

CONCLUSIONS

(a) Plays

The principle exploration target in Bass Basin has been the Upper Cretaceous to Eocene Top Eastern View Group, which is equivalent to the Latrobe Group clastic sequence in the Gippsland Basin. No hydrocarbons have been encountered at the Top Eastern View. Oil has been recovered from the sand prone Middle Eocene and gas and condensate (with large in place volumes) from the shale-prone Lower Eocene and Paleocene. The Base Tertiary play has received no attention by past explorers. With the very good potential for an Upper Cretaceous oil source as in Gippsland, this farmout package emphasises the Base Tertiary play which comprises Upper Cretaceous reservoir and source and Base Tertiary seal. Further in our opinion no well has tested a Top Eastern View (top porosity) closure.

(b) Structure

The basin is a structurally simple elongated depression with most wells having been located on normal fault blocks in the deeper parts of the basin. With two possible exceptions, no compressional features have been tested. We have mapped three compressional features in the southern part of T18P. These could be attractive as the Top Latrobe structural style is one of compressional anticlines.

(c) Reservoir

The Top Eastern View comprises high porosity, sands (high twenties) with net sand to gross section ranges from 40 to 90% and many sand bodies in excess of 100ft. The Lower Eocene and Paleocene is shale prone with considerable volumes of gas and condensate trapped in overpressured sands. This section appears to form a barrier to vertical migration of hydrocarbons to the top porosity near the basin deep. This is not the case nearer the margins where net sand increases to 30% and more above the Mid Paleocene. The Upper Cretaceous has only been encountered near the basin margins where it is sand prone. Porosities are