

JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corporation discovered Oil in WA-191-P, Australia

May 31, 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Nippon Oil Exploration (Dampier) Pty Ltd, 100% subsidiary of JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corporation ("NOEX")(Makoto Koseki, President and CEO) announced that we have confirmed a net oil column of approximately 18 metres in excellent quality reservoir through drilling of the Finucane South exploration well in WA-191-P (located in 150 km north of Dampier, Western Australia) in North West Shelf, Australia.

The Finucane South oil discovery is located approximately 14 kilometres from existing oil production facilities at Mutineer Exeter NOEX has participating interest. NOEX will be working with partners to appraise this discovery and to commence discussions on earliest development options including a sub-sea tie back to the floating production, storage and offloading facility servicing Mutineer Exeter for this resource. This would enable first oil production from Finucane South in 2013.

NOEX is actively proceeding with the upstream business in North West Shelf, Australia. The Finucane South oil discovery follows the Zola Gas discovery in this April. NOEX will continue to do oil/gas exploration to expand our business in this region.

1 . Corporation Information of Nippon Oil Exploration (Dampier) Pty Ltd

- (1) Registered Corporate Office: Perth, Australia
- (2) Director: Makoto Koseki
- (3) Paid-in Capital: A\$34,809M (as of March, 2011)
- (4) Date of Establishment: April, 1997

2 . Summary of WA-191-P

- (1) Permit location: North West Shelf, Australia
- (2) Permit Name: WA -191-P
- (3) Permit Dimension: approximately 650km²
- (4) Participating interest: Santos Ltd (33.40%)
 Kufpec Australia Pty Ltd (33.40%)
 Nippon Oil Exploration (Dampier) Pty Ltd (25.00%)
 Tap (Shelfal) Pty Ltd (8.20%)
- (5) Operator: Santos Ltd

(Reference) Summary of Mutineer Exeter

- (1) Permit location: North West Shelf, Australia
- (2) Permit Name: WA -26-L, WA-27-L
- (4) Participating interest: Santos Ltd (33.40%)
 Kufpec Australia Pty Ltd (33.40%)
 Nippon Oil Exploration (Dampier) Pty Ltd (25.00%)
 Woodside Energy Ltd (8.20%)
- (5) Operator: Santos Ltd
- (6) Production Volume approximately 4,800B/D (2010)

WA-191-P Location Map

