



Essential  
Petroleum  
Resources  
Limited

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

**10 December 2001**

### **Essential Petroleum confirms Port Fairy No.1 spud date for first week of 2002**

The Directors of Essential Petroleum Resources Limited today advise that the spudding of the Port Fairy No.1 gas exploration well is scheduled for 7 January 2002. Site preparation will commence shortly.

The well, located about two kilometres north of Port Fairy in PEP 152, is expected to take around 10 days to reach its total depth of 1550 metres.

Participants in Port Fairy No.1 are Essential Petroleum (84.41%) and Lakes Oil NL (15.59%). Origin Energy is operator at the direction of Essential Petroleum and Lakes Oil.

Essential Petroleum Managing Director, Mr John Remfry, said the well was targeting gas in the Waarre Sandstone at a depth of about 1400 metres.

“The most likely recoverable reserves are 26 billion cubic feet of gas, with reserve estimates ranging between 15 and 37 billion cubic feet.

“A gas discovery will establish a play concept with significant follow-up potential and will give Essential Petroleum an opportunity to take advantage of the current marketing opportunities for gas in Victoria and achieve early cash flow,” Mr Remfry said.

Port Fairy No. 1 is the second in a proposed seven-well exploration program by Essential Petroleum across the onshore Otway Basin.

Essential Petroleum listed on the Australian Stock Exchange in February 2001 after raising \$7.5 million through an Initial Public Offer. The Company is the only listed oil and gas explorer with a prime focus on the Otway Basin.

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