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ABSTRACT

OILBIRD FIELD, COLUMBUS BASIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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Oilbird field is a giant gas field located 46 kilometers from the east coast of Trinidad in the Columbus basin. Texaco discovered the field in 1977 and original gas in place was estimated to be about 90 BCF at that time. Starting in 2002 subsequent drilling by EOG has proved about 500 BCF in the field. In 2006, EOG began actively developing the field with the installation of the largest and heaviest locally fabricated platform in Trinidad. Source rocks are the offshore equivalent of the Cretaceous Naparima Hills, the source rock for nearly all onshore and offshore hydrocarbons found in Trinidad. The gross reservoir interval is about a 700 meter succession of shelfal Pliocene age sandstones with three main reservoir units, each ranging 70 to 100m meters thick. The Oilbird trap holds gas columns as much as 150 meters in height. The trap is comprised of at least three pressure-separated fault compartments formed within an overall down-thrown, faulted, three-way structure. Top seals within Oilbird field are provided by interbedded Pliocene shales up to several 10's of meters thick and lateral seals are formed by fault-gouge smear and/or juxtaposition of shales against gas-bearing reservoir rocks. The Oilbird A Platform will be able to produce as much as 200 MMCF per day of gas with associated condensate from initial development wells.