

## Final Investment Decision on Finucane South field, North West Shelf, Australia

January 13, 2012

### PRESS RELEASE

JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corporation ("NOEX") (President and CEO, Makoto Koseki) announced today that its affiliate, JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd. ("JX NOEX Australia"), has made the final investment decision on the Finucane South field development project in WA-191-P (located 150 km north of Dampier, Western Australia) on North West Shelf, Australia.

Finucane South field will be developed by sub-sea tie-back to the existing FPSO(\*1) operated in Mutineer Exeter oil field adjacent to WA-191-P, which leads to earlier start of production and reduction of development costs. First oil production is expected in the second half of 2013, at an average rate of 11,000 barrels per day for initial 12 months. The expected expenditure of JX NOEX Australia for the project is approximately 61 million US dollars.

The project will allow not only the oil production from Finucane South field but also 4 years extension of production period of Mutineer Exeter, in which JX NOEX Australia also has its interest, by reducing the operating costs. The investment decision on the development of Finucane South field is a remarkable accomplishment in North West Shelf, Australia following the gas discovery in WA-290-P in April 2011, and enables NOEX to continue to expand its exploration and production in this region.

(\*1) Floating Production, Storage and Offloading system

#### 1. Corporation Information of JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd

- (1) Registered Corporate Office : Perth, Australia
- (2) Director : Makoto Koseki
- (3) Paid-in Capital : A\$34,809M (as of January, 2012)
- (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 650km<sup>2</sup>
- (4) Participating interest : Santos Ltd (41.60%)  
Kufpec Australia Pty Ltd (33.40%)  
JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd (25.00%)
- (5) Operator : Santos Ltd

#### 3. Summary of Mutineer Exeter

- (1) Permit location : North West Shelf, Australia
- (2) Permit Name : WA -26-L, WA-27-L
- (3) Participating interest : Santos Ltd (33.40%)  
Kufpec Australia Pty Ltd (33.40%)  
JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration (Australia) Pty Ltd (25.00%)  
Ltd (8.20%)  
Woodside Energy Ltd
- (4) Operator : Santos Ltd
- (5) Production : 2.800 B/D (Jan 2011 – Sep 2011)

