

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT AND MEDIA RELEASE

27th February 2003

Cliff Head Multi-well Drilling Programme Vindara 1 being abandoned ahead of Cliff Head 4 appraisal well

Vindarra 1 being abandoned ahead of drilling Cliff Head 4 appraisal well

Norwest Energy advises that, as at 1100 hours Western Standard Time (WST), on 26th February 2003, the Ensco 53 drilling rig had completed logging operations and was commencing plug and abandonment of the Vindara 1 exploration well. Evaluation logging, conducted during the last two days, established that, although there were oil shows in a few poor quality sands below the regional seal, no moveable hydrocarbons were encountered.

The Ensco 53 drilling rig will move this week to the location of the Cliff Head-4 appraisal well located approximately one kilometer to the southeast of the recently drilled Cliff Head 3 well. Cliff Head 4 is programmed as a vertical well to be drilled to a depth of about 1,386 metres below the Rotary Table.

Firm Wells				
Well	Permit	Potential (mm bbl in place)	Equity	
Cliff Head 3	WA-286-P	80-100	5.0%	tested 3,000 BOPD
Twin Lions 1	TP/15	360	10.0%*	plugged & abandoned
Mentelle 1	WA-286-P	50	5.0%	non commercial oil shows
Vindara 1	WA-286-P	70-100	5.0%	oil shows in poor quality reservoir
Cliff Head 4	WA-286-P		5.0%	next well

* Paying 20% plus testing capped

Please Note: Norwest plans daily report during the drilling of these wells and hence will keep the market fully appraised.

The WA-286-P Joint Venture comprises:

Equity	
Westranch Holdings Pty Ltd (a subsidiary of Norwest Energy NL)	5.0%
Roc Oil (WA) Pty Ltd (Operator)	30.0%
AWE Oil (Western Australia) Pty Ltd	27.5%
Wandoo Petroleum Pty Ltd	25.0%
ARC Energy NL	7.5%
Voyager Energy Limited	5.0%

For and on behalf of
Norwest Energy NL

Ivan Burgess
Chief Executive Officer and Director

For further information, please contact: Mr Ivan Burgess CEO/Director
Ph: 08-9228 8251
E-mail: ivanb@norwestenergy.com.au