

Commencement of Oil Production from West Don Field

April 30, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

Nippon Oil Corporation (Mr. Shinji Nishio, Representative Director, President) announced today that Nippon Oil Exploration and Production U.K. Limited ("NOEPUK", Mr. Makoto Koseki, President and CEO) commenced commercial oil production on 28 April 2009 from West Don field in the UK North Sea.

NOEPUK is owned by Nippon Oil Exploration Limited ("NOEX", Mr. Makoto Koseki, President and CEO), which is the upstream arm of Nippon Oil Corporation.

Since project sanction in May 2008, NOEPUK, Petrofac Energy Developments Limited (Operator) and the other West Don equity holders, have progressed the drilling of production and injection wells and the construction of production facilities.

Oil export from the production facilities will be initially by offshore tanker loading and subsequently by subsea tie-back to an export service via nearby existing infrastructure. The expected peak production rate from the West Don Field will be around 25,000 Bbls per day(Gross).

Nippon Oil Group has been conducting exploration, development and production activities for oil and gas in the North Sea and is committed to expanding its business activities in the North Sea, which is one of the core areas of Nippon Oil Group's worldwide upstream business.

1. Participation in the West Don Field

Equity Holder	Unitised Interest
Petrofac Energy Developments Ltd.	27.700%
First Oil Expro Ltd.	19.275%
Nippon Oil Exploration and Production U.K. Ltd.	18.500%
Valiant North Sea Ltd.	17.275%
Stratic Energy (UK) Ltd.	17.250%

2. Nippon Oil Exploration and Production U.K. Limited

(1)President and CEO:	Makoto Koseki
(2)Shareholders:	Nippon Oil Exploration Limited 86% MOC Exploration (U.K.) Limited 14% (100% owned by Nippon Oil Exploration Limited)
(3)Paid-in capital:	£ 57.5 million
(4)Established:	December 2, 1996

3. Map

