

SUMMARY OF THE EXPLORATION STATUS OF THE FARMOUT AREAS,  
T14P AND T18P, BASS BASIN, TASMANIA.

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Previous Exploration

In 1962, B.H.P. commenced the first regional seismic survey and to date fourteen seismic surveys, comprising some 16,000 km have been conducted in the Bass Basin. The most recent seismic work, the BCS 81 (T14P) and BBS 81 (T18P) surveys of 550km and 730km respectively, were shot by Cue Minerals N.L. and Bass Strait Oil & Gas N.L. in 1981. These surveys were of a regional nature and tied most of the wells in the basin. There is now a less than 4km grid seismic coverage, on average, over T14P and T18P.

Between 1965 and 1973, seventeen wells were drilled. Ten of the wells are located within the area now covered by T14P and T18P.

The seismic and drilling has provided considerable data concerning hydrocarbon potential of the basin. Fig. 1 is a location map and shows the generalised structure at the top of the main reservoir unit (Eastern View Group). The basin has a N.W. to N.N.W. orientation. The basin is bounded by basement (granitic) highs which separate it to the east, from the Gippsland Basin, and to the west, from the Otway Basin. Although these three basins have a similar stratigraphic history, differing structural and exploration histories must be invoked to account for the prolific oil and gas production in Gippsland, compared to the lack of success, to date, in Bass and Otway.