

Zapato-1ST Drilling Update and Option Expiry Reminder

Highlights

- Drilling has reached 2,303 metres measured depth
- Preparing to run 9-5/8" casing
- Logging runs completed successfully
- Expect to be drilling ahead in 8-1/2" hole by this weekend

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA (25 AUGUST 2022)

Melbana Energy Limited (ASX: MAY) (**Melbana**) is pleased to provide this update on its drilling operations in the Block 9 contract area, onshore Cuba.

Drilling ahead continued in the past week in hard rock. At about 2,300 m MD the bit was retrieved and a decision made to case the more than 1,000 metres of open hole. Several logging runs were then successfully conducted and drilling operations are now preparing the hole for the running then cementing of 9-5/8" casing. It is expected that drilling ahead in 8-1/2" should commence this weekend.

The pre-drill prognosis for the primary objective was that it might begin at approximately 2,650 metres MD, although given the volcanics were encountered about 300 metres higher than expected it is considered possible that the target formation may also be encountered at a shallower depth. The thickness of the ophiolite formation we have encountered is now also thicker than prognosed, however.



Figure 1 - Melbana's Chief Geoscientist, Errol Johnstone, presenting at last week's meetings with Sonangol in Melbourne

Melbana was also pleased to host a delegation from Sonangol at its offices in Melbourne last week for a productive week of technical, operational and financial meetings and looks forward to presenting the forward appraisal plans for Block 9 once they have been agreed between the joint operation partners and the Cuban regulators.

Melbana also wishes to remind holders of its 3.5 cent per share call options expiring 10 September 2022 that trading in these options will cease at market close on Monday, 5 September 2022. Options will be considered validly exercised if Option Conversion Notices and cleared funds are received by 5PM on 10 September 2022.¹

For and on Behalf of the Board of Directors: For further information please contact

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Ends -

¹ See ASX announcement dated 16 August 2022 or Melbana's website for further information