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DEVELOPMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY COMMENCES ON HELVICK OIL FIELD, OFFSHORE IRELAND

- **STUDY TO ASSESS MINIMAL FACILITIES UNMANNED BUOY DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT FOR THE HELVICK FIELD**

Providence Resources P.l.c., ('Providence') the Irish oil and gas exploration and production company, whose shares are listed in London (AIM) and Dublin (IEX), is pleased to announce that it has agreed to work with Unmanned Production Buoy Limited ('UPB') in assessing the development feasibility for a minimal facilities unmanned buoy development of the Helvick oil field in the North Celtic Sea Basin, offshore Ireland.

The Helvick field is located in Standard Exploration Licence (SEL) 2/07 and is situated some c. 40 kilometers off the south coast of Ireland in c. 80 metre water depth. Providence holds a 72.5% operated interest in SEL 2/07 with partners Atlantic Petroleum (18.3%) and Sosina Exploration (9.2%). Providence operates its interest in the Helvick field through its special purpose vehicle EXOLA Limited. UPB is an Aberdeen based business established to pursue the development, construction and deployment of unmanned production systems.

Speaking today, Tony O'Reilly, Chief Executive of Providence, said:

"We are very excited to be working with UPB on assessing whether their unmanned production buoy concept has an application at the Helvick field. The successful application of this new technology, combined with the existing well infrastructure in a high oil price environment, could help to unlock the value of Helvick and herald Ireland's first oil development project."

Richard Selwa, Chairman and Founder of UPB, said:

"We welcome the opportunity to work with Providence in realising the potential that the Helvick field has to offer. Our unique unmanned production buoy system brings a number of proven technologies together and has the potential to unlock billions of dollars worth of otherwise unexploited oil from the world's marginal fields or tail end discoveries."

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Notes to Editors

About EXOLA

EXOLA Limited is a special purpose vehicle established by Providence to invest in heavy and unconventional oil developments and opportunities offshore Ireland and the United Kingdom. EXOLA is currently owned 100% by Providence.

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. 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.

About UPB

Unmanned Production Buoy Limited (UPB) has developed a unique unmanned system for the production of oil. Based entirely on existing technologies, this system aims to exploit hydrocarbons offshore from stranded wells, exploration plays or re-entry into fields. The system allows clients to access reserves from single or multiple wells in a cost effective manner. This is achieved by a simple processing method which allows UPB systems to operate unmanned in water depths exceeding 90 metres. Existing solutions require complex manned platforms which are prohibitively expensive and render fields uneconomic. The key elements comprise subsea trees, flexible risers, a 15,000 barrels of oil per day Production Buoy, a 200,000 barrel storage tank and tanker offload system. It is this breakthrough in Unmanned Offshore Production Technology which now allows challenging fields to be exploited.

About Helvick

The Helvick oil field was discovered in 1983 by Gulf Oil with the drilling of the 49/9-2 discovery well. This well encountered oil and gas in a downthrown Jurassic tilted fault block trap on the northern margin of the North Celtic Sea Basin, offshore Ireland. The 49/9-2 well was tested and flowed at a cumulative rate of c. 10,000 BOEPD from four zones. Subsequent to the discovery well, a further three wells have been drilled on the Helvick field to date, all of which have logged and/or flowed oil/gas to surface. Integration of the well data with reprocessed 3D seismic data has suggested that the field is of limited areal extent with c. 10 MMBL STOIP. However, due to the highly productive nature of the reservoir (the suspended 49/9-2 and 6z wells tested at a cumulative rate of c. 15,000 BOEPD), it is possible that any commercial reserves in the Helvick field could be recovered in an extremely short time period which should positively impact development economics.

This Announcement

This announcement has been reviewed by John O'Sullivan, Technical Director, Providence Resources P.I.c. John holds a B.Sc. in Geology from University College Cork, Ireland, an M.Sc. in Applied Geophysics from the National University of Ireland, Galway and a M.Sc. in Technology Management from The Smurfit School of Business at University College Dublin. John is presently working part-time on a PhD dissertation at Trinity College, Dublin. John has worked in the offshore business for 20 years and is a fellow of the Geological Society of London. Definitions in this press release are consistent with SPE guidelines.

Location Map

