

13 September 2007



## PROVIDENCE AWARDED NEW LICENSING OPTION IN CELTIC SEA

### Licensing Option 07/1 is adjacent to Hook Head

Providence Resources Plc, the AIM and IEX listed company, together with its Celtic Sea Partners, is pleased to announce that it has been granted a Licensing Option over part-blocks 49/15, 50/7, 8, 11, 12 & 13 in the North Celtic Sea Basin, offshore Ireland by the Minister of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.

This new Licensing Option has a term of 1 year and covers an area of some 375 square kilometers. The Option is situated in an area immediately adjacent to Hook Head (held under SEL 2/07), where Providence and its partners are currently testing the successfully drilled 50/11-3 appraisal well. The area contains a number of significant mapped leads and prospects at a similar level to those, which are hydrocarbon-bearing in the Hook Head Structure.

The partners in this Licensing Option and their equity interests are\* Providence Resources Plc (Operator) 43.5294%, Challenger Minerals (Celtic Sea) Limited 16.3235%, Dyas BV 16.3235%, Atlantic Petroleum (Ireland) Limited 10.8824%, Forest Gate Resources Inc. 7.5% and Sosina Exploration Limited 5.4412%.

\* Subject to Ministerial consent

Commenting on the announcement, Mr Tony O'Reilly, Chief Executive said:

*"As a result of our regional mapping, Providence and its partners identified a number of undrilled structures adjacent to the Hook Head exploration licence. Following our decision to drill the 50/11-3 Hook Head appraisal well earlier this year, we decided to make an application for a Licensing Option over this area.*

*In light of the 50/11-3 Hook Head well results to date, we believe that the Option area offers possible further significant hydrocarbon potential, which may compliment any future development of the Hook Head discovery. We will now await the outcome of the testing programme of the Hook Head well in order to progress our work programme in this adjacent area."*

#### **Contacts:**

**Providence Resources Plc**  
Tony O'Reilly Jnr., Chief Executive

Tel: +353 1 219 4074

**Powerscourt**  
Rory Godson/Elizabeth Rous

Tel: +44 (0)207 250 1446

**Murray Consultants**  
Pauline McAlester

Tel: +353 1 498 0300

## Notes to Editors

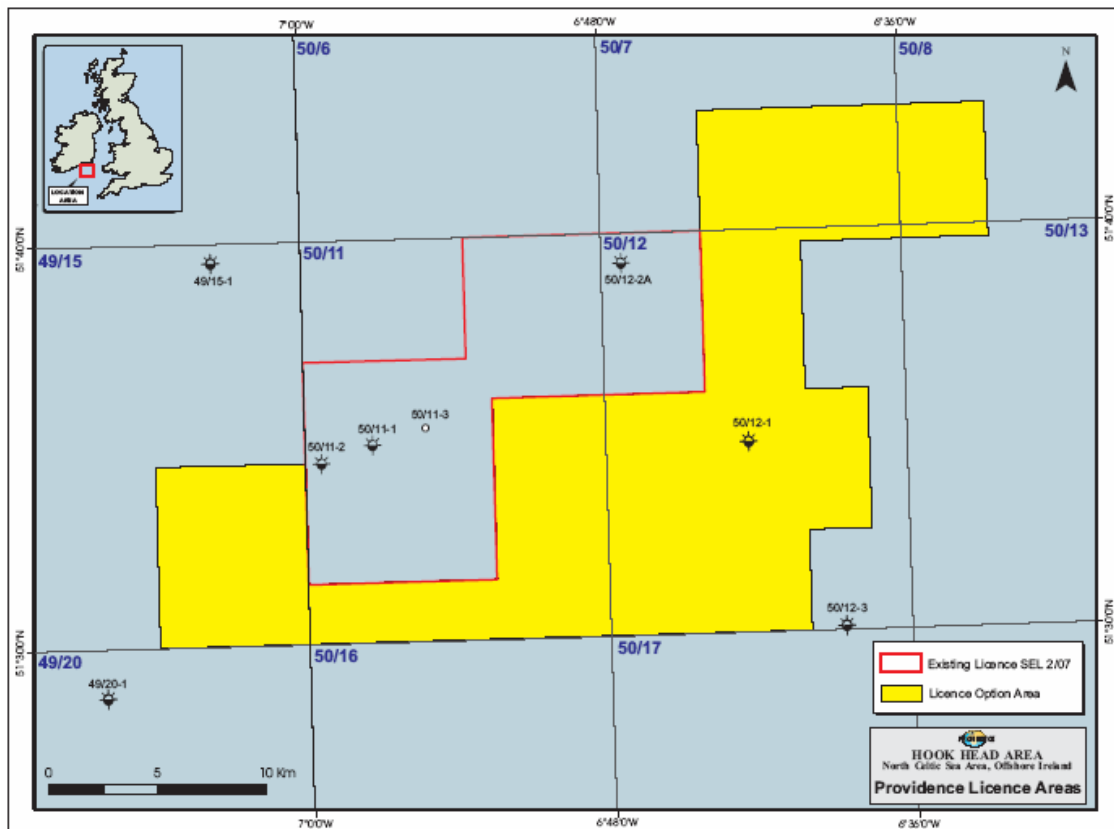
### About Providence

Providence Resources Plc is an independent oil and gas exploration company listed on the AIM market in London and on Dublin's IEX market. The Company was founded in 1997, but with roots going back to 1981 when its predecessor company, Atlantic Resources Plc was formed by a group of investors led by Sir Anthony O'Reilly.

Providence's active oil and gas portfolio includes interests in Ireland (offshore), the United Kingdom (onshore and offshore), the United States (offshore) and West Africa (offshore Nigeria). Providence's portfolio is balanced between production, appraisal and exploration assets, as well as being diversified geographically.

Comprehensive information on Providence and its oil and gas portfolio, including all press releases, annual reports and interim reports are available from Providence's website at [www.providenceresources.com](http://www.providenceresources.com)

### Map showing Licensing Option 07/1



### Hook Head, SEL 2/07

The Celtic Sea partners and their equity interests\* in SEL 2/07 are: Providence Resources Plc (Operator) 43.5294%, Challenger Minerals (Celtic Sea) Limited 16.3235%, Dyas BV 16.3235%, Atlantic Petroleum (Ireland) Limited 10.8824%, Forest Gate Resources Inc. 7.5% and Sosina Exploration Limited 5.4412%. Providence and its partners are currently involved in a testing programme on the 50/11-3 well.

\*Subject to Ministerial consent