



3 January 2006



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OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL  
CORPORATE FINANCE

Securities and Exchange Commission  
Office of International Corporate Finance  
450 Fifth Street N.W.  
Washington DC 20549  
United States of America

SUPPL

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: WOODSIDE PETROLEUM LTD. - EXEMPTION FILE NO. 82.2280**

In accordance with Rule 12g 3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we enclose a copy of the following Stock Exchange Releases which has/have recently been filed with the Australian Stock Exchange ("ASX") in relation to:

- Drilling Report – Mauritania Offshore Drilling Update, lodged with the Australian Stock Exchange on 3 January 2006.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could return by fax (+61 8 9214 2728) a copy of this letter as proof of receipt.

Yours faithfully  
WOODSIDE PETROLEUM LTD.

Rebecca Sims  
Compliance Officer

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THOMSON  
FINANCIAL

*Handwritten signature/initials*

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

(ASX: WPL)

TUESDAY, 3 JANUARY 2006  
10:00AM (WST)



## MEDIA

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## Mauritania Offshore Drilling Update

Woodside Petroleum Ltd. reports the following activity by its wholly-owned subsidiaries Woodside Mauritania Pty. Ltd. and WEL Mauritania B.V. offshore Mauritania since the last report issued on 23 December 2005.

### PSC Area C, Block 6: Zoulé-1 Exploration Well

The 'Stena Tay' drill rig resumed exploration drilling for Woodside Operated Joint Ventures in Mauritania.

The Zoulé-1 exploration well was spudded on 25 December 2005 in a water depth of 783 metres and drilled to a depth of 2,628 metres where 9<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inch casing was set. At midnight on 2 January 2006, preparations were underway to commence drilling an 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch hole to the Cretaceous objective. Zoulé-1 has a planned total depth of approximately 3,730 metres.

### General

All reported drilling depths are referenced to the rig rotary table and all times are Universal Time (UTC) (Mauritanian time).

The locations of planned exploration wells and the Chinguetti Oil Field are shown on the attached map.

Participating Interests in the Chinguetti Joint Venture and relevant PSC areas are:

Company	Chinguetti Joint Venture	PSC-A	PSC-B	PSC-C, Block 6
Woodside group companies (Operator)	47.38448%	53.846%	53.846%	37.578%
Hardman group companies	19.00800%	24.3%	21.6%	22.422%
Société Mauritanienne des Hydrocarbures [formerly GPC]	12.00000%	--	--	--
BG group companies	10.23440%	13.084%	11.63%	--
Premier group companies	8.12328%	--	9.231%	--
ROC Oil group companies	3.24984%	4.155%	3.693%	5.0%
Fusion group companies	--	4.615%	--	--
Petronas Carigali Overseas Sdn Bhd	--	--	--	35.0%

