

Alameda-1 On Track to Spud Next Week

Highlights:

- Program on track to test 4 separate targets - combined Prospective Resource (Best Estimate) of 236 million barrels of oil¹
- Derrick for drilling rig raised; camp site fully operational
- Drilling of Alameda-1 exploration well expected to commence on or about 13 September, subject to remaining equipment and materials arriving at site on schedule
- Civil works for Zapato-1 well pad proceeding on schedule

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA (07 SEPTEMBER 2021)

Melbana Energy Limited (ASX: MAY) (**Melbana**) is pleased to report that the derrick of the drilling rig has been raised at the site of the Alameda-1 exploration well, thereby bringing the commencement of drilling operations for this two-well program an important step closer. The Alameda-1 camp site is now operational, with services and utilities in place and connected.



Figure 1 – Derrick of drilling rig raised at the site of the Alameda-1 exploration well

The setting of the conductor pipe is expected to occur later this week. Drilling operations are then expected to commence following final testing of all rig equipment and safety systems. The blow out preventer stack is being readied for installation (see Figure 2 below) once surface casing has been installed and cemented.



Figure 2 – Preparation of the BOP stack prior to installation

The scheduled arrival dates of certain contractor equipment and materials into Cuba remains fluid due to the challenges facing global logistics chains but Melbana's contingency planning is expected to allow drilling operations to commence on or about the previously advised date of 13 September 2021 regardless.

Civil works for Zapato-1

Construction of the well pad and related infrastructure for Zapato-1 (the second exploration well to be drilled in this two well campaign and commencing immediately after the completion of Alameda-1) continues to proceed satisfactorily and on schedule.



Figure 3 – Build-up of the Zapato-1 well pad continues

HSE

There have been no safety incidents reported.

Comment

Melbana Energy's Executive Chairman, Andrew Purcell commented: *After many years of detailed planning, we are now on the cusp of drilling two outstanding onshore prospects that present potentially huge upside for Melbana's shareholders with the four targets having a combined best estimate of 236 million barrels of oil¹. We would like to thank our partner, Sonangol, for their faithful support in allowing us to arrive at this point in as timely a manner as might be considered reasonable given the unique challenges of a global pandemic. A special thanks, too, to our shareholders (both existing and new alike) that supported our recent capital raise, thereby ensuring that we are adequately funded to meet our commitments to this endeavour. We look forward to providing you with regular updates as this program unfolds."*

- ¹ Prospective Resources Cautionary Statement - The estimated quantities of petroleum that may potentially be recovered by the application of a future development project(s) related to undiscovered accumulations. These estimates have both an associated risk of discovery and a risk of development. Future exploration appraisal and evaluation is required to determine the existence of a significant quantity of potentially moveable hydrocarbons. All quoted volumes have been taken from Independent Expert McDaniel & Associates Competent Persons Report, released to ASX on 7 August 2018, as adjusted by Melbana for area relinquishment. Melbana is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in that announcement and that all the material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed.

For and on Behalf of the Board of Directors:

Mr Andrew Purcell
Executive Chairman

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