

17 January 2006

ROC OIL COMPANY LIMITED ("ROC")

STOCK EXCHANGE RELEASE



MAURITANIA OFFSHORE DRILLING UPDATE

ROC advises that the following release was made earlier today by Woodside Petroleum Ltd:

"Woodside Petroleum Ltd. reports the following activity by its wholly-owned subsidiaries Woodside Mauritania Pty. Ltd. and WEL Mauritania B.V. offshore Mauritania since the last report issued on 10 January 2006.

PSC Area C, Block 6: Zoulé-1 Exploration Well

Analysis of wireline logs and other data indicated that no significant hydrocarbons were encountered in the Zoulé-1 exploration well. The well was plugged and abandoned by the 'Stena Tay' drill rig on 13 January 2006. The rig then moved to the Doré-1 exploration well location in PSC Area B.

PSC Area B: Doré-1 Exploration Well

The Doré-1 exploration well was spudded on 16 January 2006. The well is located approximately 19 kilometres east of the Tiof oil discovery in a water depth of 387 metres. At midnight the well had reached a depth of 472 metres. Doré-1 has a planned total depth of approximately 2,388 metres.

Following the Doré-1 well, the 'Stena Tay' will be released from Mauritania. The 'Atwood Hunter' drill rig has been contracted for drilling campaigns in Mauritania in 2006 and 2007 and is due to arrive in Mauritania in the second quarter of 2006.

General

All reported drilling depths are referenced to the rig rotary table and all times are Universal Time (UTC) (Mauritanian time).

The locations of planned exploration wells and the Chinguetti Oil Field are shown on the attached map."

Participating Interests in the Chinguetti Joint Venture and relevant PSC areas are:

Company	Chinguetti Joint Venture	PSC-A	PSC-B	PSC-C, Block 6
Woodside group companies (Operator)	47.38448%	53.846%	53.846%	37.578%
Hardman group companies	19.00800%	24.3%	21.6%	22.422%
Societe Mauritanienne des Hydrocarbures (formerly GPC)	12.00000%	--	--	--
BG group companies	10.23440%	13.084%	11.63%	--
Premier group companies	8.12328%	--	9.231%	--
Roc Oil group companies	3.24984%	4.155%	3.693%	5.0%
Fusion group companies	--	4.615%	--	--
Petronas Carigali Overseas Sdn Bhd	--	--	--	35.0%

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