BEACH PETROLEUM LIMITED

FOR QUARTER ENDED MARCH 2004

HIGHLIGHTS

- Highest ever Quarterly Production
- Strong contribution from new oil discoveries made in last 9 months
- Record Quarterly sales of $10.4 million
- Commencement of 2004 Drilling Program – largest undertaken

30 April 2004

Ref: #046/04

The Manager, Companies
Australian Stock Exchange Ltd
Electronic Announcement System

Dear Sir

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE ASX
QUARTERLY REPORT TO MARCH 2004

Beach Petroleum Limited ("Beach") is pleased to report on its March Quarter 2004 activities as follows:

PRODUCTION

Production for the quarter totalled 265 thousand barrels of oil equivalent (kboe), equivalent to an average production rate of 2,878 boe per day. This represents a 4% increase in production above that achieved in the previous quarter (December 2003) and is the highest quarterly production yet achieved by the Company.

Production for the quarter comprised:

Qld Eromanga	193 kboe
S.A. Cooper / Eromanga	50 kboe
Otway Basin	22 kboe
Total	**265 kboe**

Year to date production (since July 1, 2003) totals 729 kboe.

Wells in the newly discovered extension to the Kenmore Oil Field (Kenmore-28, -29 and –30) continued to produce strongly during the quarter, yielding new contributions of 98,000 barrels of oil (a contribution to gross revenue of approximately $4.4 million for the quarter), bringing cumulative production from the 3 wells since they were brought online (in the December 2003 Quarter) to 173,000 barrels of oil (a contribution of approximately $7.8 million to gross revenue).

Level 1, 25 Conyngham Street, Glenside South Australia 5065
GPO Box 175 Adelaide 5001
Telephone (618) 8338 2833
Facsimile (618) 8338 2336
Beach Petroleum Limited
ABN 20 007 617 969
www.beachpetroleum.com.au

EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT

Key exploration and development activities during the quarter included:

- Galilee-1 (Beach 25%) was drilled in the Candra Block of PEL 90 in SA. The well encountered sub-commercial quantities of gas in the lower Callamurra Formation and was plugged and abandoned.

- Seismic mapping has matured the 'Almonta' prospect for drilling in PEL 95 (Beach 50%) in the South Australian Cooper Basin. Subject to final mapping and Joint Venture approval, this well will be drilled in July to test the Jurassic and Permian sections on a structure located approximately 60km southwest of Moomba and 10km west of the Narcoonowie Oil Field. Beach assesses potential recoverable oil of up to 5 million barrels.

- Installation of a jet pump on Kenmore-29 in southwest Queensland was completed in February. Jet pumps will be installed at Kenmore-28 and Kenmore-30 in early May.

- Processing of 3D seismic data over the Christies Oil Field in SA was completed during the quarter. Interpretation of these data is now in progress and expected to lead to the drilling of 2 appraisal wells on the structure in June.

- Planning for a 3D seismic survey over the Sellicks Oil Field in SA was undertaken during the quarter. The survey will be acquired in May with a view to carry out appraisal drilling on the Sellicks structure in October.

- Preliminary interpretation of 3D seismic over the Bodalla South Oil Field in southwest Queensland was completed during the quarter, indicating potential for the drilling up to 3 appraisal wells. Subject to further analysis, drilling is scheduled for November.

- Agreement in principle was reached for Beach to acquire a portion of Origin Energy's equity in PEP 150, onshore Otway Basin Victoria. As result, Beach's interest in the tenement will rise from 25% to 50%. Subject to the completion of Native Title negotiations, it is anticipated that 2D seismic will be acquired in PEP 150 later this year.

- Interpretation of 3D seismic in PEL 83 (onshore Otway Basin South Australia) has failed to develop a drilling prospect and, consequently, an application to surrender the tenement was submitted by Origin Energy and Beach. Beach held a 40% interest in PEL 83.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

- In mid April floodwaters from the Cooper Creek cut the access road to the Christies Oil Field, requiring oil production from Christies-1 to be temporarily suspended. In March, prior to the well being shut-in, production from Christes-1 had averaged 356 bopd (267 bopd, net to Beach). It is expected that production from Christies-1 will resume early in June, following the construction of a new access road.

- Goolwa-1 (Beach 40%) was drilled in PEL 107 in SA in April. This well encountered very strong wet gas shows over a 15 metre interval in the basal Patchawarra Formation, but drill stem testing indicated that the reservoir lacked sufficient permeability to allow economic production at this location. Nevertheless, Goolwa-1 proved the presence of hydrocarbons in this portion of the basin and provided important geological information, which will be used to assist with location of the next well in PEL 107, which is planned for drilling early next year.

DRILLING PROGRAM

DRILLING PROGRAM JANUARY – MARCH 2004			
Area	**Tenement**	**Well**	**Status**
S A Cooper	PEL 90	Galilee-1	P&A

PLANNED DRILLING APRIL – DECEMBER 2004			
Area	**Tenement**	**Well**	**Timing**
S A Cooper	PEL 106	Goolwa-1	Testing
	PEL 94	Myponga-1	June
	PEL 95	Noarlunga-1	June
	PEL 95	Almonta-1	July
	PEL 92	Christies-2	July
	PEL 92	Christies-3	August
	PEL 92	Sheringa-1	August
	PEL 92	Sellicks-2	October
Queensland Eromanga	PL 31	Bodalla South-15	November
	PL 31	Bodalla South-16	November
	PL 32	Kenmore-31	November
	ATP 269P	Coolum-1	December
Carnarvon (offshore)	WA-264-P	Corowa East-1	September

REVENUE & FINANCIAL RESULTS

Sales for the quarter were maintained above the year's quarterly average, with successful forward hedging oil and currency contracts maintaining the Company's Oil Revenue at an average of AUD$45 per bbl.

1. Oil and Gas Sales

Beach's actual total sales in Australia for the quarter was a record 244,000 barrels of oil equivalent (2003 Actual March quarter oil sales – 219,200 barrels of oil equivalent). This represents an 11% increase as compared to the previous corresponding period. As highlighted in the previous December 2003 quarter, the strong build up of stock has seen sales for the latest March quarter increase by 35%, up from 180,690 barrels of oil equivalent as compared to the December 2003 quarter.

2. Oil and Gas Sales Revenue

Beach's actual share of proceeds from the sale of oil and gas in Australia for the March 2004 quarter was a record $10,400,000 (2003 Actual March quarter oil sales revenue was $9,627,000). This represents an 8% increase as compared to the previous corresponding period and a 30% increase in oil sales revenue, up from $8,100,000 as compared to the previous December 2003 quarter.

5. Dividend Paid

During the quarter, the Company paid a ½ cent Interim Dividend to all shareholders registered at the close of business on 5 March 2004.

6. Half Year Results

During the quarter, the Company reported continued solid profit, revenue and production for the six months ended 31 December 2003.

First-half net profit after tax advanced by 30% to $4.4 million from $3.35 million in the previous corresponding period.

Revenue increased by 7% to $18.2 million (up from $17.1 million previously) on oil and gas production that rose 4.8% to 464,951 barrels of oil equivalent (boe) from 443,757 boe in the opening half of 2002-03.

The strong December half-year production was reflected in monthly average output of 3,205 boe per day for the month of December 2003 - the highest average monthly production achieved by Beach in its 40-year history.

Yours faithfully,

Reg Nelson
Managing Director, FAusIMM