diesel fuel were also progressed.

Subsequent to the end of the quarter, Stuart acquired an additional 15% equity in PBF from the Scott Group of Companies and now holds 100% of the equity in the project. The transaction provides Stuart with an increased stake in an important infrastructure project in the northern region of South Australia and reflects a change in strategic direction in relation to the project by the Scott Group.

A Final Investment Decision (FID) on the Fuels project is expected in the December 2009 quarter.

### The Managing Director of Stuart, Mr Tino Guglielmo said:

*"Results for the quarter were as expected, taking production for the full year to 338,693 barrels of oil which is in line with the full year forecast of 340,000 barrels.*

*"Sales revenue for the year of \$35.1 million, including the recognition of hedges within the matching period, reflected an average price of A\$103 per barrel for the year, an excellent result considering the decline in US\$ oil prices during the period.*

*"Particularly pleasing was the progress made on our two key growth projects including the increase in hydrocarbons in place assessment for the Oliver oilfield and the lodgement of the Development Application for the Fuels project, on which a decision is expected in the current quarter.*

*"Both of these projects are gaining momentum and moving towards critical decision points."*

The Company's Preliminary Final Results for the year ended 30 June 2009 are expected to be released on or about 26 August 2009.

*For further information please contact:*

Tino Guglielmo  
Managing Director  
Stuart Petroleum Limited  
Ph: 08 8410 0611  
Email: [guglielmo.t@stuartpetroleum.com.au](mailto:guglielmo.t@stuartpetroleum.com.au)

Kevin Skinner  
Field Public Relations  
Ph: 08 8234 9555  
Email: [kevin@fieldpr.com.au](mailto:kevin@fieldpr.com.au)