

2D Northern Carnarvon Survey To Start

A 750 km 2D seismic survey is about to commence in exploration permit WA-291-P in the Beagle Sub-Basin, within the greater Northern Carnarvon Basin, joint venture partner Rialto Energy has announced.

The acquisition and processing of the survey will be carried out by Petroleum Geo-Services. Managing Director, Greg Munyard, said Rialto had funded 60% of the first \$1.5 million costs of the seismic survey and will have earned its 30% equity in WA-291-P, fully satisfying its farm-in obligations.

"For all costs in the permit thereafter, Rialto will pay online in accordance with its 30% interest,"

he said. "The expected overall cost to Rialto of the survey is approximately \$1.2 million."

"In the current extremely tight market for seismic and drilling services, it is pleasing to report that working with the permit operator, Tap Oil Limited, the opportunity has been taken to secure a vessel of convenience at short notice to acquire this survey early and at reasonable market rates. The schedule potentially allows for acceleration of the exploration cycle, towards drilling."

Munyard said following a number of technical workshops with Tap Oil, potentially attractive structuring involving good quality

Legendre reservoir has been identified in the northern portion of the permit. He said the primary objective of the seismic survey is to target, define and mature structures to prospect status, for drilling as soon as possible.

He said acquisition and processing of the seismic is expected to be completed by June 2007. "Interpretation and evaluation of the data, which will deliver a risked and ranked prospect inventory, is likely to be completed during the second half of 2007", he said. "Discussions are progressing well with several companies regarding new opportunities." ■