

Beach Resumes Peejay-1



The Seadrill-owned rig was moved the rig into shallower water off northern Tasmania for repairs.

Beach Petroleum is drilling ahead at the PeeJay-1 well site on the T/39P permit on the Bass basin off Tasmania after the Seadrill jack-up rig West Triton returned following work to repair leg bracings damaged while loading down.

The rig was moved into shallower water off northern Tasmania after it was damaged while being installed on the drill site at the T/39P permit in about 80 m of water preparing to spud the Peejay-1 well in the Bass Basin on 16 October.

Beach, which holds a 50% stake in the well, said in an update the well was drilling at the depth of 1915 m where it and joint venture partner Benaris Petroleum have been targeting oil in the upper Middle Eastern View Group.

The company has contracted the *West Triton* to drill three exploration wells, two oil and one gas, back to back in the Bass Strait.

Meanwhile, Beach said its 20%-owned Burtocal NS394-2A appraisal in the Gulf of Suez in Egypt was being plugged back ahead of the second of two planned sidetracks. Results from the first sidetrack were being evaluated.

Beach also said that of its wells operated by Santos, one was successful, one was unsuccessful and one was in progress.

The company said the Watson-4 well on the PL 35 permit in Queensland's Cooper-Eromanga basin had been completed and suspended as a future Hutton Sandstone gas and Adori Sandstone gas producer after being sunk to

1693 m. Santos operates the well with a 55.5% stake while Beach holds a 38.5% interest.

The Gidgealpa-59 well on the PPL 6 permit, also in the Cooper-Eromanga basin in Queensland, was suspended as a future water producer after failing to find commercial hydrocarbon reserves. The well was drilled to 1854 m in the Hutton Sandstone. Santos operates the well with a 66.6% stake while Beach holds a 20.21% interest.

The Watkins-1 well on the PL 35 permit in the Cooper-Eromanga basin was preparing to run surface casing after spudding. The well is also targeting the Hutton Sandstone and Basal Jurassic rocks. Santos operates the well with a 55.5% stake while Beach holds a 38.5% stake. ■