



BASS STRAIT OIL COMPANY Ltd

ACN 008 694 817

Level 25
500 Collins Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia

Tel: (+61 3) 9614 0426
Fax: (+61 3) 9614 0428
Email: admin@bassoil.com.au
Website: www.bassoil.com.au

ASX RELEASE

3D SEISMIC CONTRACT AWARDED

Bass Strait Oil Company Ltd ("BAS") is pleased to announce the award of a 500 sq km 3D seismic acquisition contract for its Vic/P42 offshore Gippsland Basin permit.

The contract has been awarded to Western Geco and operations are scheduled for December 2006 using the vessel Western Trident, which is fitted with state-of-the-art solid streamer recording technology.

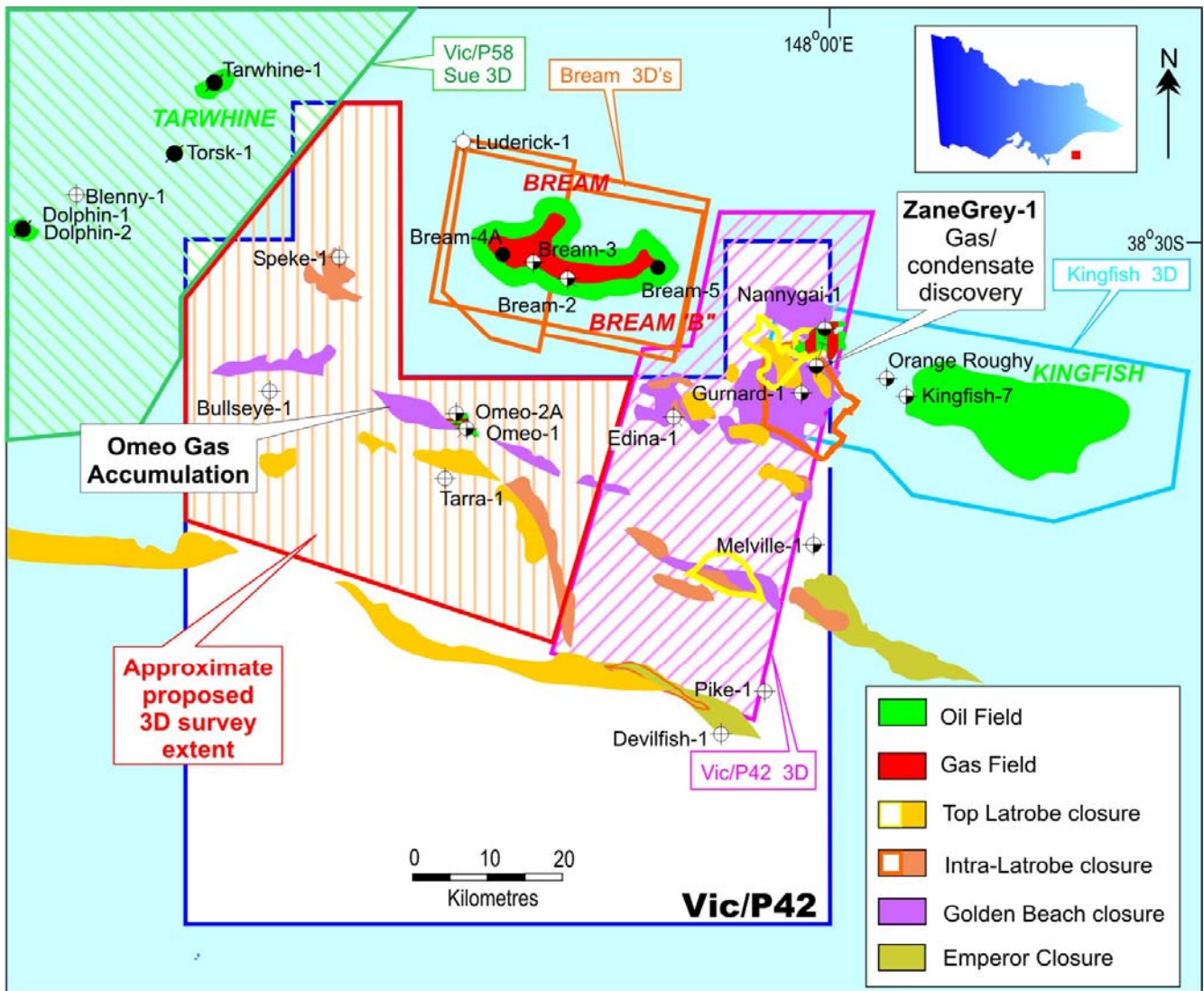
BAS will be fully funded through this estimated \$20 million survey, as the first phase of a Vic/P42 farm-in by Apache Northwest Pty Ltd ("Apache"). Apache has agreed to fund the recording and processing of the 3D seismic, plus the drilling of one exploration well, in order to earn a 60% interest and operatorship in the permit. BAS will retain a 20% interest in Vic/P42.

The survey will be the first 3D survey in the western and northwestern areas of the Vic/P42 permit and is designed to complete continuous coverage between BAS's 2002 3D survey in the east of the permit and Apache's 2005 3D survey in permit Vic/P58 adjacent to the west.

A number of leads have been identified on older 2D seismic in the new 3D survey area, including leads analogous to the nearby Dolphin and Perch producing oil fields. The new 3D survey will also cover the 1983 Omeo gas and condensate discovery.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Adams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A'.

Andrew Adams
Managing Director
21 August 2006



Location map of Vic/P42 permit and 3D seismic survey