

To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 300 021
Company	Australian Stock Exchange Limited	Date	8 September 2006
From	Bill Hundy	Pages	3
Subject	Origin awards Kupe contract to Technip		

Please find attached an announcement regarding the Kupe Gas project.

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/Media Release

8 September 2006

Origin awards Kupe contract to Technip

Origin Energy Resources (Kupe) Limited ("Origin"), as operator of the Kupe Gas Project in New Zealand, has awarded the US\$200 million contract for the overall development of the project to global construction specialists, Technip.

This follows the company's elevation to 'preferred contractor' status in May 2006.

The contract, to be executed in an alliance arrangement with executives from Origin Energy Limited and Technip leading a team resourced from both companies, comprises the design, engineering, procurement, installation, construction, pre-commissioning and commissioning of:

- An unmanned wellhead platform with capacity for up to 6 wells plus future satellites
- A 12" multiphase pipeline to shore and umbilical from the platform to shore
- A horizontal, directionally drilled shore crossing
- Onshore processing facilities to meet planned production of 70TJ/day
- An export pipeline for sales quality natural gas
- Loading bays for LPG and condensate

Origin Energy Limited's Executive General Manager for Major Development Projects, Andrew Stock said "We believe the alliance structure, incorporating shared objectives and risk/reward arrangements, will lead to more effective project execution in today's challenging oil and gas construction market."

Installation of the offshore platform is expected to commence in the March quarter of 2007 and construction of the production station in the September quarter of 2007, with the final development on-line no later than the first half of the 2009 calendar year.

The NZ\$980 million Kupe Gas Project was granted final approval to proceed by the joint venture parties in June 2006.

ENDS

Participants are:

Origin Energy Resources (Kupe) Limited*	50% (Operator)
Genesis Energy	31%
New Zealand Oil & Gas Limited	15%
Mitsui E&P New Zealand Limited	4%

*a wholly owned subsidiary of Origin Energy Limited

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About Origin Energy: With a history dating back 140 years, Origin Energy is a major Australian integrated energy company focused on gas and oil exploration and production, energy retailing, power generation and utility network management. Origin seeks to find, develop and produce gas and oil reserves strategically located close to energy markets and existing infrastructure. Its exploration portfolio in New Zealand includes acreage in the Taranaki, Northland and Canterbury Basins. Origin's interest and operatorship of the Kupe Field is an example of the company's efforts to secure and develop new producing assets in the region.