

9 September 2003



WOODSIDE PETROLEUM LTD.
ABN 55 004 898 962

STOCK EXCHANGE RELEASE

**Gulf of Mexico Brazos Area Block A 39 (OCS-G 4559 #5)
Midway Prospect**

Woodside Energy (USA) Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Woodside Petroleum Ltd., reports that the Midway exploration well (OCS-G 4559 #5) located in the Gulf of Mexico in Brazos Area Block A 39 was spudded on 5 September 2003.

Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc., operator of the Midway prospect, will utilise the Rowan Paris drilling rig to drill the well. Water depth at the location is 149 feet. Planned total depth is approximately 21,500 feet (referenced to the rig rotary table).

The well is the fourth of an eight well program that Woodside Energy (USA) Inc. and Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc. have agreed to drill in 2003 and 2004. Woodside and Pioneer are equal participants in well.

The next scheduled report on the well will be released after completion of drilling operations for the well. Woodside will make additional announcements if required to comply with its continuous disclosure obligations under the ASX Listing Rules.

KAREN LANGE
Company Secretary