

To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 300 021
Company	Australian Stock Exchange Limited	Date	23 August 2005
From	Bill Hundy	Pages	3
Subject	ORIGIN ENERGY AWARDED NEW EXPLORATION PERMIT IN THE OFFSHORE CANTERBURY BASIN, SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND		

Please find attached an ASX release entitled "Origin Energy awarded new Exploration Permit PEP 38262 in the offshore Canterbury Basin, South Island, New Zealand".

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Hundy", written over a horizontal line.

Bill Hundy
Company Secretary

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ASX Release

23 August 2005

Origin Energy Awarded New Exploration Permit PEP 38262 in the Offshore Canterbury Basin, South Island, New Zealand

Origin Energy Resources NZ Limited advises that it has been awarded a new exploration permit in the offshore Canterbury Basin, South Island, New Zealand.

Crown Minerals of New Zealand awarded PEP 38262 in response to Origin's Priority in Time application for Area PEPA 38262. PEP 38262 covers some 12,630 sq km and is located in New Zealand waters to the south of Christchurch, and to the north and east of Dunedin (refer attached map).

The guaranteed work program for PEP 38262 includes the acquisition of a 2D seismic survey in Year 1.

Origin Energy Resources NZ Limited holds 100% equity in PEP 38262.

For further information contact:

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