

**WOODSIDE**

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OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL  
CORPORATE FINANCE

17 January 2006



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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 17 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**

MP PROCESSED

JAN 30 2006

THOMSON  
FINANCIAL

*Handwritten signature/initials*  
JAN 30

**WOODSIDE PETROLEUM LTD.**

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Telephone: (08) 9348 4000. Facsimile: (08) 9325 8178.

**ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**  
(ASX: WPL)

TUESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2006  
10:15AM (WST)



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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 10 January 2006.

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

Analysis of wireline logs and other data indicated that no significant hydrocarbons were encountered in the Zoulé-1 exploration well. The well was plugged and abandoned by the 'Stena Tay' drill rig on 13 January 2006. The rig then moved to the Doré-1 exploration well location in PSC Area B.

**PSC Area B: Doré-1 Exploration Well**

The Doré-1 exploration well was spudded on 16 January 2006. The well is located approximately 19 kilometres east of the Tiof oil discovery in a water depth of 387 metres. At midnight the well had reached a depth of 472 metres. Doré-1 has a planned total depth of approximately 2,388 metres.

Following the Doré-1 well, the 'Stena Tay' will be released from Mauritania. The 'Atwood Hunter' drill rig has been contracted for drilling campaigns in Mauritania in 2006 and 2007 and is due to arrive in Mauritania in the second quarter of 2006.

**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%

