Unconventional Gas in Australia – Opportunities and Challenges

Shale Gas Summit

Shanghai 27 October 2010

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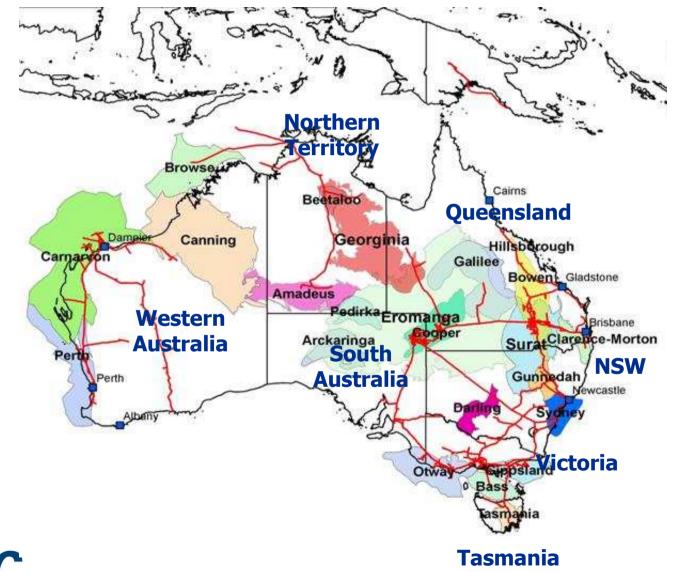
Unconventional Gas in Australia

The story so far....

- Gas supply in Eastern Australia has been transformed
- Unconventional gas is dominated by the CSG sector
 - US\$19 b of M&A transactions in the CSG sector alone since 2006 driven by world scale LNG export potential
 - LNG export contracts approximately \$200 b
 - Capital projects circa \$30b nearing approval
 - Production from zero to 150 bcf/a in 12 years
 - CSG represents 25% of total Eastern Australian domestic gas supply and will continue to grow
- Shale gas and Tight gas increasing in profile what is the potential and what are the issues?



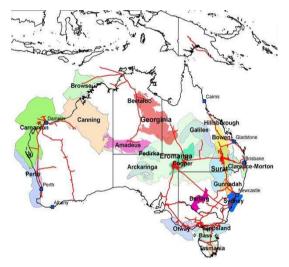
Australian Gas Market





Australian Gas Market – Eastern States

- 1. Eastern states domestic gas market
 - Higher population density, reasonable open access infrastructure, stronger competition
 - General oversupply
 - Typical price ex field US\$3.3/mcf in 2009
 - "Well head to wires" options ie local power generation supply to grid can yield higher value
 - NEM values US\$31-34/MWh in Queensland & NSW in 2008-9 increasing netbacks up to US\$6/mcf
 - Increased growth/prices if carbon reduction pricing scheme implemented driving gas powered electricity generation





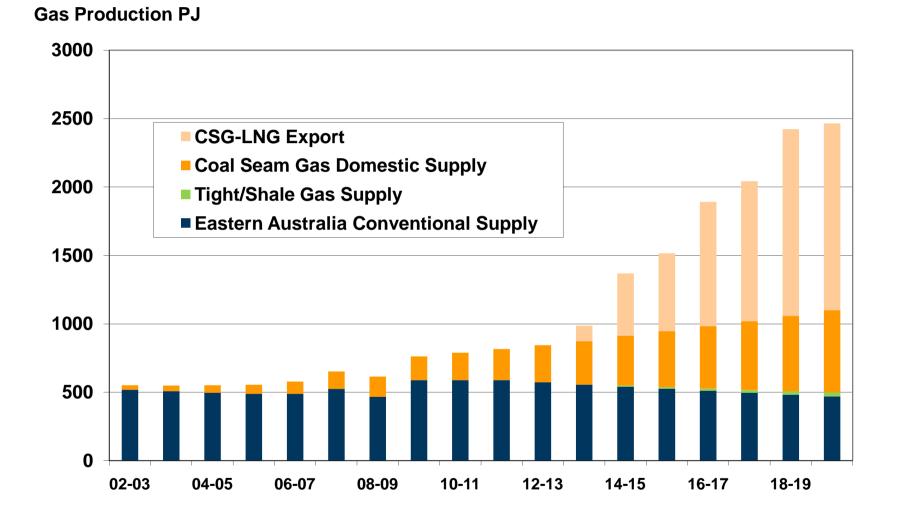
Australian Gas Market – WA and LNG Export

- 2. Western Australian domestic gas market
 - Low population density, scarce infrastructure, limited competition
 - Project driven market, high demand for gas
 - Large industrial consumers (alumina, minerals processing, iron ore etc)
 - High arbitrage opportunity for major producers can sell as LNG or domestic gas
 - Typical clearing price in excess of US\$6/mcf
- 3. Export (LNG) Market
 - Australia currently exports 16 Mtpa LNG from the NWS Gas project in Western Australia and the Bayu Undan project in Darwin
 - Forecast to triple by 2020 (Pluto, Gorgon, Wheatstone, CSG-LNG and others)
 - High netback prices driven by access to world markets





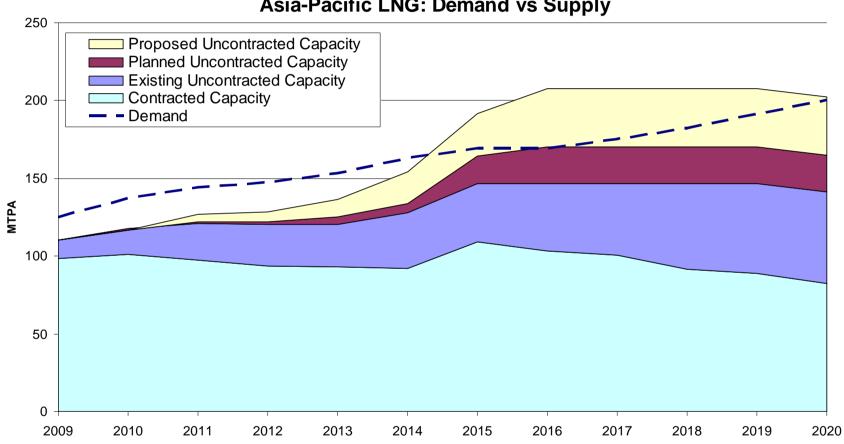
The CSG Industry has transformed Eastern Australian Gas Supply





Source: RISC Analysis

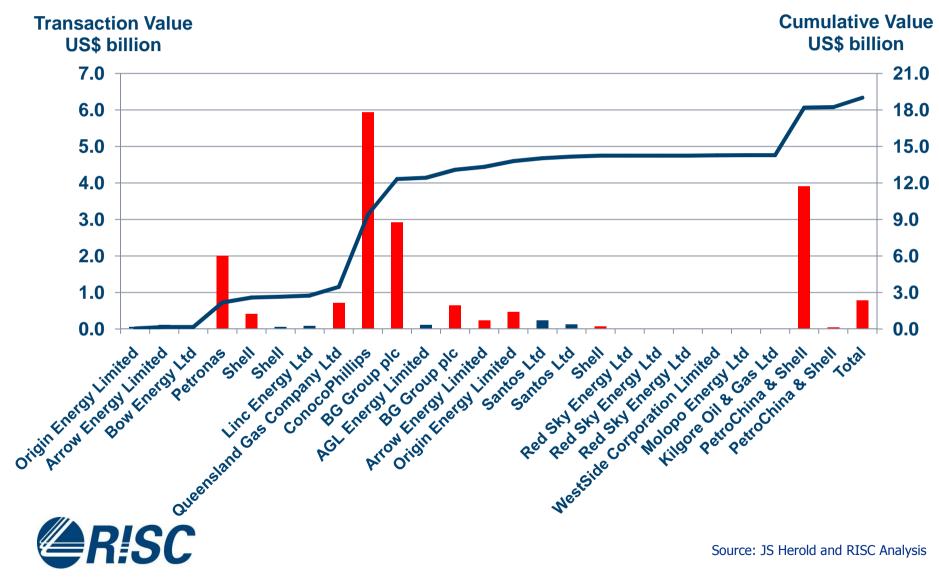
Asia Pacific Demand and Supply







CSG M&A Value has been dominated by CSG-LNG Transactions

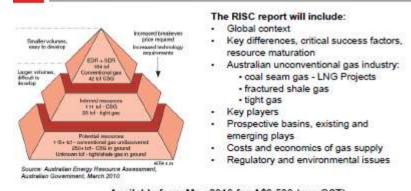


RISC Report - Unconventional Gas in Australia 2010

- Non-exclusive report
- Status of the unconventional gas industry in Australia as at May 2010
- Covers Coal Seam Gas, Tight Gas and Shale Gas
- Approximately 200 pages
- Uses public domain data
- Supplemented by RISC analysis



RISC has applied extensive technical and commercial experience to compile an independent business focused assessment of the coal seam gas and emerging shale gas and tight gas industry in Australia.



Available from May 2010 for A\$9,500 (exc GST). Also available in USD \$9,000, GBP £8,000 or EUR €8,750.

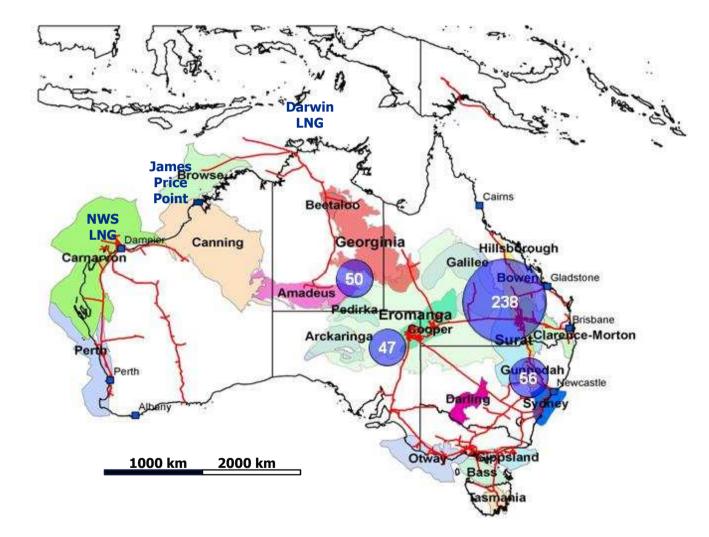
RISC is an internationally experienced Oil and Gas Consulting firm providing independent commercial and technical advice.

For further details please visit our website or to register interest, please contact: Robbie Sworder +61 (0)8 9420 6660 robbie sworder@nscpl.com

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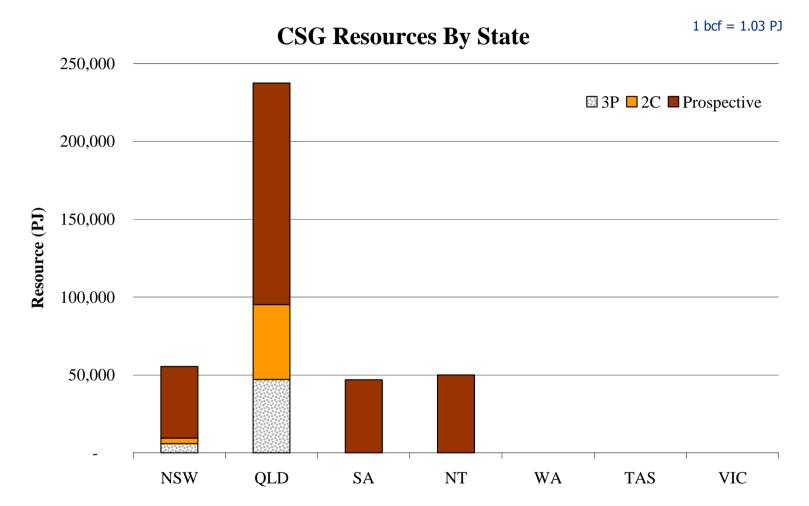


Coal Seam Gas Resource Unrisked Potential 390 Tcf - May 2010





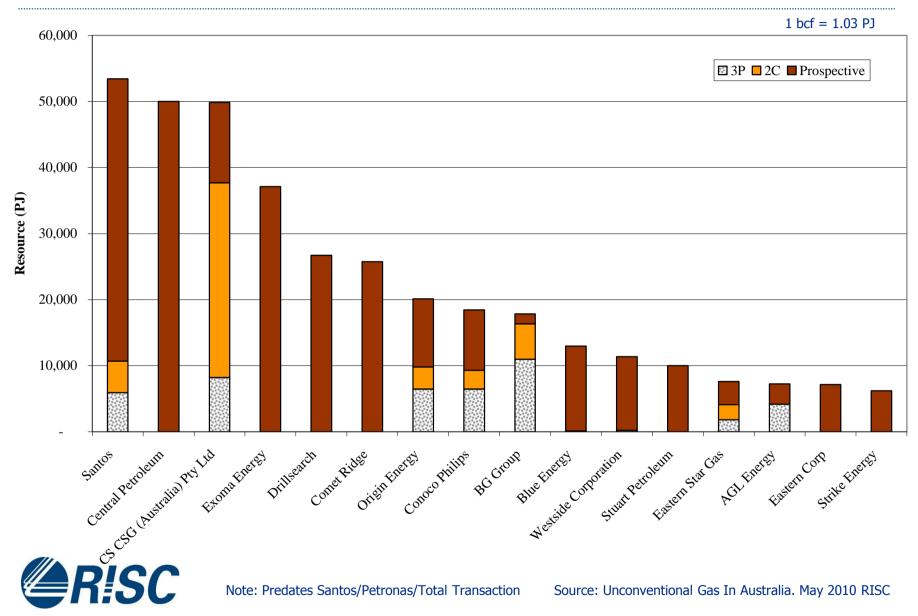
Australian Coal Resources by State – May 2010



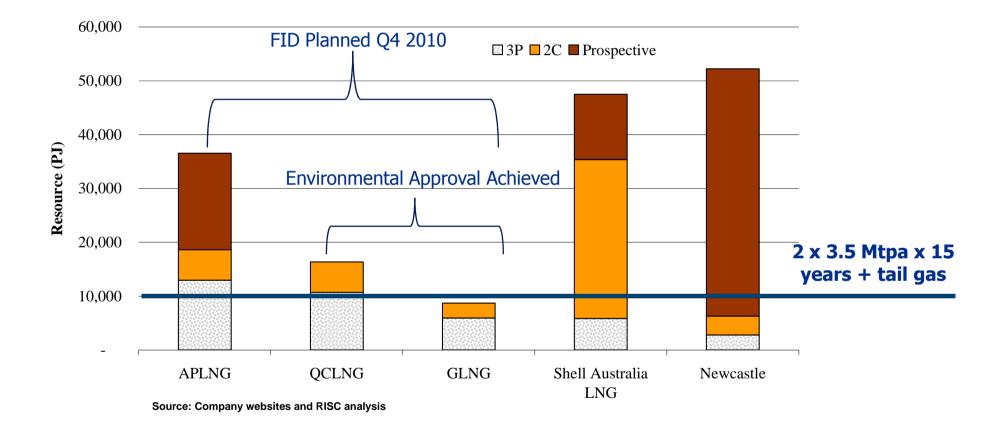
Source: Company websites and RISC analysis



Coal Seam Gas Who's Who – May 2010

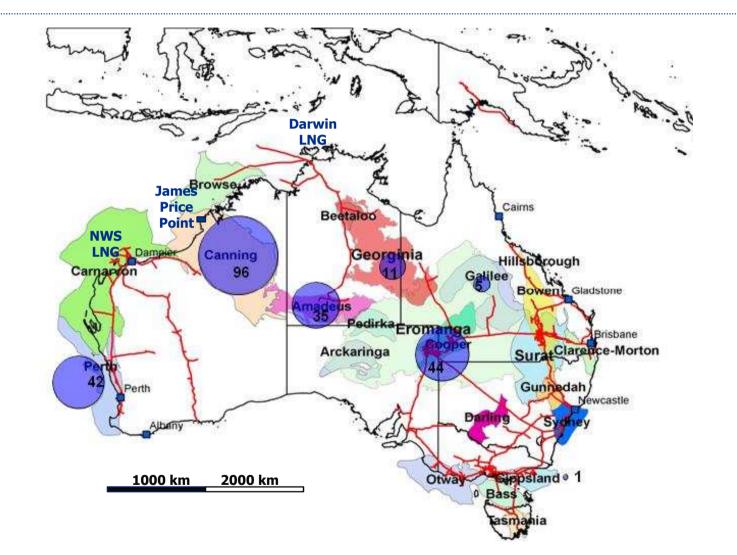


Eastern Australian CSG – LNG Resources by Project Group - May 2010



Includes domestic gas obligations



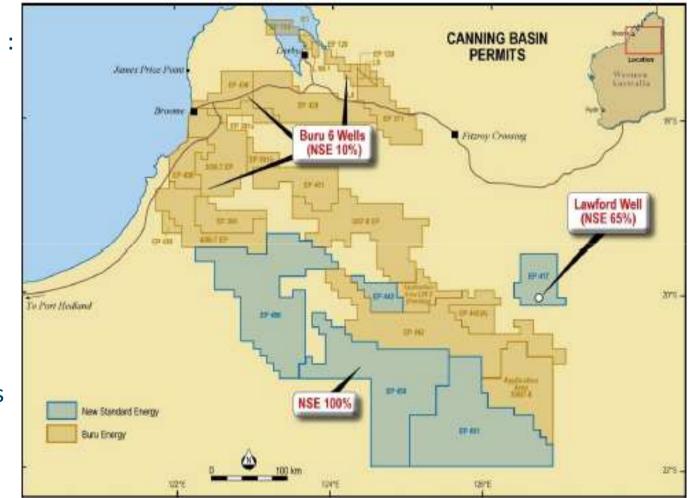


Tight Gas and Shale Gas Resource Unrisked Potential 230 Tcf - May 2010



Canning Basin Example – Permit Map

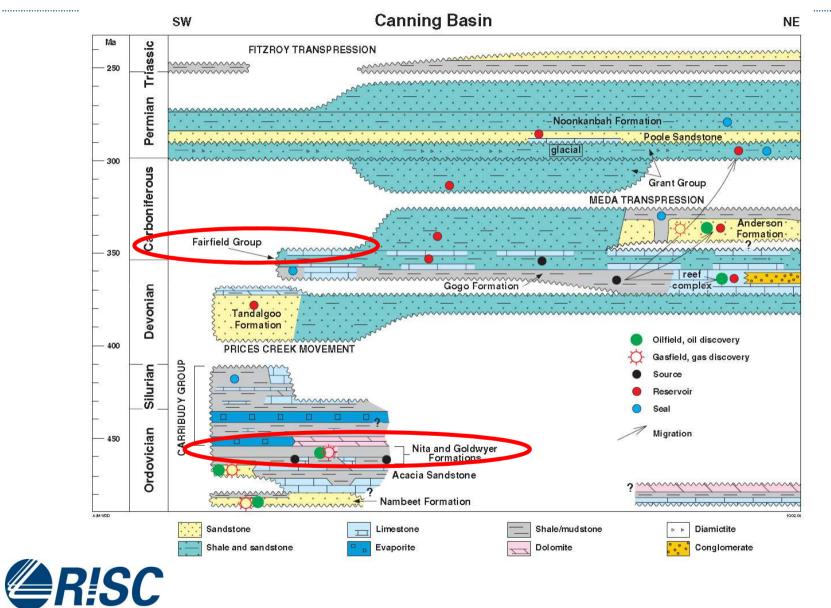
- Basin has vast area : Basin – almost 600,000 km2 (148 million acres)
- Much of Canning Basin secured by Buru Energy and New Standard Energy
- Mitsubishi has farmed in to Buru's acreage (US\$90m deal, up to 50%)





Source: New Standard Energy website

Canning Basin – General Stratigraphy

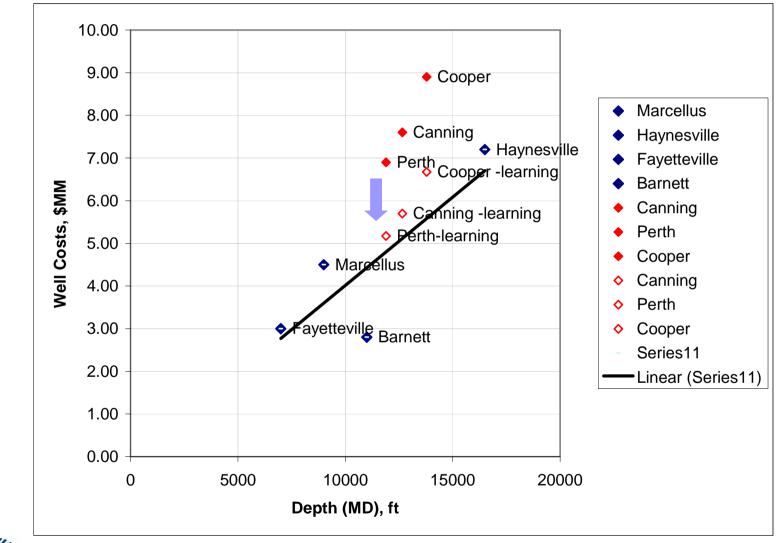


RISC Unconventional Gas Study – Typical Development Costs

- Currently tight gas / shale gas Australian cost structure almost 2 x US for comparable operations
- Learning curve assumed based on
 - economies of scale
 - increased competition etc
 - Development costs anticipated to remain higher than US even taking learning curve into account
- Projected development costs used in study:
 - Tight/Shale Gas US\$1.5-2.5/mcf
 - CSG US\$0.7-2.0/mcf
- Chesapeake in US quote average F&D costs of \$1.37/mcf



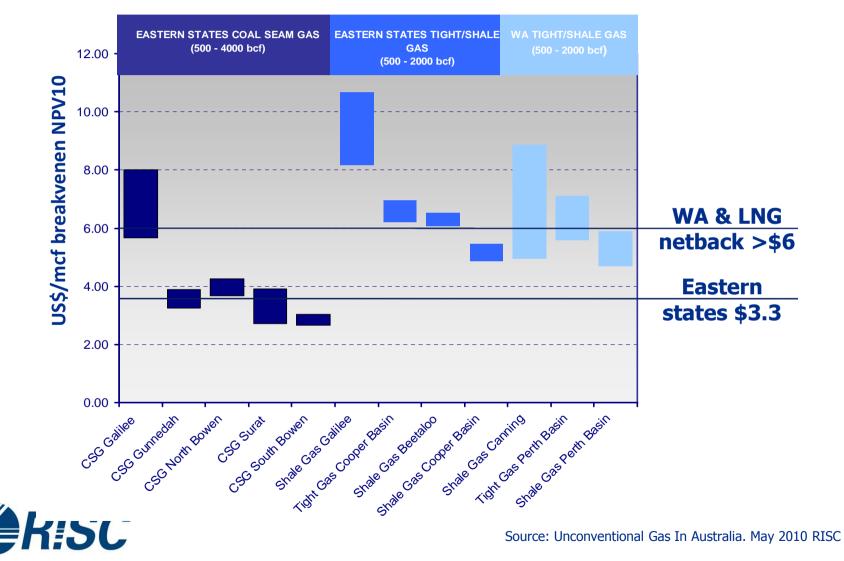
RISC Unconventional Gas Study - Comparative Drilling Costs





RISC Unconventional Gas Study May 2010 NPV10 Comparative Breakeven Cost to Market

Unconventional Gas: Comparative Cost to Market by Basin



Issues and Challenges – Coal Seam Gas

- Industry relatively mature in Queensland & NSW, but still large exploration component elsewhere
- Cost structures under control, but still higher than US
 - Limited access to hardware and services for smaller players
 - Remoteness and distances to markets increase costs
 - Expect a step change when CSG-LNG projects get going
- LNG-CSG, its never been done before, however the signs look good
 - Technology proven, scale unprecedented
 - Key milestone environmental approvals for 2 projects achieved
 - But we don't know what we don't know
- Low domestic gas prices in Eastern States create challenges for non-export gas
- Environmental footprint
 - Community concerns "social licence to operate" yet to be achieved
 - Large numbers of wells
 - Water production and disposal
 - Significant conditions placed on environmental approval
- Tax !!!



Issues and Challenges – Shale Gas and Tight Gas

- Shale Gas is frontier exploration, concepts have yet to be proven!!!
- Tight gas is more mature, but still to be demonstrated commercially in significant quantities
- Cost structures at least 2 x US
 - Limited access to hardware and services (rigs, frac spreads, services, competition)
 - Remoteness and distances to markets increase costs
- Low domestic gas prices in Eastern States
- Higher prices in Western Australia and proximity to export infrastructure improve commerciality chances
- Fluid disposal / environmental management
- Tax !!!



Taxation changes - proposed

- Current Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) is to be extended to all onshore and offshore oil, gas and coal seam methane projects (including the North West Shelf)
 – supplementing existing State Royalty.
- PRRT rate is to remain at 40%
- Credit for Royalties paid to State, Territory or Commonwealth Governments (unused balances compound at 7% p.a., but no transferability?).
- Start date of 1 July 2012
- Projects not previously under PRRT may elect for a 'market value' starting point.
- Company tax rate reduced to from 30% to 29% p.a. for 2013/14 income onwards.

Note:

- Australian constitution vests rights to all minerals and petroleum located onshore and in state waters to the States.
- Federal Govt. has no power to tax State minerals and petroleum, hence there may be a constitutional challenge.



Thank You Any Questions?



RISC - A leading independent advisor to the oil and gas industry

• RISC's consultants are highly experienced professionals

- The average experience of a RISC professional is in excess of 25 years in the upstream oil and gas industry
- The combined experience of our employees is equivalent to over 800 years of oil and gas industry knowledge
- Our professional disciplines bring together strategic, commercial and technical thinking to provide clients with value adding solutions
- **RISC continues to grow its international reach and expertise**
 - We are committed to expanding the geographic reach of our expertise to better serve our clients. From our Head Office in Perth we have expanded into Europe via our London office, and into Eastern Australia via our Brisbane office
 - The RISC group now offers Acquisitions and Divestitures advice, through RISC A+D, to our clients engaged in oil and gas transactions
- RISC is committed to delivering excellence and value to our clients through:
 - Understanding our clients' position and competitive advantages,
 - Integrating both strategic, commercial and technical considerations in providing our solutions
 - Identifying key uncertainties to develop effective risk management strategies



Long-recognised as the pre-eminent oil and gas consultancy in Asia, we are now an international consultancy of choice



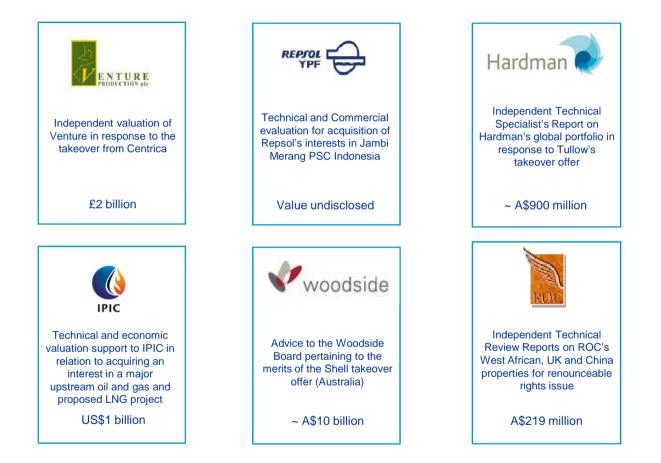


Our expertise covers all elements of the upstream oil and gas industry value chain

	Exploration & Appraisal			Development			Production		Market			
	Seismic Interpretation	Exploration & Drilling	Reserves Certification	Conventional / Alternative Resources	Concept Selection	Brown/Greenfield Dev.	Onshore/Offshore/LNG	Project Execution	Reservoir/Production Management	Australian DomGas market	International Oil markets	Asia-Pac LNG supply/demand
Geoscience and Geology	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	✓		✓	√			
Petroleum Engineering		✓	~	✓	~	✓	~	~	✓			
Facility Planning		✓	✓	✓	~	✓	\checkmark	✓	✓			
Commercial		✓	~		~	✓	\checkmark	✓	✓	✓	✓	\checkmark



A selection of our mandates include..



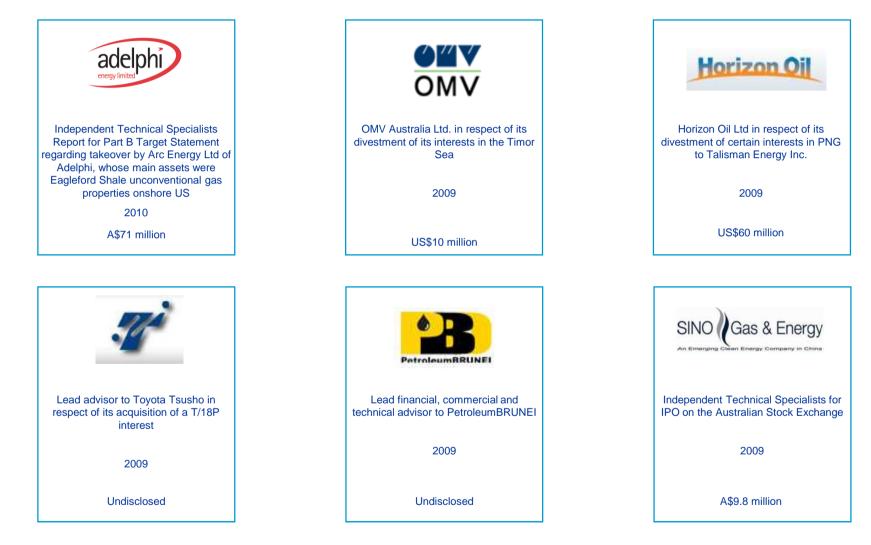


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