

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT AND MEDIA RELEASE

24th February 2003

Cliff Head Multi-well Drilling Programme Vindara 1 Intersected Top of Predicted Reservoir

Vindara 1 exploration well in WA-286-P, in the northern offshore Perth Basin, has drilled into the predicted reservoir units. While operations are continuing, no indications of hydrocarbons have been recorded. Once the well has reached its total depth, wireline logs will be run to fully evaluate the well.

Once operations have been completed at Vindara 1, the Ensco jack-up drilling rig will move back to the Cliff Head Oil Field to drill the 4 well into that field.

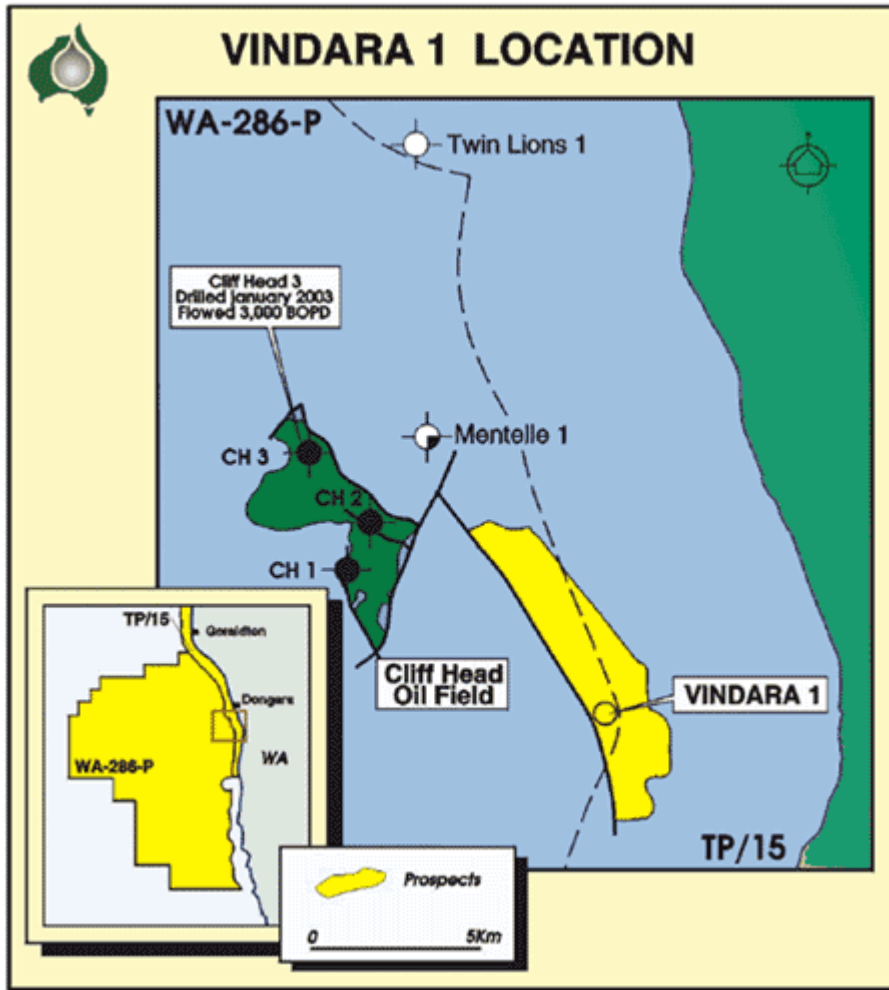
Firm Wells				
Well	Permit	Potential (mm bbl in place)	Equity	
Cliff Head 3	WA-286-P	80-100	5.0%	tested 3,000 BOPD
Twin Lions 1	TP/15	360	10.0%*	plugged & abandoned
Mentelle 1	WA-286-P	50	5.0%	non commercial oil shows
Vindara 1	WA-286-P	70-100	5.0%	drilling at 1700 m
Cliff Head 4	WA-286-P		5.0%	next 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