

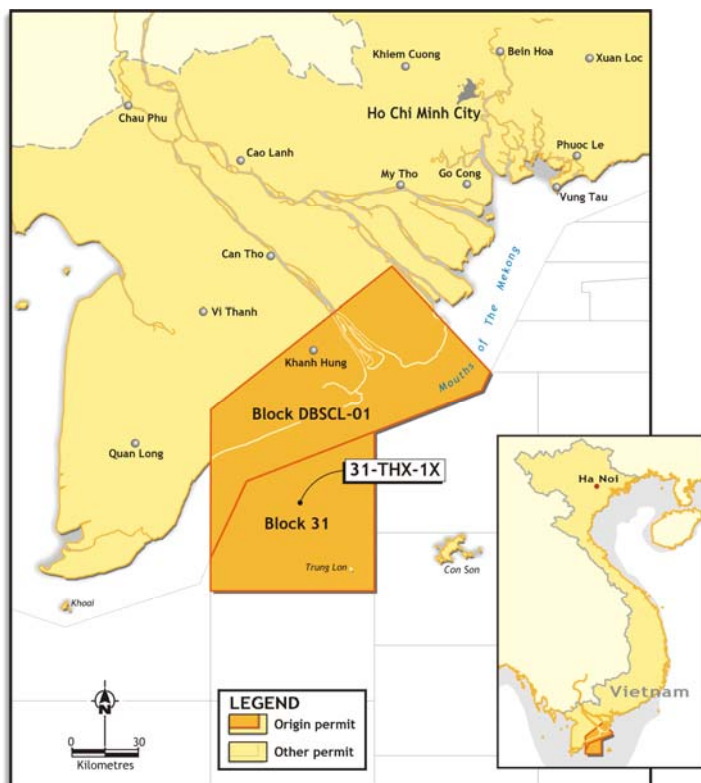


To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 135 638
Company	ASX Limited	Date	23 July 2010
From	Helen Hardy	Pages	2
Subject	TOM HUM XANH-1X EXPLORATION WELL PLUGGED AND ABANDONED		

Origin Energy Limited ("Origin") advises that Salamander Energy plc has provided the attached release regarding the Tom Hum Xanh-1X ("31-THX-1X") exploration well in Block 31, in the Vinh Chau Graben system, offshore southern Vietnam (see map below). The well forms part of a farm-in arrangement between Origin and Salamander announced to the ASX on 4 December 2009. Origin is earning a 25% interest in Block 31.

The well was drilled to its proposed total depth without encountering significant hydrocarbons and, following logging operations, has been plugged and abandoned as a dry hole.

Further details are contained in the attached release from Salamander.



Regards

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23 July 2010

Salamander Energy plc

Tom Hum Xanh-1X Exploration Well Plugged and Abandoned

Salamander Energy plc, the Asia focussed independent oil and gas exploration and production company, announces that it has plugged and abandoned the Tom Hum Xanh-1X ("31-THX-1X") exploration well in Block 31, in the Vinh Chau Graben system, offshore southern Vietnam.

The 31-THX-1X well has been drilled to a total true vertical depth subsea of 2,103 metres without encountering significant hydrocarbons in the target reservoir sections. Following the completion of wire-line logging operations, the well has been plugged and abandoned as a dry hole and the rig is currently being towed off location. Salamander entered into a farm out agreement with Origin Energy, announced in December 2009, which resulted in the Company retaining an operated 35% interest in the Block 31 PSC.

James Menzies, Chief Executive of Salamander, said:

"With an intensive exploration programme we expect some dry holes. Nevertheless we are disappointed that drilling in this frontier basin has not offered more encouragement. Salamander's drilling campaign will be moving on to the proven Kutei basin, offshore East Kalimantan, Indonesia."

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About Salamander

Salamander is an Asia focussed, independent, FTSE 250, upstream oil and gas exploration and production company. Salamander has a balanced portfolio of production, development and exploration assets with interests located in Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Lao PDR and the Philippines.