



MAGELLAN PETROLEUM
CORPORATION
ARBN 117 452 454

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Hartford Square North
10 Columbus Blvd - 10th Floor
HARTFORD CT 06106, USA

TELEPHONE (+1) 860 293 2006
FACSIMILE (+1) 860 293 2349
WEBSITE www.magpet.com

AUSTRALIAN OFFICE

10th Floor, 145 Eagle Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
(GPO Box 2766, Brisbane Q 4001)

TELEPHONE (+61) 7 3224 1600
FACSIMILE (+61) 7 3832 6411
WEBSITE www.magpet.com.au

13 March 2009

ANNOUNCEMENT TO ASX

Planning permission granted to drill Havant-1 Well

Magellan Petroleum Corporation (“Magellan”) (NASDAQ: MPET: ASX: MGN) is pleased to advise that the Hampshire County Council has granted planning approval to drill the Havant-1 exploration well in the Hampshire sector of the Weald Basin.

The drill site is located next to the A3(M) motorway and has been chosen for its minimal environmental impact. Northern Petroleum, operator for the joint venture, is particularly conscious of its commitments to be a good neighbour to the local community and is committed to health and safety and the environment. All operations will be conducted with these factors in mind.

Magellan has a 40 percent interest in the Havant-1 well.

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements in this release which are not historical in nature are intended to be, and are hereby identified as, forward-looking statements for purposes of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements about Magellan may relate to its businesses and prospects, revenues, expenses, operating cash flows, and other matters that involve a number of uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from expectations. Among these risks and uncertainties are pricing and production levels from the properties in which Magellan has interests, the extent of the recoverable reserves at those properties and the future outcome of the negotiations for gas sales contracts for the remaining uncontracted reserves at both the Mereenie and Palm Valley gas fields in the Amadeus Basin. In addition, Magellan has a large number of exploration permits and faces the risk that any wells drilled may fail to encounter hydrocarbons in commercially recoverable quantities. Any forward-looking information provided in this release should be considered with these factors in mind. Magellan assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this release, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.