

State And Federal Collaborative Project Initiative

Mineral Resources Tasmania has co-funded a major project with Geoscience Australia (GA) to undertake potential field mapping of the Bass, Otway and Sorell basins. GA's funding is under the 'Offshore Energy Security Initiative'. The project will provide basic aeromagnetic data to elucidate the geology, structural architecture and distribution of volcanic rocks of these offshore areas of Tasmania that are prospective for hydrocarbons.

The results of the survey are expected to be

available in the second half of 2008.

Due to unprecedented industry and community energy demand Tasmania's vacant acreage has all been converted to granted exploration licences. There is now a record 19 exploration permits in Tasmanian waters, up from four exploration permits in 2002.

It is anticipated that with Commonwealth-Tasmania Joint Authority agreement, former vacant area T2004-5 off the west coast of Tasmania in the southern Sorell Basin may be released in 2009 for bidding. ■

