



**NEW STANDARD
ENERGY**

23 August 2012

ASX Announcement

**NEW STANDARD BEGINS AIRBORNE GRAVITY SURVEY IN THE LAUREL
PROJECT AREA, SEVEN LAKES SPA and EP 417
(ASX: NSE)**

HIGHLIGHTS

- 🌿 **Project-wide regional airborne gravity survey commenced**
- 🌿 **Survey will help define the fairway with potential for future gas and oil discoveries in the emerging Laurel basin-centred gas play**
- 🌿 **Completes work commitments in both areas**

New Standard Energy Ltd (**New Standard**) is pleased to advise that an Airborne Gravity Survey has commenced over the Seven Lakes SPA and EP 417 (the Laurel Project) in the Canning Basin. The survey is expected to take approximately 3 weeks, with initial results available within 40 days of completion.

New Standard is operator of both blocks and holds a 60% interest in the Seven Lakes SPA (STP-SPA-0017) and a 50% interest in EP 417. Partners are Buru in EP 417 (35%), and Green Rock (Seven Lakes SPA 40%, and EP 417 15%).

The blocks are located in the south eastern Fitzroy Trough of the Canning Basin, which has strong geological similarities to Buru's recent discoveries in the Fitzroy Trough within the Laurel Formation at Valhalla, Paradise and Yulleroo (Figure 1). Potential for oil discoveries similar to the Ungani Field also exist given the positive oil indications in nearby wells.

The gravity survey will acquire approximately 3,695 line kilometres of data, providing block-wide coverage over both the Seven Lakes SPA and EP 417. The results will contribute valuable data that will be analysed together with the available seismic and well information over the area, and will be used to help define the extent of the prospective basin-centred plays in the Laurel Formation. This will assist the selection of blocks within Seven Lakes SPA for conversion to a full Exploration Permit (EP). This survey exceeds the minimum Work Program commitment for the SPA.

The survey will also improve the Joint Venture's understanding of the structure and stratigraphy of the EP 417 area that will be incorporated into the assessment of the results of Lawford-1 well deepening undertaken by the Joint Venture in 2011 and help guide the future exploration program in the area. The survey and associated technical studies will fulfil the 2012 and 2013 Work Program commitments for EP 417.

New Standard expects to issue the next update on completion of the survey.

-ENDS-

For further information, please contact:

Sam Willis

Managing Director

Ph: + 61 8 9481 7477

email: swillis@newstandard.com.au

Cameron Morse

FTI Consulting

Ph: + 61 8 9485 8888

email: cameron.morse@fticonsulting.com



NEW STANDARD ENERGY

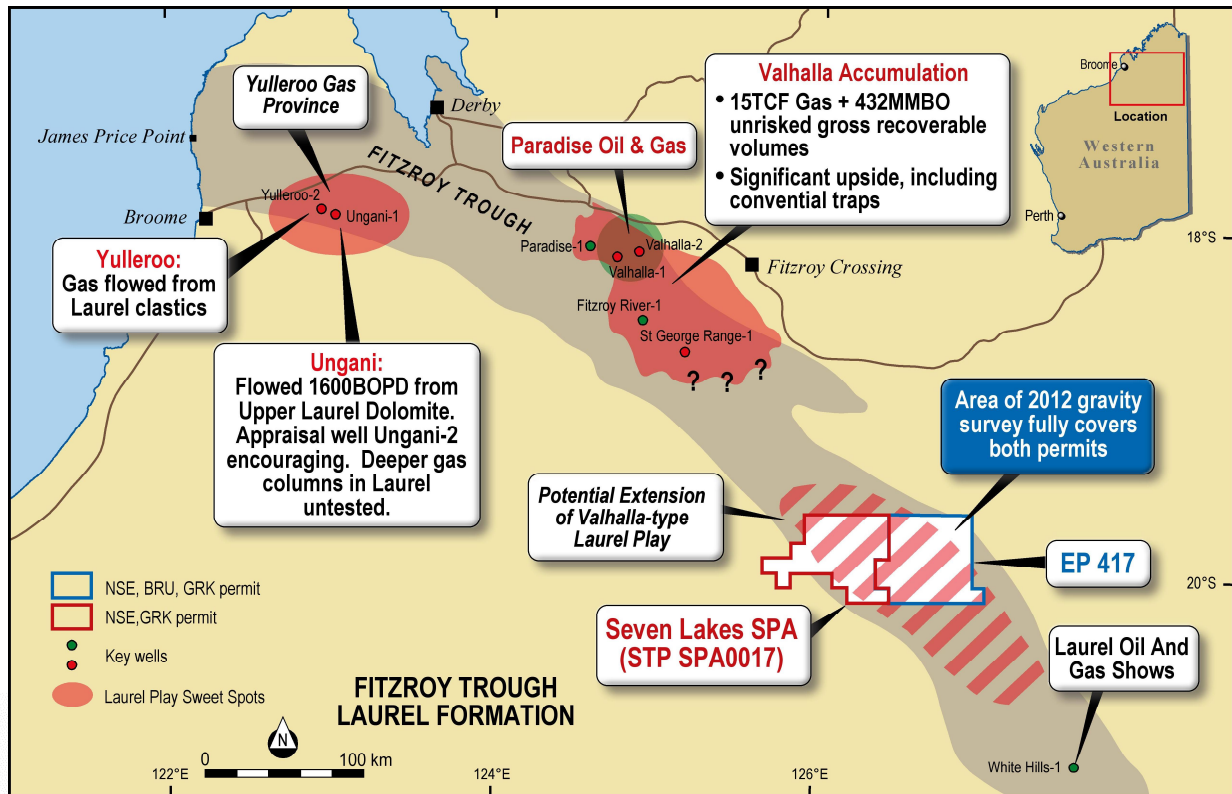


Figure 1: Location of Seven Lakes SPA and EP-417.

About New Standard: New Standard Energy is an aggressive hydrocarbon developer with a mandate to explore for oil and gas. Its exploration and drilling program is active, well funded and extensive. The company's exploration program is underpinned and complemented by targeted corporate activity to take advantage of opportunities and to build an extensive pipeline of exploration projects. New Standard's board has extensive technical and commercial experience in the oil and gas sector.

New Standard currently has cash resources of in excess of \$40m post the BRU share sale transaction with this cash position to be further supplemented by income being generated from the Colorado County Project in Texas and cash calls under the ConocoPhillips farm-in agreement. The Company is primarily focused on aggressively progressing its oil and gas exploration portfolio focused on the onshore Canning and Carnarvon Basins in Western Australia. The portfolio includes:

- 100% (diluting to 25%) operated interest in EP's 443, 450, 451, 456 in Western Australia's Canning Basin
- 100% (diluting to 25%) operated interest in application areas 1/09-0, 2/09-0 and 5/09-0 in the Canning Basin
- 65% (diluting to 50%) operated interest in EP417 in the Canning Basin
- 60% operated interest in the Seven Lakes SPA area in the Canning Basin
- 100% operated interest in the Merlinleigh project, onshore Carnarvon Basin Western Australia
- 32.5% working interest in the Colorado County Project, onshore Texas USA
- 38.5% working interest in the Moeller Project, onshore Texas USA
- 36% working interest in the Wharton County Project, onshore Texas USA
- 32.5% interest in a license for 1,000 square miles of 3D seismic data

In addition to the above portfolio, New Standard has a liquid equity interest (10m shares) in ASX listed Canning Basin explorer Buru Energy Ltd (ASX: BRU) and a 13.7% equity interest in ASX listed Elixir Petroleum Ltd (ASX: EXR). New Standard is also continuing to actively assess other opportunities to complement and expand its exploration portfolio.