

**Rawson Resources Limited**

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Royal Exchange

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**To Australian Stock Exchange  
Electronic lodgements  
For immediate release**

**New Zealand Update.**

**Rawson Resources Limited** (ASX:RAW) through its wholly owned subsidiary Rawson Taranaki Pty. Limited now has a 7.09% holding in Kea Petroleum Plc. Rawson Taranaki's original holdings were merged into Kea Petroleum Holdings Limited which in turn was merged into Kea Petroleum Plc, a UK incorporated company whose sole exploration properties are the NZ permits held through Kea Exploration Limited. Kea Petroleum Plc has already raised approximately NZ\$20M in funds, to be devoted to NZ onshore and offshore exploration.

**Kea Petroleum Plc** (KPPLC) has as its principals Ian Gowrie-Smith (Chairman) and David Lees (Director) – the successful founders of Rift Oil Plc, which earlier this year sold its PNG assets to Talisman Energy for approx £114M after drilling two highly successful exploration wells.

Other directors of Kea Petroleum Plc are:

**John Bentley** : ex CEO of Energy Africa and presently Chairman of Faroe Petroleum Plc, Artumas Group Inc and CDS Oil and Gas Group Plc.

**Peter Mikkelsen** : A petroleum geologist with 32 years industry experience, particularly in North Sea, Africa and Australia, who has held a variety of senior executive positions in international exploration companies.

**Peter Wright** : extensive experience in resource companies, and the designated Financial Director.

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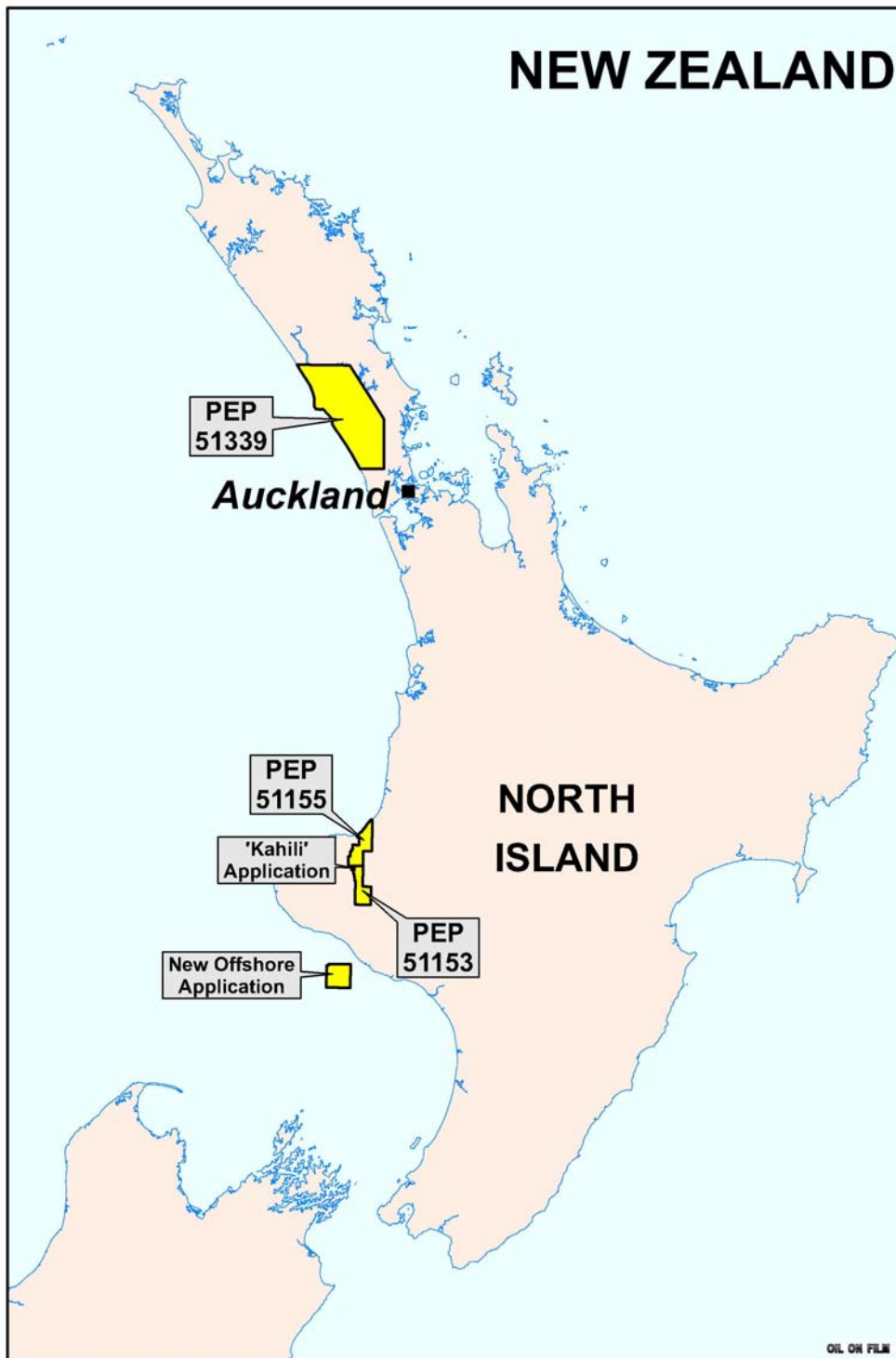
**Dave Bennett** : is a past Exploration Manager of NZOG and former Chief Executive of Austral-Pacific Energy Ltd., and a past director of Rift Oil plc, Trans-Orient Petroleum Ltd and TAG Oil Ltd : all public listed companies. He has more than 25years of experience in exploration in New Zealand and elsewhere around the Pacific Rim. During this time he has played a leading role in attracting overseas investment into New Zealand petroleum exploration by bringing many overseas companies in as joint venture partners through the drilling of wells.

**John Conolly** : Has more than 30 years oil exploration experience, and is presently Executive Chairman of Rawson Resources Limited, which is listed on the ASX (RAW). John has been a university professor, is a distinguished lecturer and an adviser to many international oil companies, and was the co-founder of Sydney Oil Company, which was one of the most prominent Australian oil exploration companies of the 1980's.

### **New Acreage Application**

In separate news, the partners are pleased to announce that Kea Exploration Limited has applied for a new offshore permit in the southern Taranaki Basin, which brings Kea's portfolio in New Zealand to 3 awarded permits (PEPs 51153, 51155, and 51339) and two applications one onshore and one offshore(see map below).

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*Background: Rawson Resources Ltd is primarily an oil and gas exploration company in Australia with permits in the Otway, Surat, Cooper and Pedirka Basins and also in the Taranaki Basin New Zealand.*