



31 March 2006

Ref: #085/06

Australian Stock Exchange Ltd
Companies Announcement Office
Electronic Lodgement System

Dear Sir

**ANNOUNCEMENT TO ASX
DRILLING REPORT: CHRISTIES-5
(PPL 205, EROMANGA BASIN, SA)**

Beach Petroleum advises that Christies-5, an appraisal well in Christies Oilfield in the Eromanga Basin, South Australia, spudded at 18:30 hours (CST) on 30 March 2006 (see attached map). At 06:00 hours this morning the well was drilling ahead at a depth of 369 metres.

Christies-5 will appraise the northwest extent of the Birkhead/Hutton oil pool discovered in July 2003. It is the second of two Christies wells in this program. Christies-4 was cased and suspended earlier this week as a Namur and Hutton oil producer.

Christies-5 is located approximately 200 metres east northwest of Christies-1 and 300 metres north of Christies-2. It has a planned total depth of 1840 metres, which is expected to be reached around the middle of next week (see attached time-depth chart). A secondary target of the well is the Poolowanna Formation.

Beach Petroleum has weekly reporting on its routine drilling activities. The status of this well will next be updated on Tuesday 4 April 2006.

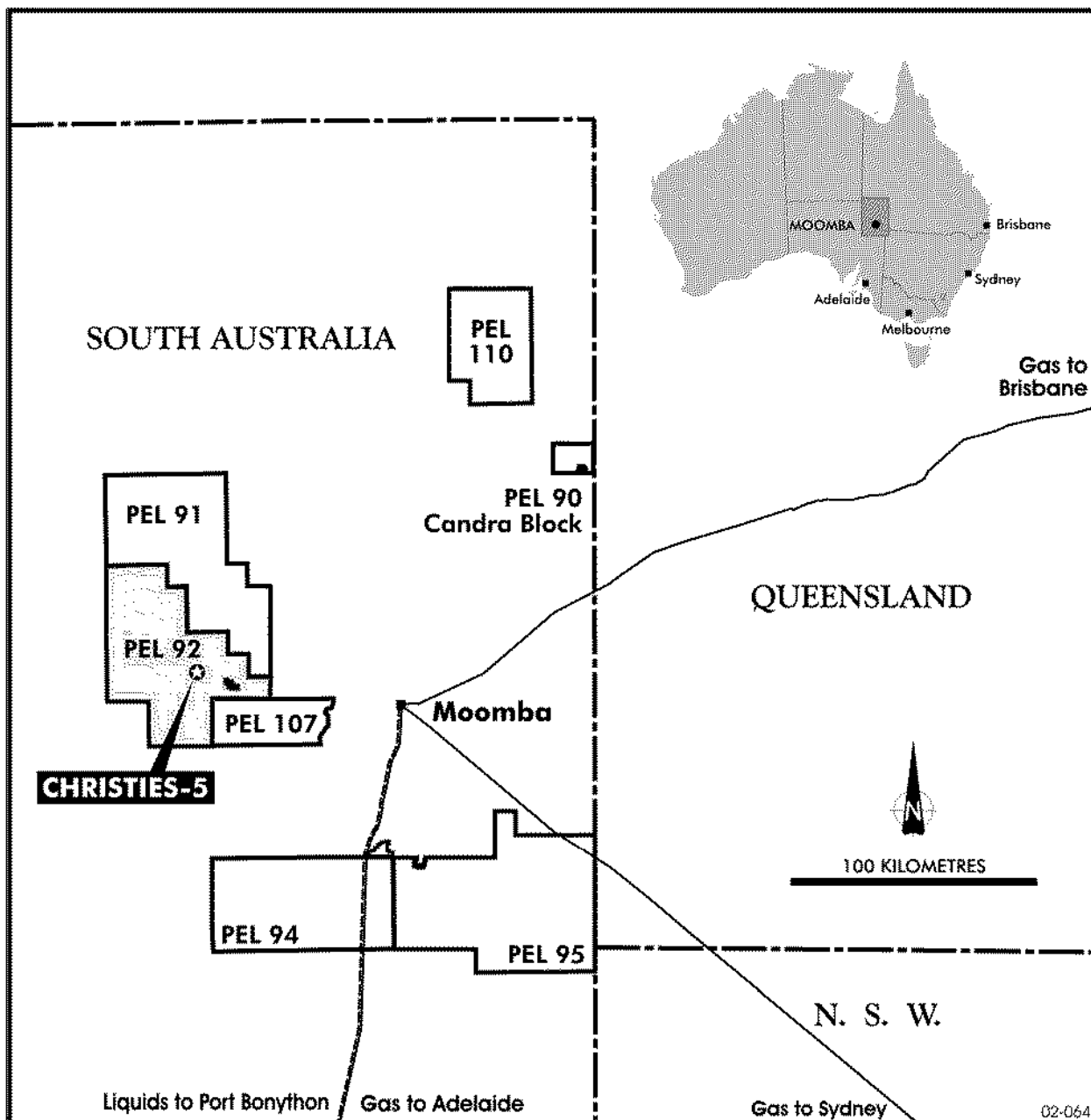
Participants in the PPL 205 Joint venture are:

Beach Petroleum Ltd (Operator)	75%
Cooper Energy Ltd	25%

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hector Gordon".

Hector Gordon
Chief Operating Officer



CHRISTIES-5

Time Depth Chart

