

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT AND MEDIA RELEASE

20th February 2003

Cliff Head Multi-well Drilling Programme Vindara 1 Drilling Ahead

Conductor casing has been set at a depth of 72 metres. As at 8.00 am [Eastern Daylight Time] today, the well was drilling ahead in 12¼ inch hole at a depth 270 metres. The location of Vindara 1 is about 6.5 kilometres southeast of the Cliff Head Oil Field. Regardless of drilling results this well will be plugged and abandoned with out 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.

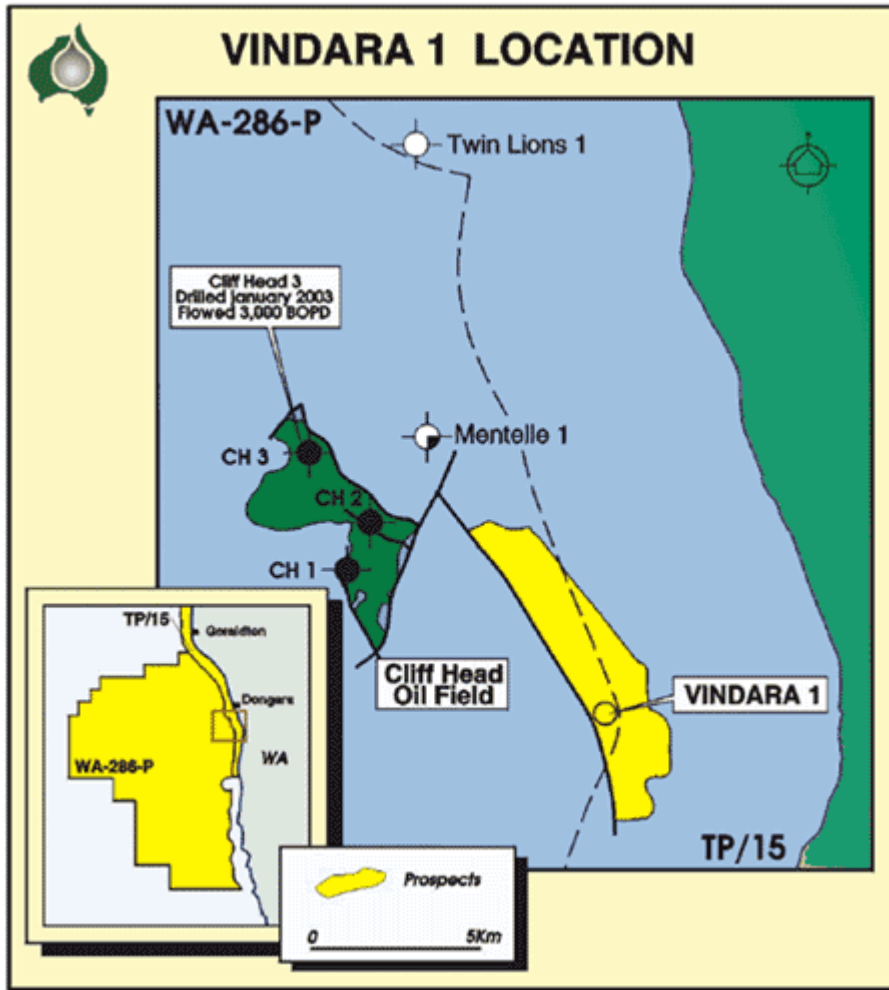
Firm Wells				
Well	Permit	Potential (mm bbl in place)	Equity	
Cliff Head 3	WA-286-P	80-100	5.0%	tested 3,000 BOPD
Twin Lions 1	TP/15	360	10.0%*	plugged & abandoned
Mentelle 1	WA-286-P	50	5.0%	non commercial oil shows
Vindara 1	WA-286-P	70-100	5.0%	now drilling
Cliff Head 4	WA-286-P		5.0%	next well

* 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 Ventrue 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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