



To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 300 021
Company	Australian Stock Exchange Limited	Date	21 May 2004
From	Bill Hundy	Pages	2
Subject	<b>APIUM 1 SPUDS</b>		

This Transmittal is confidential. If you have received this document in error, please contact Origin Energy immediately.

Please find attached a drilling report in relation to Apium 1 in the onshore Perth Basin, Western Australia.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Hundy".

Bill Hundy  
Company Secretary

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## ASX Release

21 May 2004

### Apium 1 spuds in onshore Perth Basin, Western Australia

Origin Energy Limited advises that drilling of the gas exploration well Apium 1, operated by ARC Energy and located in the onshore Perth Basin Production Licence L1, commenced at 1345 hours on 20 May 2004 using the Century 11 drilling rig. As at 0600 hours WST the well was drilling ahead at 457 metres.

The well is located approximately 3 kilometres east of the Hovea Production Facility and 2 kilometres west of the recent Xyris 1 gas discovery. The prognosed top of the primary objective, Dongara Sandstone, is approximately 2,720 metres measured depth. The proposed total depth of the well is 2,850 metres measured depth and it is expected to take 22 days to drill on a dry hole basis. It is intended to core the upper part of the Dongara Sandstone reservoir to obtain porosity and permeability information.

Co-ordinates for the drilling location are as follows:

Latitude	29° 18' 47.5" S
Longitude	115° 04' 15.7" E

Participants in L1 and L2 (excluding the Dongara, Mondarra and Yardarino fields) and Apium 1 are:

Arc Energy Limited (Operator)	50%
Origin Energy Developments Pty Limited*	50%

\* a wholly owned subsidiary of Origin Energy Limited

#### For further information contact:

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