

Small Oil Find At Tui-1

A small oil discovery has been made in the Tui-1 well, PEP 38460, after reaching a depth of 3,903 m, in the offshore Taranaki Basin.

Australian Worldwide Exploration Managing Director, Bruce Phillips, said even though the result was not the "bonanza we were seeking at Tui", it was a positive result for AWE shareholders. "The discovery is currently believed to be a small oil field with the possibility of increased size with further appraisal drilling", Phillips said.

Elevated cuttings gas and hydrocarbon fluorescence were observed over the uppermost 20 m of the secondary objective Kapuni 'F' sands encountered at 3,655 m. Subsequent evaluation of the wireline data, including MDT fluid sampling, indicated a gross oil column of 10 m, of which 100% is net oil pay in good quality reservoir rocks.

"The first primary objective of the well, the Kapuni 'D' Sands, were encountered slightly high to prediction but were associated with only minor oil shows and low levels of cuttings gas", Phillips said on February 12th. "As expected, subsequent wireline logging confirmed that no producible hydrocarbons were present in this interval."

New Zealand Oil and Gas Exploration Manager, Eric Matthews, said the presence of oil, rather than gas, had upgraded the other prospects of the block. The well was plugged and abandoned, as planned, after logging was completed.

The joint venture, comprising New Zealand Overseas Petroleum (operator and 45%),



Tui-1 permit map.

NZOG (20%), AWE (20%), and Pan-Pacific Petroleum (15%) is now considering the immediate acquisition of 3D seismic over the

field to identify possible appraisal drilling locations later this year.