



CARNARVON
PETROLEUM
LIMITED
ABN 60 002 688 851

21 March 2006

Company Announcements Office
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
Exchange Centre
20 Bond Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Via ASX Online

Dear Sirs,

WICHIAN BURI OIL FIELD OPERATIONS UPDATE

Carnarvon Petroleum Ltd ("Carnarvon") provides the following update on operations within the Wichian Buri Oil Field production licences and exploration permits L44/43 and L33/43 onshore Thailand. Further updates will be provided as operations progress.

- Reprocessing of the existing 2D and 3D seismic data has been completed. Data quality is excellent and a number of potential drilling locations have been interpreted from the 3D seismic along the Wichian Buri Oil Field trend. This is a major step forward for the joint venture, proving the ability to acquire good quality seismic to drive the well programme.
- A rig contract for the drilling of two wells in the first half of this year, based on the results of the seismic reprocessing, is expected to be signed soon, with drilling anticipated to commence in late April. Casing/tubing for these two wells is due to arrive next week.
- Preparations for the recording of the new 3D seismic survey over the Wichian Buri trend, comprising 226 sq kms, has commenced with recording due to commence soon, subject to normal government approvals. The significant improvement in the reprocessed seismic bodes well for this new 3D seismic also being of excellent quality. The survey is expected to be completed mid year. From these data, well locations will be chosen for the well programme in the second half of the year.
- Tenders have also been let for a truck mounted rig. It is anticipated that this rig will operate as a second rig in the second half of 2006.
- Casing/tubing for a further 10 wells is on order.

- An independent reserve analysis and report for the Wichian Buri Oil Field is currently being prepared by Gaffney Cline in Singapore, an internationally renowned independent petroleum reservoir consultant. This is anticipated to be completed towards the end of April.

Following a recent field trip to Wichian Buri, Carnarvon's Chief Executive Officer, Ted Jacobson, commented; "The new operator Pan Orient Energy has made excellent progress with preparations for the forthcoming work programme. The operator has demonstrated a sound technical understanding of the Wichian Buri geology and importantly, has experience from other similar oil developments which it plans to put into practice at Wichian Buri. In such a complex oil field as Wichian Buri, good seismic data is essential and the excellent quality of the reprocessing is a good sign that the new seismic data about to be recorded will also be of excellent quality."

Permit interests are as follows:

Pan Orient Energy	60%	Operator
Carnarvon Petroleum	40%	

Yours faithfully,
CARNARVON PETROLEUM LIMITED



Bob Anderson
Company Secretary