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Monday, 21 February 2011

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COAL SEAM GAS:**WestSide spuds Meridian well**

Monday, 21 February 2011

DRILLING has commenced on WestSide Corporation's MER03X exploration well in PL-94, near Moura in Queensland.

The Dominion Drilling DR02 rig will drill the exploration corehole to a depth of 465 metres, targeting the Baralaba coal measures and Kaloola formation.

Core samples will be sent to BJ Services in the USA for fracture stimulation testing.

The well is the sixth in an exploration program aimed at increasing the Meridian SeamGas joint venture's proved and probable reserves by up to 200 petajoules.

Meanwhile, the MER08V appraisal well, which reached its target depth of 641m at the end of January, has intersected the Baralaba coal measures and Kaloola formation with total net coal measured exceeding 15m.

The thickness of the previously ignored upper V and Y seams intersected by the well were in line with expectations, and will help increase Meridian's reserves.

Observation and step rate tests are now underway on the seams, after which the well will be cased as a future producer.

It was not all good news, however, as WestSide's MERV11V well which was drilled to 815.95m has become unstable. The well is currently being plugged and abandoned.

WestSide holds a 51% interest in the Meridian SeamGas CSG fields, with Mitsui E&P Australia holding the remaining 49%.

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