

Oil exploration continues with spudding of Spitfire-1 on the western flank of the Cooper Basin

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Senex Energy Limited (Senex), as Operator for the PEL 104 joint venture, advises that drilling commenced on the Spitfire-1 oil exploration well on 20 January 2012.

Ensign rig #48 is currently setting surface casing after drilling to a depth of 656 metres. The well is expected to reach total depth of 1,830 metres.

Spitfire-1 is the sixth well in the joint venture's 11 well drilling program in PEL 104 and PRL 15 which is targeting the Birkhead channel play on the Cooper Basin's western flank.

The prospect was among 25 targets identified by the joint venture from the 2009 Mollichuta 3D seismic survey, which also provided seismic definition of the Growler oil field.

The Spitfire-1 exploration well is located 2.5 kilometres west of the prolific Growler oil field and will test the oil bearing potential of the Jurassic Birkhead Formation.

It is the second of six oil exploration wells to be drilled as part of the current exploration and appraisal program in PEL 104 and PRL 15.

Senex holds a 60% interest in PEL 104 and PRL 15 and is Operator of the joint ventures, with the remaining 40% interest held by Beach Energy Limited.

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Figure 1: Spitfire-1 oil exploration well

