VALDERA RESOURCES
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20 June 2003

Australian Stock Exchange
Company Announcements
20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000

DRILLING PROGRAMME AND MERGER UPDATE

Drilling to Commence in July 2003

The Board of Directors of Valdera Resources Limited (to be renamed Golden Gate Petroleum Limited) are pleased to announce that Golden Gate now has an indicative timetable for the drilling program for its Padre Island Project. The Company intends to participate in all new wells planned for drilling by its partner operators in the shallow, deep and ultra-deep plays. Most importantly, as a result of restructuring of joint venture arrangements, the Company will have exposure to drilling at all depths with less onerous funding commitments than originally negotiated.

The Company expects to participate in three possibly four wells in the remainder of 2003 with a further eight wells planned in 2004.

This outcome is exciting given the current and seemingly sustainable strength in the United States gas market.

Padre Island Joint Venture

Since Valdera commenced negotiations to merge with Golden Gate there has been significant restructuring of the Padre Island Joint Venture including BP North America securing an option to farm into what is now known as the ultra-deeps. This has resulted in the original joint venture effectively splitting into three separate joint ventures based upon the operational play types, Shallows, Deeps and Ultra-Deeps. (*See Notes to Editors below for definition of Shallows, Deeps and Ultra-Deeps).*

The restructure of the Padre Island Joint Venture has also resulted in the appointment of different operator at each depth to more effectively take advantage of each joint venture partner's expertise and capabilities. This will mean BNP Petroleum will focus on the drilling of the Shallows, Novus Petroleum will operate the Deeps and BP Petroleum the Ultra-Deeps. Golden Gate is the only party that will participate in all three joint ventures.

The final result of the restructure is that Golden Gate retains its 10% working interest across the Shallow and Deep zone plays and has an effective 2.25% free carry interest in all future wells to be drilled in the Ultra-Deeps by BP. Significantly, BP's farm in agreement to carry all its technical, drilling and completion costs through to recovery from initial production, means Golden Gate will not risk any of its own capital in exploring these high cost but potentially high reward (1 to 3 tcf) prospects.

See Table 1 in Notes to the Editors below for a more detailed explanation of joint venture arrangements.

Drilling Programme in More Detail

The first well to be drilled and evaluated will be the shallow play 'Jack Frost' by operator BNP Petroleum. This is expected to spud in July 2003 and pre-drill potential reserves are estimated to be in the order of 5-15 billion cubic feet. The well is likely to be followed by another shallow play 'Dancer' with similar estimated reserves.

In their detailed 2 June 2003 announcement, Novus Petroleum (ASX: NVS) notes that in the Deep section of Padre Island, the company has identified 15-20 prospects and leads. Novus states that pre-drilling estimates across this portfolio are typically in the range of 100 to 600 billion cubic feet with upside (if all factors are favourable) in excess of 1 trillion cubic feet. Novus says it has set a target to drill and evaluate six (6) wells by the end of 2004 and to test two by the end of 2003.

Also by the end of 2003, BP will complete its technical work over phases 1 and 2 of the Padre Island leasehold areas (estimated value to the JV is US$10,000,000), and may well start the drilling of Ultra Deep prospects on these leases.

Production Update

To date three wells have been drilled in the Padre Island Project with all three wells being discoveries. Two of the discoveries, LaPlaya and West Bird are now in production. LaPlaya commenced commercial production in March 2003 within three months of discovery and West Bird in April 2003 within six months of discovery. Gross production to the joint venturers is now around 4.6 million cubic feet per day. On the basis of a gas price around US$6.00 per mcf (thousand cubic feet) and an exchange rate of A$1.00 = US$0.65, the Company's share of gross monthly revenue will exceed A$95,000.

This initial commercial success is important as it demonstrates how rapidly high margin cash flow can be generated from discoveries. This source of funding currently covers the Company's overheads allowing new capital and the Company's existing cash reserves to be utilised in drilling value adding prospects.

Merger Progress

A special meeting of shareholders of Golden Gate Resources Limited on 11 June 2003 approved the merger with Valdera Resources Limited. As per the terms of the merger Valdera will now complete a fund raising under prospectus. The Company will issue up to five (5) million shares at 20 cents each with one (1) free option (on the same terms as existing options) to raise a minimum of $200,000 and up to $1,000,000. Siafu Securities Pty Ltd has been appointed Manager to the Issue.

Post the successful completion of the capital raising, the merged entity to be known as "Golden Gate Petroleum Limited" is expected to be re-quoted on the Australian Stock Exchange in late July 2003 under the ASX ticker **GGP**.

Please note the Power Point to be presented to brokers and interested parties in relation to the Padre Island Project is attached to this announcement.

Yours faithfully

Mark Freeman
Company Secretary

Please address all enquires to either:

Valdera Resources Limited

Mr Sam Russotti
02 6587 4348

Siafu Securities Pty Ltd
General Manager
Mr Greg Evans
08 9224 6828

See notes to the editors attached below
Notes to the Editor

About Padre Island Joint Venture

- The principal asset of Golden Gate is a 10% participating interest in the Padre Island Joint Venture ("**PI JV**"). Padre Island is a large sand barrier, located along the western coastline of Texas on the Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf of Mexico is a proven hydrocarbon area that produces around 24% of the total gas consumed in North America.

- The joint venture consists of BNP Petroleum (a private Texas corporation), Novus Petroleum (an ASX listed company), Mitsui Oil (a subsidiary of the giant Mitsui Corporation) and Golden Gate (10%), with BP North America farming in to carry the Ultra-Deep drilling programme in the Phase 1 and 2 lease areas covering approximately one half of the total Padre Island project area.

RESTRUCTURED PADRE ISLAND JOINT VENTURE PARTICIPATING INTERESTS

	GOLDEN GATE	NOVUS	MITSUI	BNP	BP
La Playa field (local private company KCS has a 20% interest)	10%	30%	15%	25%	
West Bird field	10%	40%	20%	30%	
Shallow leases over 6 specific areas (Jack Frost, Hook, Fault/County Line, El Mar, Peach/Manzano, Shallow and Lemon	10%			90%	
Lemon Seed prospect (deep)	10%	40%	20%	30%	
Ultra deep sections	10%	40%	20%	30%	
Ultra deep discovery developed by BP in the Phase 1 & 2 lease areas	2.25%	Variable	Variable	7.75%	76-80%
All other leases (including all identified deep prospects excluding Lemon Seed; the balance of the shallow leases excluding those noted above; the Tomato gas field; and the ultra-deep section outside the BP farmin AMI which coincides with seismic phases 1 & 2.	10%	70%	20%		

- The PI JV has multiple play types including smaller, low risk, shallow prospects and larger, deeper prospects which have seen little drilling attention.

- Advancement of 3D seismic has allowed the imaging of deeper larger targets analogous to areas of high activity and exploration success in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.

- Extensive 3D seismic and interpretation work undertaken by the PI JV to date has identified 33 prospects (excluding the Ultra-Deep section) that are now ready for drilling.

- The Joint Venture's neighbours around Padre Island include industry majors Woodside, El Paso, Santos and Spinnaker Oil.

<u>United States Gas Market</u>

- The United States is the biggest gas market in the world, larger than the next eight biggest gas-consuming nations combined.

- The United States consumed 22 trillion cubic feet ("**tcf**") per annum in 2002 and this is expected to increase to 30 tcf by 2015. By way of comparison in 2002 Western Australia's North West Gas Shelf Venture produced approximately 0.8 tcf.

- Gas producers in the US enjoy high prices (currently around US$5.80 per mcf compared to approximately US$1.45 per mcf in Australia), modest corporate tax rates, wide-ranging exploration allowances and comparatively low drilling and other onshore services costs.

- Gas produced in the region is connected into the gas grid of Southern Texas through a working gas-gathering pipeline system on Padre Island. The pipeline system, which has significant unused capacity, is a common carrier available to all gas producers and will allow any new discoveries to be commercialised rapidly.

<u>Definitions of Play Types and Operators</u>

Shallows: Targets to 11,000 to 12,000 feet BNP will pursue as operator.

Deeps: Targets deeper than 11,000 to 12,000 feet Novus will pursue as operator, except, in the Phase 1 and 2 lease areas where Novus will only pursue targets to 15,000 feet (with the exclusion of 6 defined deeper targets), and thereafter BP will pursue the ultra deep targets.

Ultra Deeps: Below 15,000 feet in the Phase 1 and 2 lease areas subject to the exclusions. NB: Below 15,000 to 20,000 feet the geology changes and high pressures and temperatures could lead to very high drilling costs. This ultra deep acreage has been farmed out to BP who will be conducting the exploration of these ultra deep prospects as operator and recovering its costs out of the production from any discoveries made.

Golden Gate Petroleum Limited

An exciting gas exploration and production story in the Gulf of Mexico

Key attributes

- Production and cashflow.
- No net debt
- Strong partners.
- Substantial acreage position in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Exposure to the world's largest gas market, with strong pricing dynamics
- Exciting new play type resulting from new technology
- High success rates established and expected.
- Proven hydrocarbon province.
- Large inventory of prospects and leads.
- Golden Gate the only partner with access to all play types.
- BP North America to carry ultra deep plays.
- Risked net prospect reserves over A$500 million.
- Leveraged exposure to high impact exploration program

United States – the world's largest gas market

- Huge demand and limited supply underpins high prices.
- Consumed 22 tcf in 2002; expected to consume 30 tcf per annum by 2015. The North West Shelf Venture produced 0.8 tcf in 2002.
- The US market is larger than the next 8 biggest gas consuming nations combined.
- Demand/supply gap forcing exploitation of expensive gas reserves from Canadian Arctic and Alaska, and increased LNG imports.
- US gas price forecast to be US$4/mcf to US$6/mcf, with spot prices over US$6/mcf. Australian prices are approx A$2.50/mcf or US$1.50/mcf.
- The current tight balance was recently highlighted by Fed Chairman, Alan Greenspan
- Almost every major oil company has an exposure and wants to expand within this market. High anticipated returns have attracted Australian companies such as Woodside, Santos and Novus to pursue US gas exploration strategies.

Gulf of Mexico – a proven hydrocarbon zone with a high exploratory success rate in new geological play types

- One quarter of gas consumed in the US sourced from the Gulf of Mexico (around 5tcf).
- While shallow plays have been heavily exploited, deeper targets are under-explored.
- Advances in 3D-seismic now allowing imaging of deeper, usually larger, targets.

Geological settings on the west coast analogous to play types successfully explored in shallow and deep water on the east coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

Golden Gate – early entrants in exciting exploration play

The JV was able to develop this position because it recognised:

- fresh exploration potential along the western margins of the Gulf of Mexico
- the ability of modern 3D seismic to unlock the new plays (particularly deeper)
- how to handle permitting issues in the Padre Island area.

Working on this strategy since 1998, the JV Has acquired exclusive 3D seismic coverage and a dominant acreage and seismic position over 4 phases of activity.

Golden Gate – playing with the big boys as early entrants into this exciting exploration play

PADRE ISLAND PROJECT PARTICIPATING INTERESTS					
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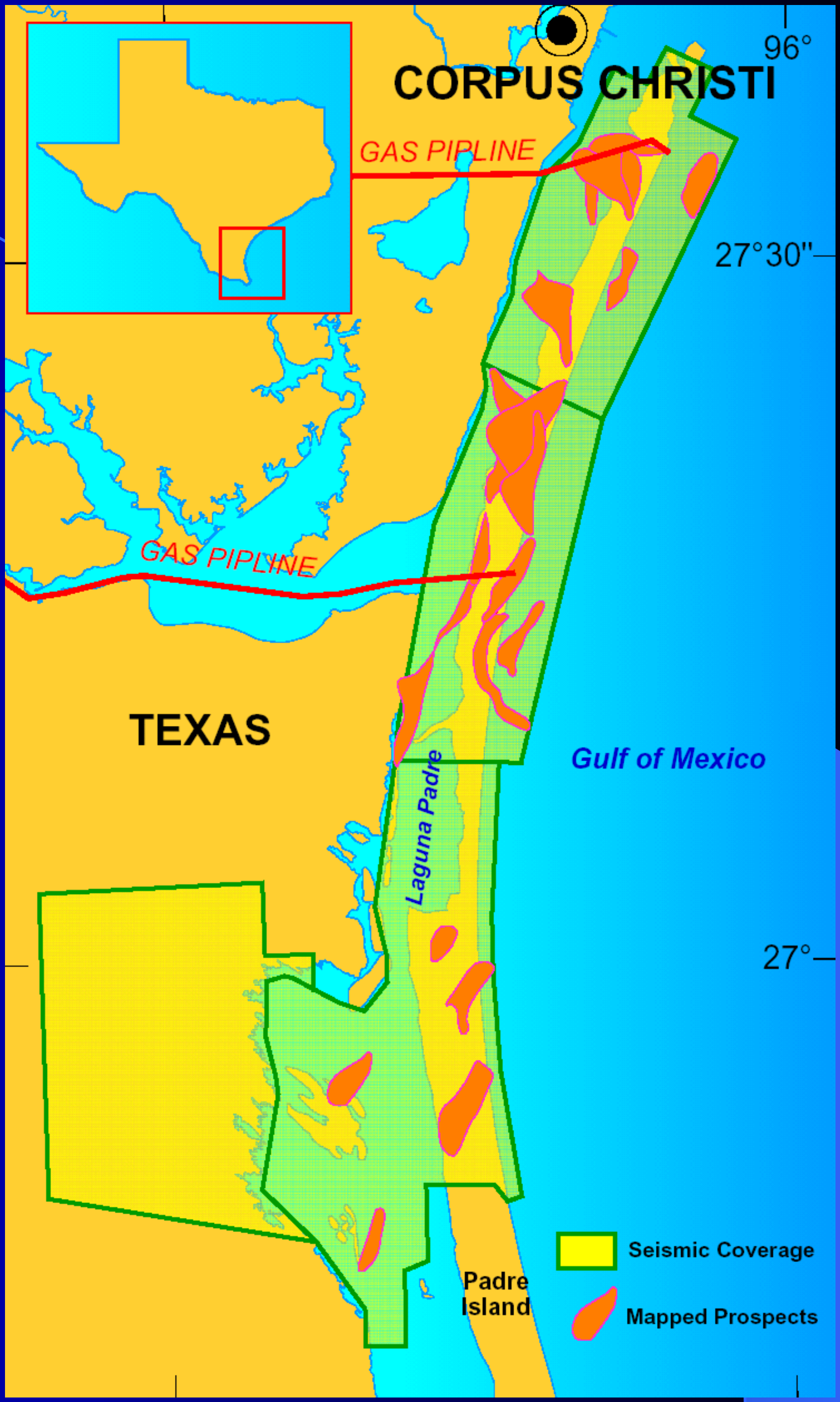
All other leases (including all identified deep prospects excluding Lemon Seed;	10%	70%	20%		
the balance of the shallow leases excluding those noted above; the Tomato gas field;					
and the ultra-deep section outside the BP farmin AMI which coincides with seismic phases 1 & 2.					

Substantial Acreage Position

142 drilling leases
27,300 hectares
option for 12,100 hectares

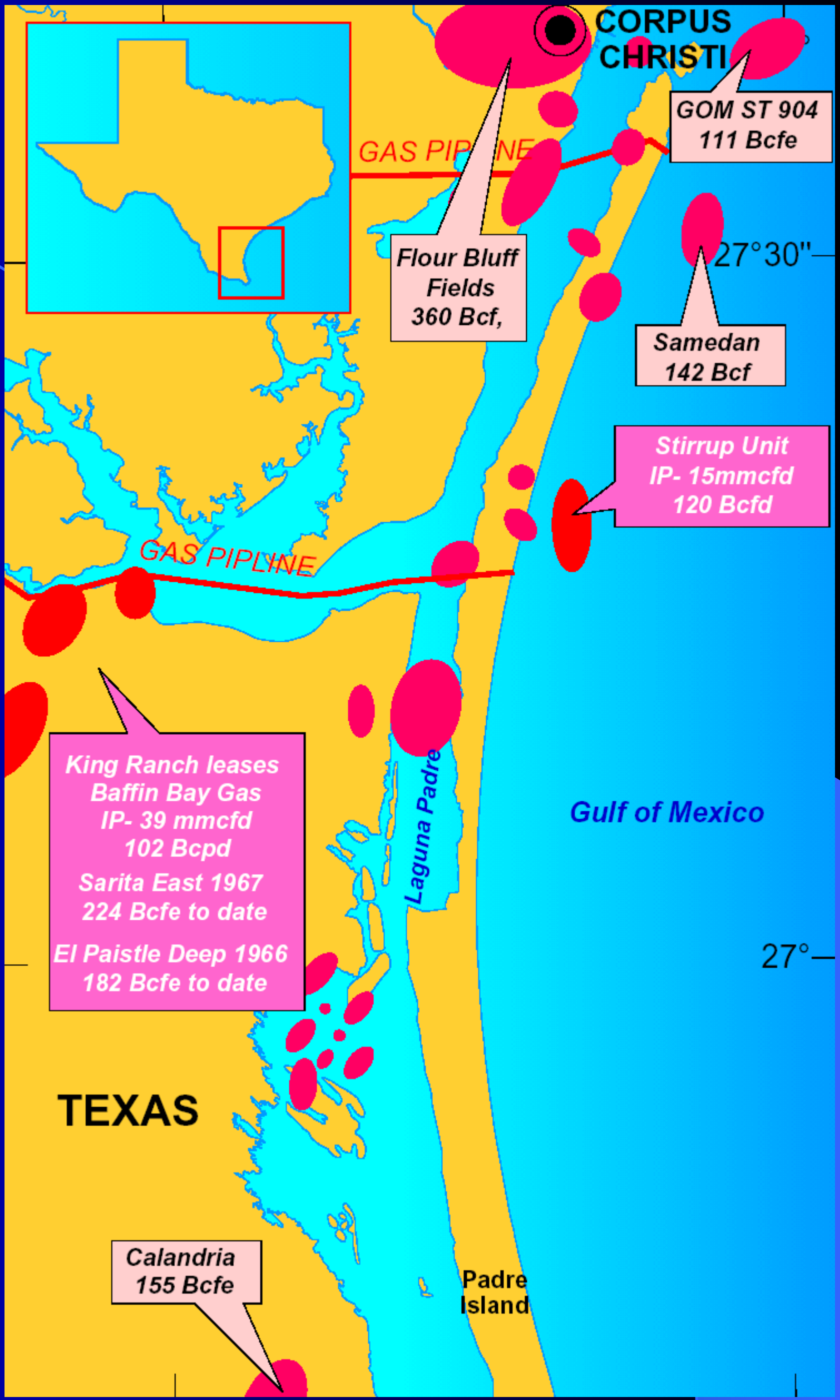
Extensive Modern 3D Seismic

processing 124,000 hectares
option for 44,000 hectares



Nearby success in the Gulf of Mexico

- Immediately west and east of the Padre Island project area, gas discoveries have been recently made in similar deeper plays.
- ExxonMobil has at least three discoveries within its onshore King Ranch leases which have produced over 400 Bcf to date at rates up to 218 mmcf/d (80 bcf pa). The King Ranch leases are ExxonMobil's biggest gas producers.
- Spinnaker's Stirrup discovery lies only 4 km from the JV leases and hosts reserves around 150-200 bcf currently producing at 15 mmcf/d.
- Woodside Petroleum recently farmed into permits adjacent to the JV area. Woodside is to spend US$55 million to earn 50% of acreage that is smaller and offshore Padre Island. One quarter of Woodside's 2003 exploration budget is committed to this play.



Padre Island Project - progress

- Three wells were drilled during 2002, with 100% success rate:
  - La Playa-1 - encountered numerous gas bearing zones across a large interval. The well is producing 2.6mmcfpd.
  - Dunn Murdock-1 Shallow gas discovered. Well failed to test targeted deeper prospect.
  - West Bird-1 – drilled in the lagoon from a barge rig. The well is producing 2mmcfpd.

- A large inventory of high quality gas prospects that are mature for drilling.
- Current production of 4.6mmcfp/d generating revenue of around US$10 million pa at current prices.
- Ultra deeps farmed out to BP in return for their technical analysis and then free carry through any exploration and development that results.
- Padre Island JV now re-structured into three parts to optimise pursuit of shallow prospects by BNP, deep prospects by Novus, and the ultra deep prospects by BP.
- Novus is presently seeking to farm out the deep section.

Rapid commercialization

- Padre Island contains a network of common carrier pipeline infrastructure with spare system capacity estimated at around 150 mmcfpd.
- Two major pipelines owned by HPL and Duke Energy traverse the island and are connected into the Texas state grid.
- Spare capacity and the pipeline proximity allow new gas discoveries to be connected and brought on stream rapidly.
- Gas can be readily sold into deep markets, at prices linked to regional benchmarks
- The JV's La Playa discovery was commercialized within 3 months of discovery while West Bird was commercialised within 6 months.

Inventory of drillable prospects – balanced portfolio of low through high risk/reward targets

Depth	Prospects	Golden Gate Interest	Estimated Reserves Potential	Operator	Probability of Success	Average Projected Well Cost to GG
Shallow to 12,000 feet	16	10%	5-25 bcf	BNP	60-80%	US$200,000
Deeper than 12,000 feet	8	10%	30-800 bcf	Novus	20-50%	US$600,000
Deeper than 15,000 feet	9	10%	200-900 bcf	Novus	20-40%	US$1,700,000
Ultra Deep	?	2.25%	1 tcf – 3 tcf	BP	?	US$0 (free carried)

- The extensive 3D seismic data has yielded an inventory of 33 prospects and a further 18 leads over 3 separate play types, excluding ultra deep plays to be developed and carried by BP.
- These 33 prospects are estimated to host unrisked mean resouce potential of 6.5 tcf. Risked these are calculated at 2.2 tcf.
- The JV anticipates drilling five to six wells a year, plus any ultra-deep wells BP may elect to drill.
- Golden Gate expects to participate in three more wells this year - Jack Frost, Dancer and Home Run

Ultra Deep farm out to BP – free carried exposure to high impact drilling with a strong partner

- BP is the largest producer of oil and gas in North America and arguably the most successful explorer in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico.
- BP require an potential EMV (Estimated Monetary Value) of US$1 billion plus for new ventures.
- BP has paid the JV a US$2 million option fee and, using the most advanced technical systems in the world, it will perform pre-drilling technical work at its own cost estimated to be worth US$10 million to the JV.
- The JV retains rights to all technical work performed by BP.
- BP will be able to explore selected ultra-deep prospects within the Padre Island lease areas.
- The JV participants will be free-carried through all costs up to the production stage and retain 25% of their respective existing interest. In Golden Gates' case, its working interest in the ultra-deep section will be 2.25% carried into production.
- The BP deal endorses the prospectivity of the acreage and its huge potential. It gives the JV exposure to the massive exploration upside in the ultra-deep section without risking its own capital.

Golden Gate – leveraged exposure to exploration

Potential impact of discoveries on share price

- Based on US$1.50/mcf for in ground gas reserves and based on independent analysis, Golden Gate’s risked resource potential (222 bcf) has an NPV of US$333m (A$500m), equal to $3.20 per share fully diluted.
- A 10 bcf discovery in a shallow prospect such as Jack Frost or Dancer would be worth around A$2.2m to Golden Gate (@ US$1.50/mcf).
- In the upcoming drilling of Home Run, a 200 bcf discovery would be worth $0.30 per share, or a 800 bcf discovery worth $1.20 per share.
- Should BP elect to drill one or more Ultra Deep wells, GG would be free carried through wells with the potential to add $0.30-1.00ps to GG’s valuation.
- At today’s gas price of US$6.00/mcf, each additional discovery producing say 2.0 mmcfpd (gross) would generate incremental revenue of A$0.5m per annum net to GG.

** Assuming exchange rate of USD0.67 = AUD1.00*

Golden Gate – becoming self funding

Capital Structure (post issue)

117 million shares

21 million listed options (at 65 cents by Dec 06)

13 million unlisted options (mostly at 30 cents by June 06)

Pro-forma Balance Sheet (as at May 2003)	
Project Expenditure	A$11.9 million
Net Working Capital	A$ 1.4 million
Net Assets	A$13.3 million

- The JV is already producing an average 4.6 mmcf/day from two shallow wells.
- At today's gas price of US$6.00/mcf, current production of 4.6 mmcf/day (gross) will generate revenue of over AU$1 million on an annual basis. This covers Golden Gate's operating costs.
- Our target is for the JV to drill six wells a year. If this is split into four shallow wells (US$2m each) and two deeper wells (US$6m each) the total cost would be US$20m pa, or US$2m net to GG.
- At current gas prices gross production of 15 mmcf/day would make Golden Gate self funding. That level of production may be achieved by three or four additional discoveries in the shallow prospects or by one discovery in the deep prospects.

Board and Management

Salvatore (Sam) Russotti (executive director)

- 30 years experience as a geologist in the petroleum Industry
- Executive Director of Golden Gate since May 2001
- 10 years general and finance manager of Cultus Petroleum
- 3 years planning manager of Peko Oil Ltd.

Craig Burton (non executive director)

- Founder and Principal of Verona Capital focused on financing and managing resource projects
- Director of Exco Resources NL and Rewards Group Limited
- Corporate Solicitor with hands on financing experience in Australia and Canada
- Previous exposure to a wide range of natural resource projects.

Francesco (Frank) Petruzzelli (non executive director)

- Principal of Australian accounting firm MDB & Co
- Director of Golden Gate since May 2001
- Specialist adviser to ASX listed and private organisations
- Expertise in accounting and management services.

(One new director with oil industry and financial market experience to be appointed in due course.)