

To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 300 021
Company	Australian Stock Exchange Limited	Date	3 March 2006
From	Bill Hundy	Pages	3
Subject	WEEKLY DRILLING REPORT		

Please find attached the Weekly Drilling Report which provides an update on conventional exploration, appraisal and development wells operated by Origin Energy, its subsidiaries and significant non-operated wells.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Hundy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bill Hundy
Company Secretary

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ASX Release

3 March 2006

Origin Energy Weekly Drilling Report

Origin Energy provides the following update on conventional exploration, appraisal and development wells operated by the company and its subsidiaries and significant non-operated wells.

Operated Wells

Merriwee 1

Well type:	Oil Exploration (onshore)		
Location:	Surat Basin, Queensland (PL 14)		
	Approximately 7 kilometres north of the New Royal oil field.		
	Latitude:	27° 02' 18.89" S	
	Longitude:	148° 50' 46.42" E	
Initial Interests:	Origin Energy CSG Limited		100%
Objective:	Primary target:	Showgrounds Sandstone	
	Secondary targets:	basal Evergreen sandstone intra Moolayember sandstone	
	Proposed total depth:	1,551.3 metres	
Progress and Status:	Commenced drilling on 17 February 2006 with the Century 7 drilling rig. Set 244 millimetre (9-5/8 inch) surface casing at 239 metres. Drilled 216 millimetre (8-1/2 inch) hole to total depth of 1,548 metres. Wireline logs have been run and four drill stem tests (DST) were conducted. DST 1 and DST 2 over the basal Evergreen sandstone were misruns due to mechanical problems. DST 3 was conducted over the basal Evergreen sandstone over the interval 1,461 metres to 1,480 metres. Gas was recorded to surface after 15 minutes into the main flow at rate too small to measure. The recovery consisted of 2 barrels of oil (45° API) and 1 barrel of muddy water. DST 4 was run over the interval 1,501 metres to 1,548 metres to test the Showgrounds Sandstone. There was no fluid to surface during the test and the recovery consisted of 20 barrels of formation water and 7 barrels of muddy water. The well will be cased and suspended with 140 millimetre (5-1/2 inch) production casing for further evaluation.		

At 08:00 EST the operations at the well were running into the hole to conduct a wiper trip prior to running 140 millimetre (5-1/2 inch) production casing. The rig will be moved to Newstead 10 in PL 27 to drill a gas injection well.

Progress for the week was 0 metres.

Non-Operated Wells

There are no significant non-operated wells to be reported.

For further information contact:

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