

## Beach Records Strong Gas Flow In Cooper Basin

One of the strongest gas flows recorded in the Cooper Basin area of South Australia has been achieved from a new wildcat well drilled by Beach Petroleum Limited and its joint venture partner, Great Artesian Oil and Gas Limited.

Beach Petroleum announced a gas flow of 11 MMcf from a drill stem test of the Patchawarra Formation on the Middleton-1 discovery well 50 km west of Moomba on 7th March. The flow - from a 10 m interval between 2653 m and 2663 m depth - was through a choke size of  $5\frac{1}{8}$ " at 1,170 psi.

Beach Petroleum Managing Director, Reg Nelson, said the tested sands were interpreted to have about 7 m of net gas pay. "The joint

venture believes that between 3 m and 9 m of additional gas pay is likely in other sands", Nelson said.

"The high productivity of the Middleton test, combined with additional potential within the well and structure make Middleton one of the more exciting gas prospects in the Cooper Basin in recent years."

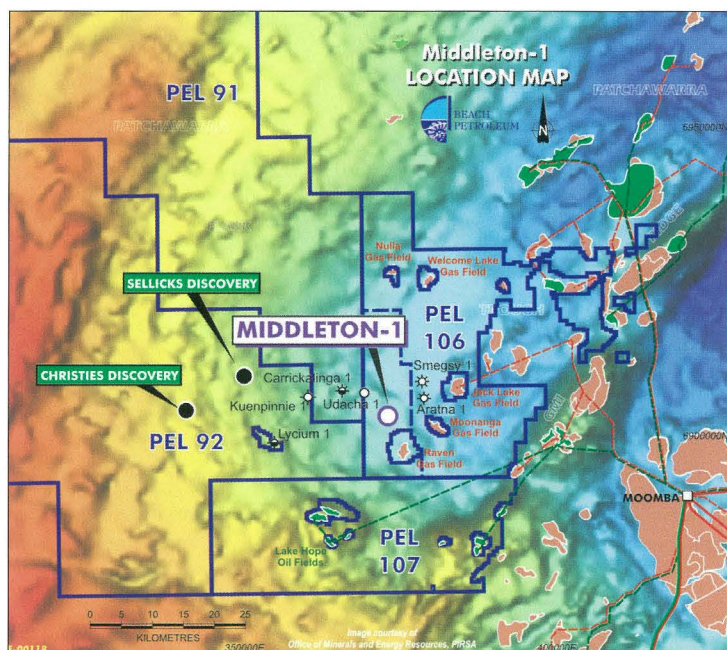
He said further evaluation would need to be carried out before the joint venture could obtain a more accurate picture of the gas reserves in the Middleton structure.

The Middleton well is 6 km northeast of the Santos operated Raven gas field and 8 km southeast of the recently commissioned

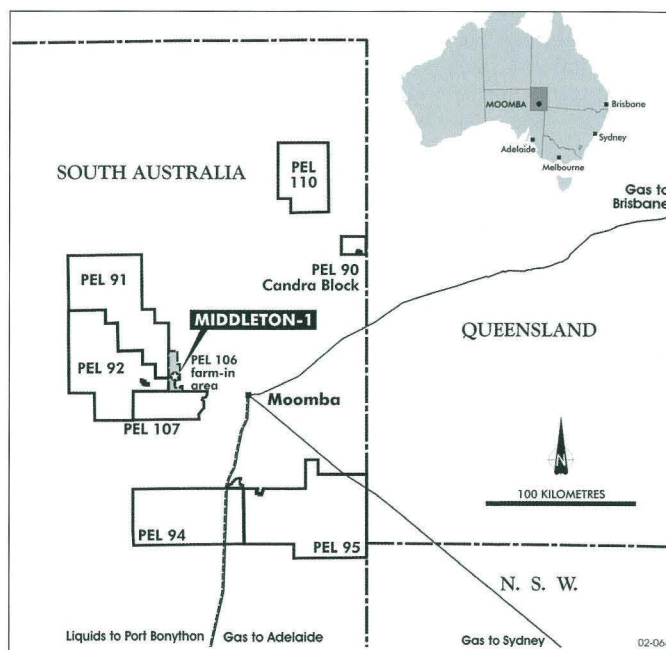
Great Artesian operated Smegsy gas field. The discovery follows Beach's Udacha-1 wildcat discovery in February, only 5 km to the northeast.

Nelson said the close proximity of the Middleton, Udacha, Smegsy and Raven fields was highly indicative of the region's gas potential and fell within Beach Petroleum's exploration model of pushing westwards from Moomba into the area's under-explored petroleum acreage.

Participants in the Middleton-1 well are: Beach Petroleum Ltd (Operator, subject to commercial discovery) 50.00%, Great Artesian Oil and Gas Ltd 50.00%. ■



The Middleton well is 6 km northeast of the Santos-operated Raven gas field and 8 km southeast of the recently commissioned Great Artesian operated Smegsy gas field.



An 11 MMcf gas flow was recorded from a drill stem test of the Patchawarra Formation on the Middleton-1 discovery well 50 km west of Moomba on 7th March.