Awakino South-1 First For STP Energy



Since finishing work at Pohokura the rig has spent more than month undertaking maintenance work in Port Nelson. Julian Apse photo supplied by Crown Minerals, NZ Ministry of Economic Development.

ingapore-based STP Energy, which has taken over ownership of offshore North Taranaki PEP 38479 exploration acreage, the only acreage owned by STP Energy in New Zealand, reported encouraging signs of wet gas in the Awakino South-1 well in the Taranaki basin offshore New Zealand. Preliminary logs from the Ensco-56 jackup rig, which spudded the Awakino well on 30 August, indicate between 15 m to 34 m of pay in the Turi formation.

Awakino South-1 well is being drilled to about 3,000 m to target a sub-thrust Mangahewa sandstone play, about 7 km from the coast off Awakino.

STP Energy acquired 100% interest in the permit from Texas-based Discovery Geo and its partners. STP Energy was drilling the Awakino

South-1 well in the southern part of the long permit followed by a second well Kahu-1 in the same permit.

Australian Drilling Associates has engineered the wells for the project and is managing the execution phase of the two exploration wells on behalf of STP Energy's technical partner Asian Drilling Services.

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Earlier this year Discovery Geo's Operation Manager Dr Bruce Morris said that the plan for the Awakino South-1 well was to drill a deviated well, then drill a lateral well horizontally through the Tikorangi limestone formation. This would test shows recorded in the Tikorangi by the Awakino-1 well drilled in 1985 by Petrocorp.