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PROVIDENCE SECURES PETROLEUM EXPLORATION LICENCE OVER RATHLIN ISLAND, NORTHERN IRELAND

First Exploration Licence in Northern Ireland

Providence Resources P.l.c., ('Providence') the Irish oil and gas exploration and production company, whose shares are listed in London (AIM) and Dublin (ESM), is pleased to confirm that it has been offered a petroleum exploration licence over Rathlin Island, Northern Ireland. The licence has been offered by Northern Ireland's Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in response to a recent application made by Providence. The initial licence term is for five years with a decision on a well commitment required within three years. Providence has committed to carry out a number of technical studies of the subsurface geology during the first three years to determine the petroleum potential and inform the decision on the well commitment. Providence will operate the licence with a 100% equity interest.

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

"We are delighted to be offered our first exploration licence in Northern Ireland. Providence has a clear corporate focus to evaluate the hydrocarbon potential of the island of Ireland and this new licence over Rathlin complements our substantial Atlantic Margin and Irish Sea acreage portfolio. As with all of our operated activities, Providence will adhere to the highest standards of environmental excellence and consult locally should we progress this licence into the drilling phase."

John O'Sullivan, Technical Director of Providence, added:

"The oil exploration potential of the Rathlin Basin was highlighted by the onshore 2008 Ballinlea-I well, which encountered hydrocarbon shows and recovered some oil during testing. We interpret this well to have been drilled on the margin of the basin which extends and deepens towards Rathlin. The potential under Rathlin Island itself is of interest as this location is interpreted to directly overlie the most mature and potentially most productive part of the basin. "

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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 ESM 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.

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 and the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain. Definitions in this press release are consistent with SPE guidelines.

IRISH BASINS

