

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT AND MEDIA RELEASE

21st February 2003

Cliff Head Multi-well Drilling Programme Vindara 1 Running 9 5/8 inch Casing

Vindara 1 has drilled to the planned 9 5/8 inch casing point at a depth of 993 metres. As at 6am [Western Standard Time] today 9 5/8 casing was being run in the hole. Once this operation is completed the well will be drilled to its total depth in 8½ inch hole. Vindara 1 is located about 6.5 kilometres southeast of the Cliff Head Oil Field. Regardless of drilling results this well will be plugged and abandoned without testing for reasons relating to operational cost efficiencies.

Subsequent to Vindara 1, the WA-286-P Joint Venture will drill a fourth well in the Cliff Head Oil Field.

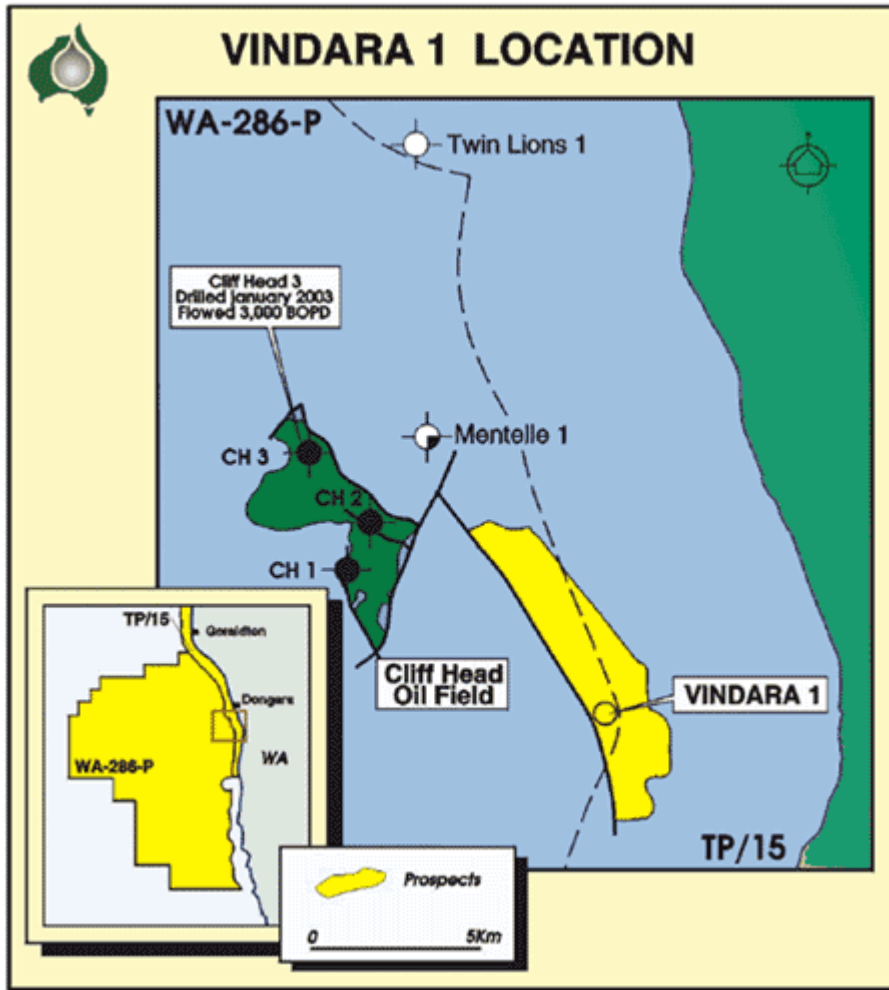
Firm Wells				
Well	Permit	Potential (mm bbl in place)	Equity	
Cliff Head 3	WA-286-P	80-100	5.0%	tested 3,000 BOPD
Twin Lions 1	TP/15	360	10.0%*	plugged & abandoned
Mentelle 1	WA-286-P	50	5.0%	non commercial oil shows
Vindara 1	WA-286-P	70-100	5.0%	now drilling
Cliff Head 4	WA-286-P		5.0%	next well

* 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

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