



# **Investor Update January 2009**

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These factors include, among other things, commercial and other risks associated with estimation of potential hydrocarbon resources, the meeting of objectives and other investment considerations, as well as other matters not yet known to the Company or not currently considered material by the Company.

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## **Corporate Snapshot**

ASX Code		MEO
Founded	Year	1994
IPO	Year	1998
Issued Capital	million	417.3
Last price (14-Jan)	A\$	\$0.27
Market Cap	A\$m	\$113
Cash (31-Dec-08)	A\$m	\$29
Options (unlisted)	million	15.7
Top 20 shareholders	%	42.4%



Chairman Nick Heath Appointed May'08

Managing Director (&CEO) Jürgen Hendrich Appointed CEO Jun'08, MD Jul'08

Non-Executive Director Greg Short Appointed Jul'08

Non-Executive Director Michael Sweeney Appointed Oct'08

Non-Executive Director Stephen Hopley Appointed Oct'08



### Substantially enhanced value proposition

#### New board of directors

- Well credentialed, diversity of disciplines
- Orderly succession planning

#### **Increased management depth**

Broadened depth commensurate with enhanced activity & ambitions

#### Enhanced project depth and potential

- Declared 2x gas discoveries in Bonaparte Basin (MEO Operator)
  - Requires further appraisal likely in 2010
- Added highly prospective Carnarvon Basin permits (MEO Operator)
  - Defining substantial prospectivity in WA-360-P independent of Zeus

#### New alliances

- Engaged industry in Carnarvon Basin farm-out process
- Engaging major custodians of stranded 3<sup>rd</sup> party gas in Bonaparte Basin

### Well placed to weather financial storm

- Actively generating high quality prospects
- High levels of equity in quality projects facilitates farm-out
- A\$29m cash at 31-December-2008



# Completely new board

Position	Name	Appointed	History
Chairman	Nick Heath	12 <sup>th</sup> May '08	Chemical Engineer, >30 yrs ExxonMobil, Former chairman APPEA
Managing Director	Jürgen Hendrich	25 <sup>th</sup> July '08	Petroleum Geologist (12 yrs, ExxonMobil) & Investment Banking (12 yrs)
Non-Exec Director	Greg Short	14 <sup>th</sup> July '08	Geologist, 33 yrs with ExxonMobil. Extensive international experience
Non-Exec Director	Michael Sweeney	1st Oct '08	Barrister, 10 yrs with MiMi
Non-Exec Director	Stephen Hopley	1st Oct '08	Financial Services, Macquarie Bank (14yrs) Retired '03



# **Expanded management capability**

Position	Name	Appointed	History
CEO	Jürgen Hendrich	16 <sup>th</sup> June '08	Petroleum Geologist (12 yrs, ExxonMobil) & Investment Banking (12 yrs)
CFO /Co. Secretary	Colin Naylor	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb '07	FCPA >30yrs Woodside (11yrs) BHP (5yrs) Rio Tinto (7yrs)
Implementation Manager	Ken Hendrick	1 <sup>st</sup> July '06	Project Manager/Civil Engineer >40 yrs Fluor, ExxonMobil, International resource companies
Development Engineering Manager	John Robert	1 <sup>st</sup> July '01	Chemical Engineer/Economist >40 yrs Qenos (ex APC 7yrs), AusTrade, methanol co's Davy John Brown & Kvaerner (>15 yrs)
Exploration Manager	Dave Maughan	5 <sup>th</sup> August '08	Geologist 33 yrs ExxonMobil. Extensive international experience.
Commercial Manager	Robert Gard	10 <sup>th</sup> Nov '08	Mechanical/Electrical Engineer >22 yrs ExxonMobil. Gas marketing, business analysis, planning, sub-surface engineering



## Targeting gas in established LNG provinces

### **Bonaparte Basin**

Tassie Shoal (50%-90%)
Approved GTL Projects

**Environmental Approvals EPBC Act (1999) (til 2052)** 

TS Methanol Project 2 x 1.75 Mtpa plants (50/50 JDA with APCI)

TSLNG Project 1 x 3 Mtpa plant (90%) NT/P68 (90%-100%) 12,070 km<sup>2</sup>

Heron North (90%) Gas Discovery

Blackwood (100%) Gas Discovery

Heron South Prospect

**Epenarra Prospect** 

#### **Carnaryon Basin**

WA-361-P (35%)

WA-360-P (60-70%) Drill/drop 31-Dec-09 WA-359-P (60-70%) Drill/drop 31-Dec-09

Zeus Prospect (>15 Tcf GIP)

Artemis Prospect (>5 Tcf GIP)

**Hephaestus Lead** 

Heracles Lead (2+ Tcf GIP)

West Zeus Lead

**Hephaestus Lead** 

Lady Nora - extn

West Zeus - Lead

Eris Lead

**Hebe Lead** 

**Amphion Lead** 

Ersa Lead

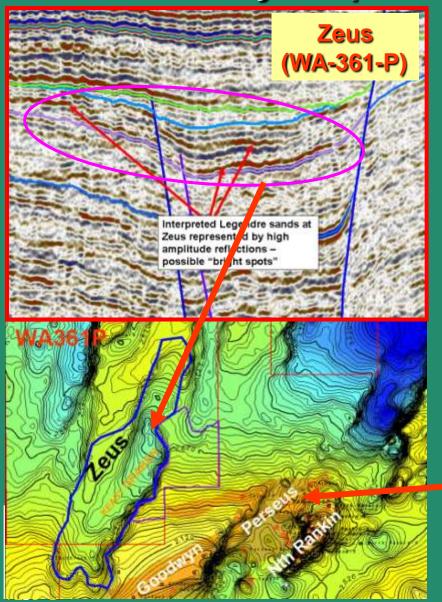
**Pandia Lead** 

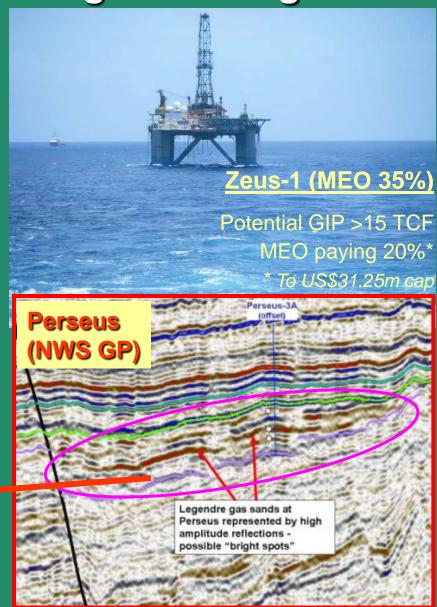
1x existing LNG Train - 3.7 Mtpa

5x existing LNG trains - 16.3 Mtpa
1x under construction LNG train - 4.3 Mtpa



# Zeus Play – a potential 'game changer'

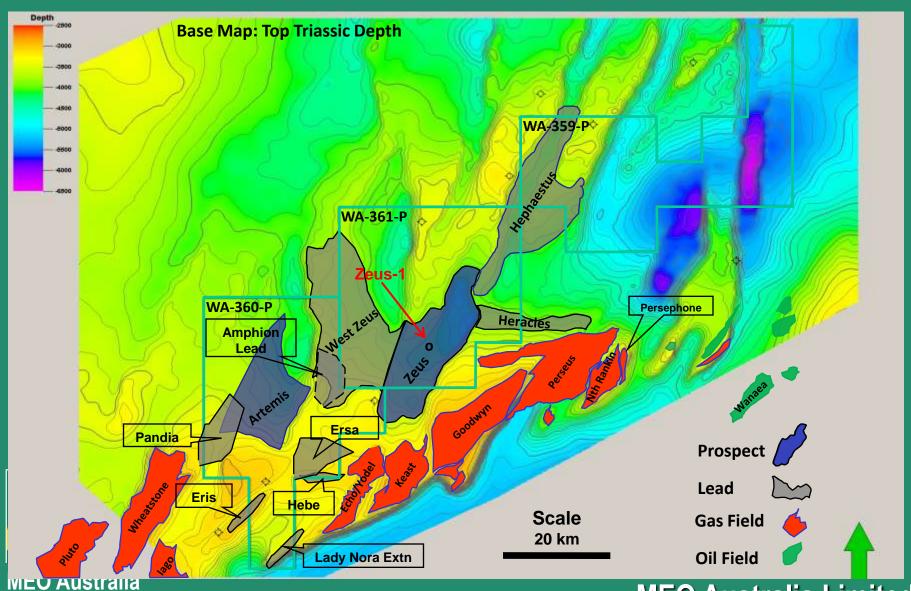




**MEO** Australia

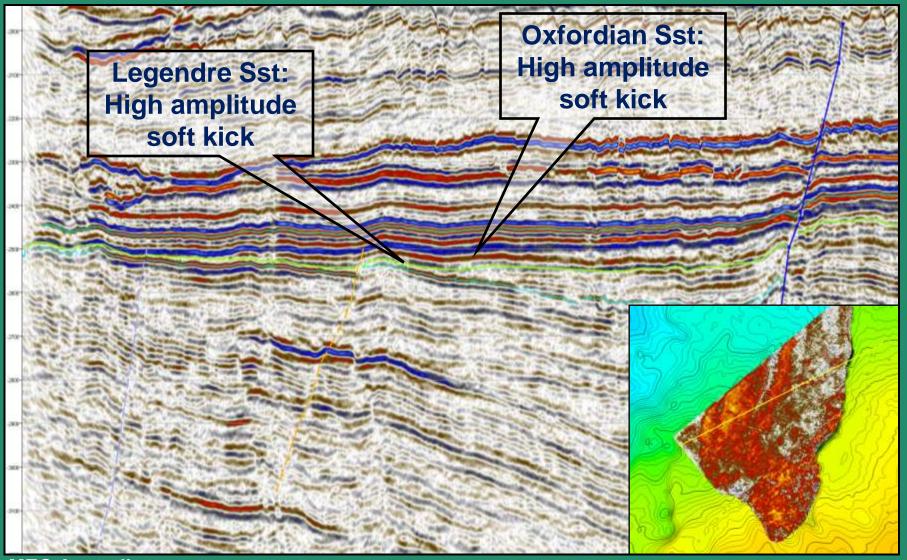
# **Carnarvon Basin Prospects**

- Substantial identified prospectivity independent of Zeus



# **Artemis Prospect**

AVO supported seismic amplitudes conformable with structure
 Additional 3D seismic planned 1H'09



**MEO Australia** 

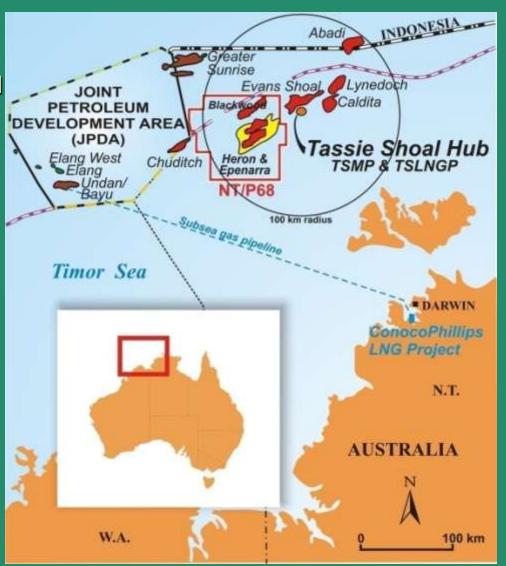
# Bonaparte Basin – CO<sub>2</sub> challenged gas

#### **Commercial impediments**

- Gas quality: Dry, Dirty (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Location: Distant, Deep, Disputed
- JV issues: Dysfunctional
- Single project vs regional Hub

#### MEO's solution

- Tassie Shoal the future hub
  - CO<sub>2</sub> converted to methanol
  - Proximal to gas discoveries
  - Avoids expensive gas pipelines
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> party gas welcome
  - Undisputed Australian waters
- Low cost development
  - Pre-fabricate in SE Asia
  - Pre-commission
  - Tow to site Tassie Shoal
  - Simple de-commissioning





### Methanol – a CO<sub>2</sub> sink

Carbon Sequestration by Steam Methane Reforming (SMR) Methanol Process

### Gas Reforming:

$$3 \times [CH_4 + H_2O => CO + 3H_2]$$
  
+  $[CO_2 + H_2 => CO + H_2O]$   
ie  $3CH_4 + CO_2 + 2H_2O => 4CO + 8H_2$   
• Methanol Synthesis:  
 $4CO + 8H_2 => 4CH_3OH$ 

1 mol CO<sub>2</sub> with 3 mols CH<sub>4</sub> is ideal for synthesis to methanol



### Tassie Shoal

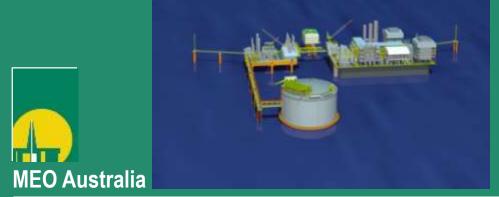
- an ideal infrastructure Hub with an integrated solution for CO<sub>2</sub> disposal



### **GTL Projects – with Approvals!**

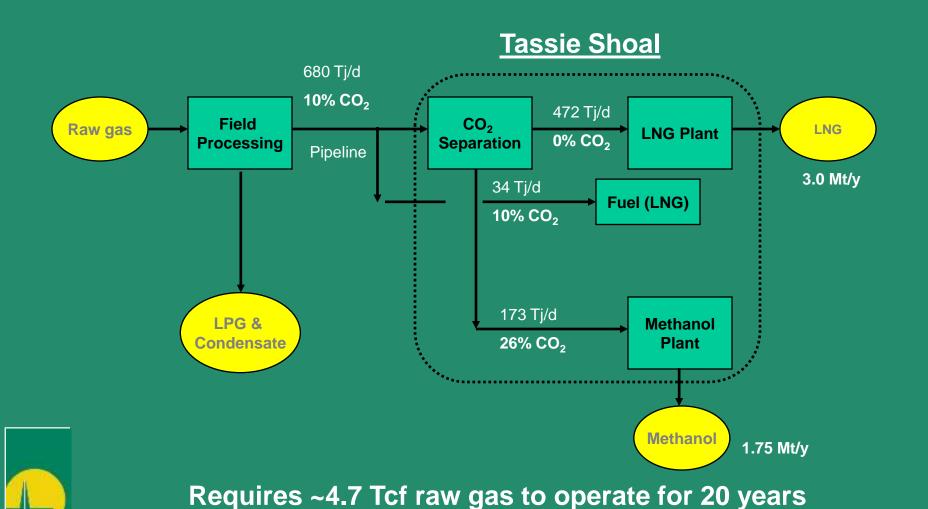
- Integrated solution for CO<sub>2</sub>
- Substantial CAPEX savings
- Environmental approvals secured (EPBC Act) until 2052
- Tassie Shoal Methanol Project
  - 2 x 1.75 Mtpa
- Timor Sea LNG Project
  - 3 Mtpa
- Fast-track to market
- Un-disputed Australian waters

The economic 'game-changer'



### **Tassie Shoal GTL Projects**

An integrated solution for CO<sub>2</sub> challenged gas



**MEO Australia Limited** 

**MEO Australia** 

### Tassie Shoal LNG – a viable alternative

Estimated costs * (US\$M)	Land-based LNG	Tassie Shoal LNG (approved)	Potential Savings
Plant Costs	1,549	1,070	479
Pipeline	943	288	655
LNG Tank	300	308	(8)
Loadout/Jetty	200	236	(36)
Project/Owners Costs (8.5%)	<u>252</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>91</u>
Total Project Cost	3,244	2,063	1,181

- Capex savings result from:
  - Pre-fabricated/pre-commissioned plant with substantially reduced footprint (sea water cooled)
  - Dramatically reduced pipeline distances resulting in lower costs
- Higher operating costs are offset by shorter transportation distance to market
- Tassie Shoal Hub offers CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration and operational synergies



<sup>\*</sup> Independent cost estimates 3Q 2008

# **Summary**

#### People

New board and enhanced management team

#### Projects

- Greater portfolio depth, rigorous technical evaluation
- Zeus-1 (MEO 35% interest) targeting >15 Tcf gas-in-place potential

#### Carnarvon Basin

- New exploration concepts predicated on proven analogues
- Prospects/leads with material potential proximal to infrastructure
- Substantial prospectivity in WA-360-P independent of Zeus play
  - Planning additional 3D seismic acquisition in 1H'09
  - Seeking new farm-in partner 2Q'09

#### Bonaparte Basin – existing discoveries with path to market

- Require further appraisal
  - Seeking new farm-in partner(s) 2Q'09

### Tassie Shoal – Hub Concept gaining acceptance

- An integrated CO<sub>2</sub> solution = an economic 'game changer'
- Enhances economics for ALL players
- Discussions underway with major gas resource custodians



# **Supplementary Information**



# LNG Projects need high quality gas

Category	<u>Tcf</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>Developed</u>		
NWS Gas Project (Liquids rich)	33	23%
Bayu-Undan (Liquids rich)	3	2%
Total Developed	36	25%
<u>Developing</u>		
Pluto/Xena (Leverages WPL)	5	3%
<u>Un-developed+</u>	103	71%
Total*	144	100%

### \*Commercial impediments

Dirty (high in CO<sub>2</sub>)

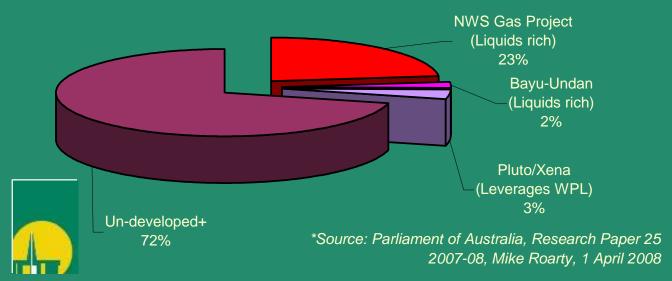
Dry (low in NGL's)

Distant (from I/S)

Deep water

Dysfunctional JV's

Disputed territory



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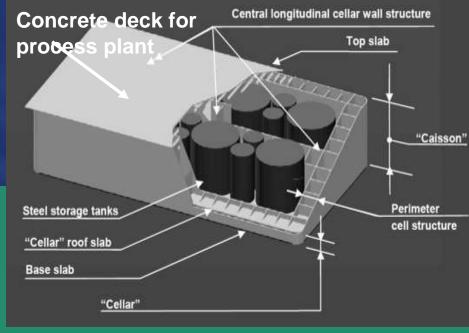
### TSMP – uses conventional CGS substructure



#### **Technical specifications**

Capacity: 5,000 tpd, 1.75 Mtpa DPT/JM SMR process Can convert high CO<sub>2</sub> gas (20%-35%) CGS dimensions: 35m tall, 200,000 t

- Base: 170m x 93m
- At top:180m x 100m (wave deflection)
   Installed in 14m water depth

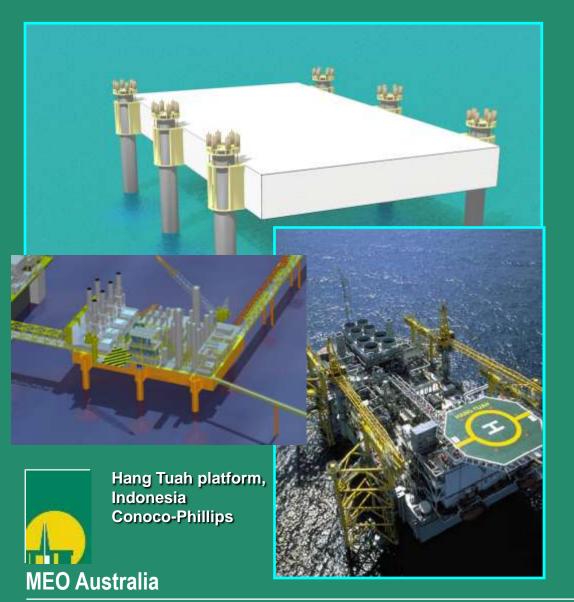


Topsides 30,000 t
Total height 95m
20 day final product storage

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### TSLNGP uses standard technology

- sea water cooling substantially reduces footprint



### **Technical specifications**

3 Mtpa (EPBC approved)

-APCI DMR process

-Indirect seawater cooling

Ace platform (ARUP Energy)

-100x50x8m

-15m water depth

Topsides 15,000 t

Single 170,000 m<sup>3</sup> storage tank

Torp HiLoad loadout system

- Avoids tugs & jetty