



G WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT Gazette

PERTH, FRIDAY, 9 AUGUST 1991 No. 104 SPECIAL

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY G. L. DUFFIELD, GOVERNMENT PRINTER AT 3.45 PM

PETROLEUM ACT 1967

INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT OF EXPLORATION PERMITS AND DRILLING RESERVATIONS UNDER SECTION 30 (1) AND 43A OF THE ACT

Applications are invited for the grant of exploration permits and drilling reservations within Western Australia's sedimentary basins and will be received up until 4.00 pm on 27 September 1991.

Any areas not taken up from this invitation will be regazetted in early October with a late December closing date.

Each application for an exploration permit should comprise a single area of contiguous blocks of the applicant's choice. While the Act allows that a maximum of 200 blocks may be applied for in a single application, only applications that propose work programmes relative to the whole of the area applied for, shall be considered.

Each application for a drilling reservation shall comprise a block or a contiguous group of blocks containing potential sites of petroleum deposits. A drilling reservation carries a minimum commitment to drill a well on each potential site of a petroleum deposit within 12 months of being granted.

Not included in this invitation are blocks which, at the time of this notice being published:

- are the subject of exploration permits, production licences or applications therefor;
- are currently advertised within Area L91-3;
- are capable of being the subject of an invitation under Section 33 of the Act (surrendered etc licence and location blocks); or
- cover offshore islands.

Applications for exploration permits are to be made in accordance with Section 31 of the Act, submitted in duplicate and be accompanied by—

(a) Details of—

- (i) the blocks comprising the application by reference to the numbers of the blocks as shown on the Department's 1:1 000 000 series map sheets and by a plan delineating those blocks;
- (ii) the applicant's assessment of the petroleum potential of the area, including a geological and geophysical review and technical assessment of the area, and the concepts underlying the proposed exploration programme;
- (iii) the minimum work programme proposed for each of the five years, specifying the number of wells to be drilled, the line kilometres of seismic survey to be carried out and the estimated expenditure;
- (iv) wells referred to in the work programme should not include development wells (the AAPG well classification scheme will be the basis of identification).

(b) Particulars of—

- (i) the technical qualifications of the applicant and of its employees;
 - (ii) the technical advice available to the applicant;
 - (iii) the financial resources available to the applicant, including evidence of the applicant's ability to fund the work programme proposed, and a copy of the latest annual report for each applicant company;
 - (iv) where relevant, the viability of the consortium lodging the application, including evidence that a satisfactory settlement has been, or can be, reached on a Joint Operating Agreement (a copy of a Heads of Agreement dealing will generally suffice);
 - (v) the percentage participating interest of each party to the application; and
 - (vi) a single address for service of notices in respect of the application.
- (c) A fee of \$3 000, made payable to the Department of Mines through an Australian bank or by bank cheque (application fees are not refundable).
 - (d) such other information as the applicant wishes to be taken into account in consideration of the application.

Consideration of an application for a permit shall take into account the adequacy of the work programme for the first two years of the permit term and the applicants technical and financial ability to undertake the work. The prior purchase of any speculative or contractor seismic data (such as Western Geophysical's onshore Southern Carnarvon Basin Speculative Seismic Survey) relevant to the area applied for will be taken into favourable account when considering the adequacy of the work programme.

The successful applicant will be required to fulfill the minimum commitment for each of those years without variation. This is known as the firm commitment phase, however, the balance of the programme can be re-negotiated based on or taking into consideration the results of prior exploration.

Applications for drilling reservations are to be made in accordance with Section 43B of the Act and shall be submitted in duplicate and be accompanied by—

(a) Details of—

- (i) the block(s) comprising the application by reference to the number(s) of the block(s) as shown on the Department's 1:1 000 000 series map sheets and by a plan delineating the block(s);
- (ii) the applicants proposal for the drilling of a well or wells and other work in respect of the block(s) in the application;
- (iii) a statement as to size and configuration of the potential petroleum deposit(s) and a geological prognosis of the well(s);
- (iv) a statement as to an approximate time for the completion of the well(s).

(b) Particulars of—

- (i) the technical qualifications of the applicant and of its employees;
 - (ii) the technical advice available to the applicant;
 - (iii) the financial resources available to the applicant, including evidence of the applicant's ability to fund the work programme proposed, and a copy of the latest annual report for each applicant company;
 - (iv) where relevant, the viability of the consortium lodging the application, including evidence that a satisfactory settlement has been, or can be, reached on a Joint Operating Agreement (a copy of a Heads of Agreement dealing will generally suffice);
 - (v) the percentage participating interest of each party to the application; and
 - (vi) a single address for service of notices in respect of the application.
- (c) A fee of \$3 000, made payable to the Department of Mines through an Australian bank or by bank cheque (application fees are not refundable).
- (d) such other information as the applicant wishes to be taken into account in consideration of the application.

Consideration of an application shall take into account the adequacy of the applicant's assessment of the potential petroleum deposit, the well prognosis and its ability both technically and financially to undertake the work.

In situations where a drilling reservation application may be within an area also the subject of an exploration permit application the award will be on the basis of which application offers the most definitive assessment of a petroleum resource. Should such a decision result in a drilling reservation being awarded, the balance of the area (the blocks not the subject of the drilling reservation) may be offered to the applicant for the exploration permit.

When selecting an area of interest in preparation for an application, consideration should be given to the likelihood of other land uses within that area, particularly land the subject of nature reserves or other areas of conservation value. While the occurrence of such land does not necessarily preclude the grant of a title or petroleum operations being conducted, environmental assessment will be necessary.

Applications made on the approved form are to be addressed to—

The Director
Petroleum Division
Department of Mines
Mineral House, 100 Plain Street
East Perth W.A. 6004
Tel: (09) 222 3165
Fax: (09) 222 3515

Enquiries concerning the availability of the relevant basic exploration data should be addressed as follows—

(a) For microfilm data information to—

The Librarian
Geological Survey Division
Department of Mines
Mineral House, 100 Plain Street
East Perth W.A. 6004
Tel: (09) 222 3165
Fax: (09) 222 3633

(b) For full scale data to—

(i) Petroleum Information Energy Services
180 Stirling Highway
Claremont W.A. 6010
Tel: (09) 389 8499
Fax: (09) 389 8243

(ii) Advanced Reprographic Services
1321 Hay Street
WEST PERTH W.A. 6005
Tel: (09) 322 2933
Fax: (09) 481 5911

(c) For speculative seismic data—

Western Geophysical Co
447 Belmont Ave
Kewdale W.A. 6105
Tel: (09) 353 1999
Fax: (09) 353 3963
