



Shale Gas Exploration McArthur Basin Onshore Australia

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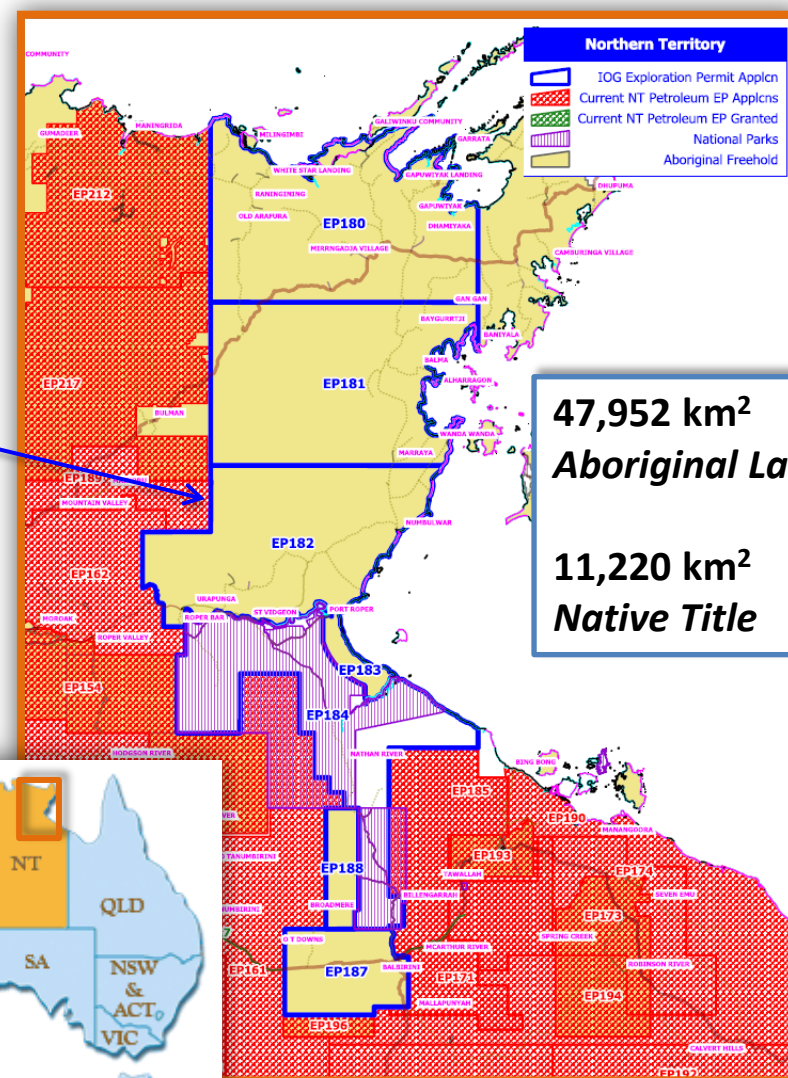
- ➔ Demonstrate why cultural heritage & natural environment must take precedence over petroleum
- ➔ Challenge technology providers to deliver necessary & timely breakthrough
- ➔ Imperial's stand to preserve culture & environment *and* exploit resource

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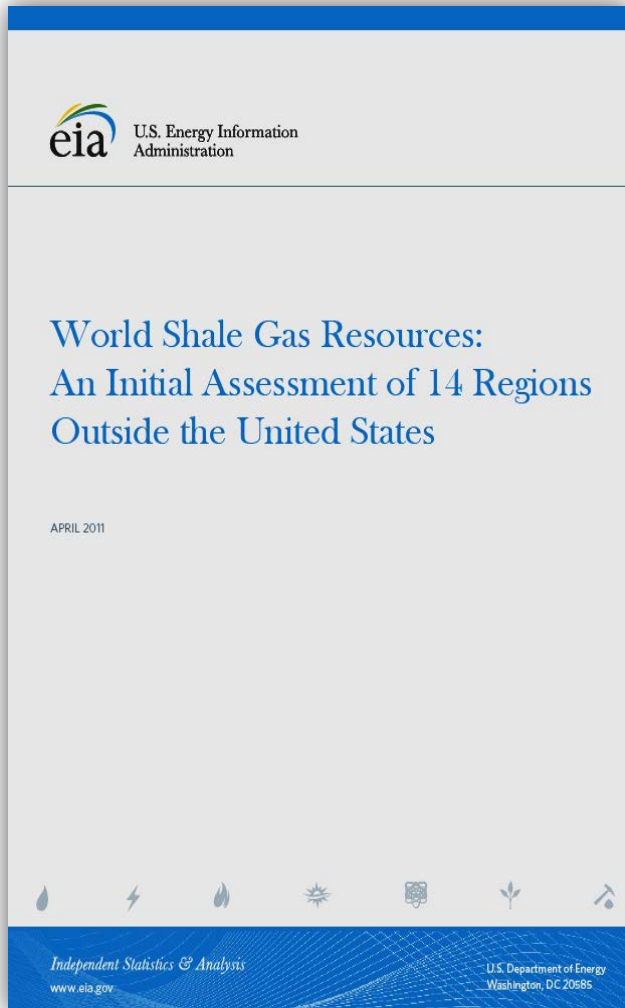
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McArthur Basin Shale Gas Play

- ➔ Imperial Oil & Gas
- ➔ Competitive landscape in Australia
- ➔ Shale Gas Play
- ➔ Aboriginal Land & Environment
- ➔ V + V + S
- ➔ Footprint
- ➔ *Call to Action* for petroleum technologists



11,220 km²
Native Title



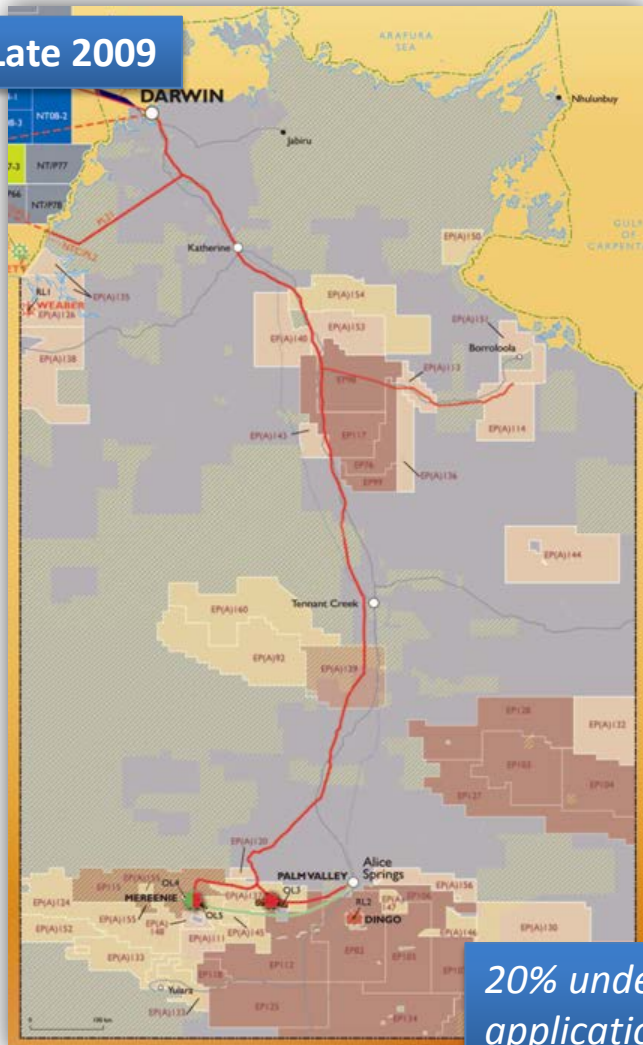
Australia

- ➔ Shale Gas is still in infancy
Little exploration & no-commercial production
- ➔ 396 Tcf TRR Shale Gas
- ➔ Greater than estimated CSG reserves that will...
underpin 3 recent LNG projects
deliver capacity of 25 million tonnes a year

Continent	Risked Gas In-Place (Tcf)	Risked Technically Recoverable (Tcf)
North America	3,856	1,069
South America	4,569	1,225
Europe	2,587	624
Africa	3,962	1,042
Asia	5,661	1,404
Australia	1,381	396
Total	22,016	5,760

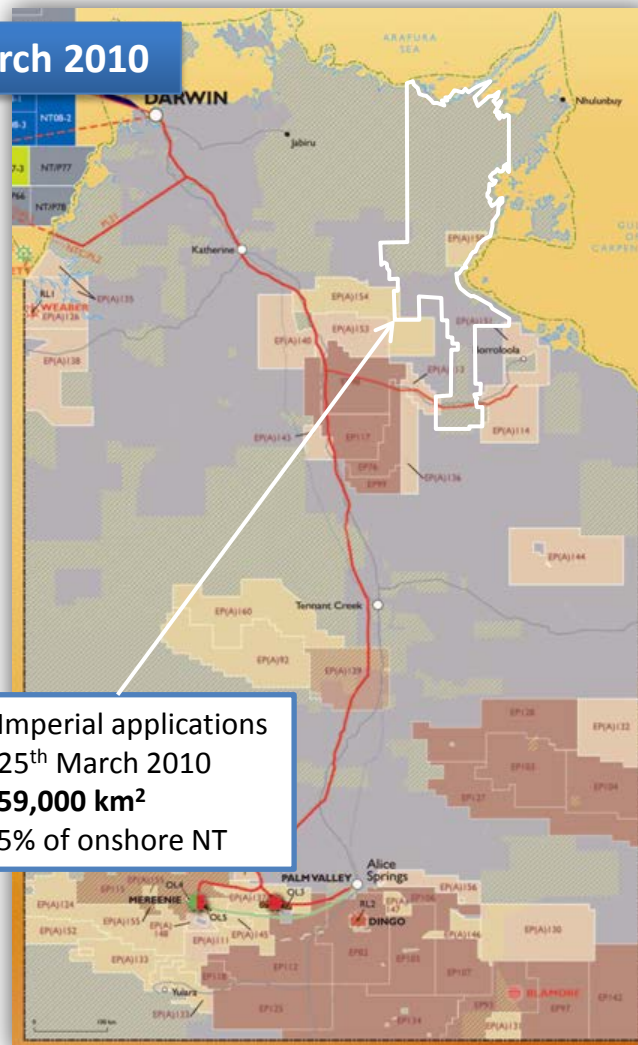
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Late 2009



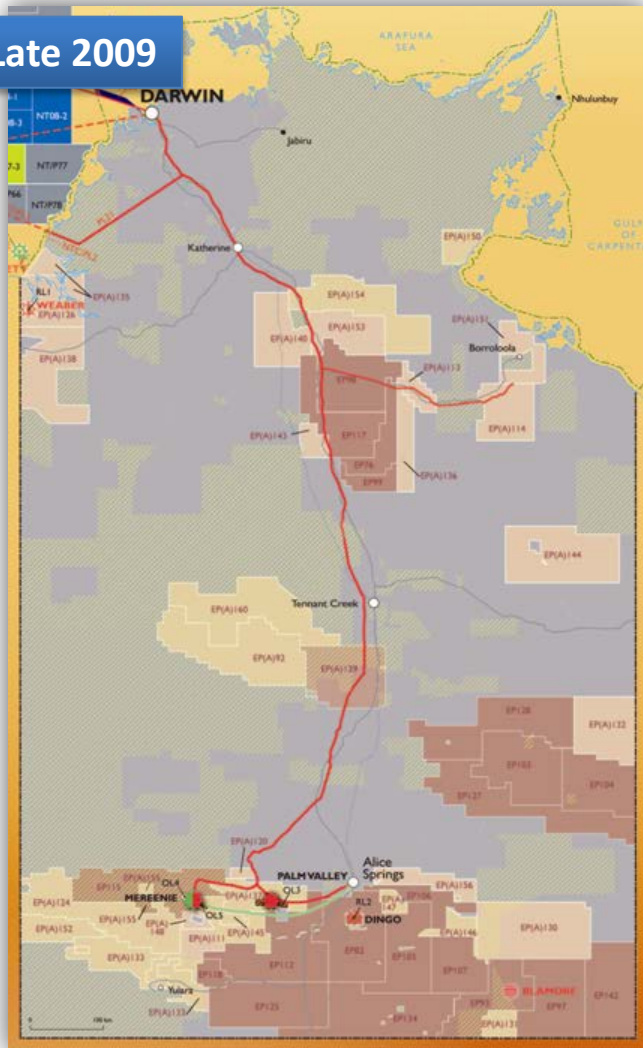
20% under application

March 2010

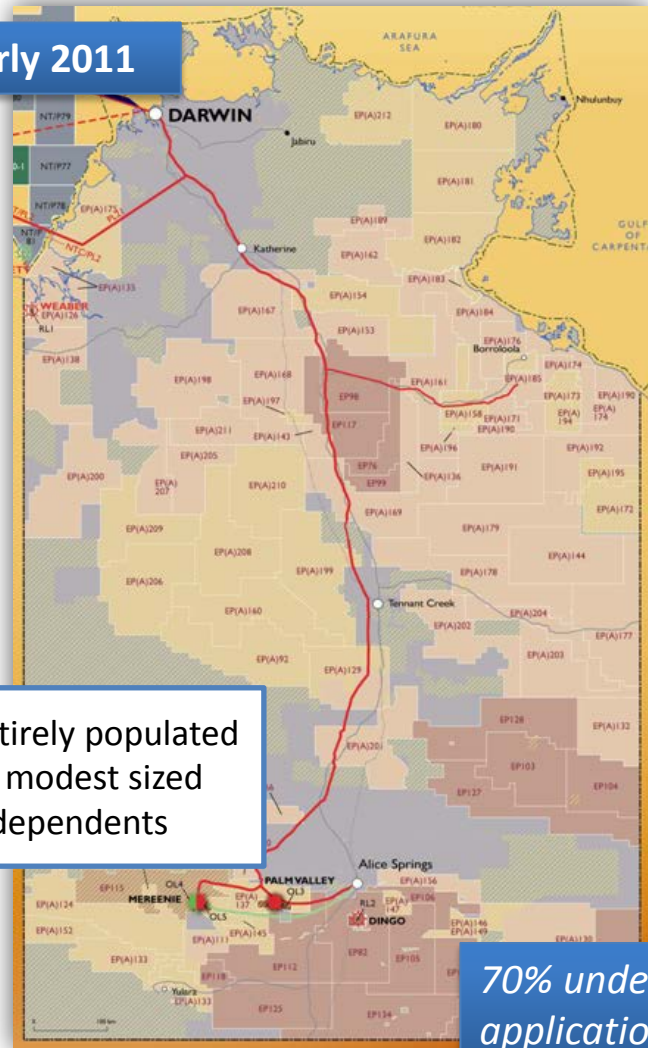


- Imperial applications 25th March 2010
- **59,000 km²**
- 5% of onshore NT

Late 2009



Early 2011



Entirely populated
by modest sized
independents

*70% under
application*

Shale Deals

Big moving on the **small**

Jun 2010	Mitsubishi	A\$ 152.4 million	50%	Buru Energy	Canning Basin
Dec 2010	CNOOC	A\$50 million	50%	Exoma Energy	Galilee Basin
Apr 2011	Hess	U\$60 million (+10 mm shares)	62.5%	Falcon Oil & Gas	Beetaloo Basin
Jul 2011	CoP	A\$ 109.5 million (+back costs)	75%	New Standard Energy	Canning Basin
	BG	A\$ 130 million (+back costs)	60%	Drillsearch Energy	Cooper Basin

Beach flowed 2 mm scfd shale gas booking contingent 2Tcf in Cooper Basin

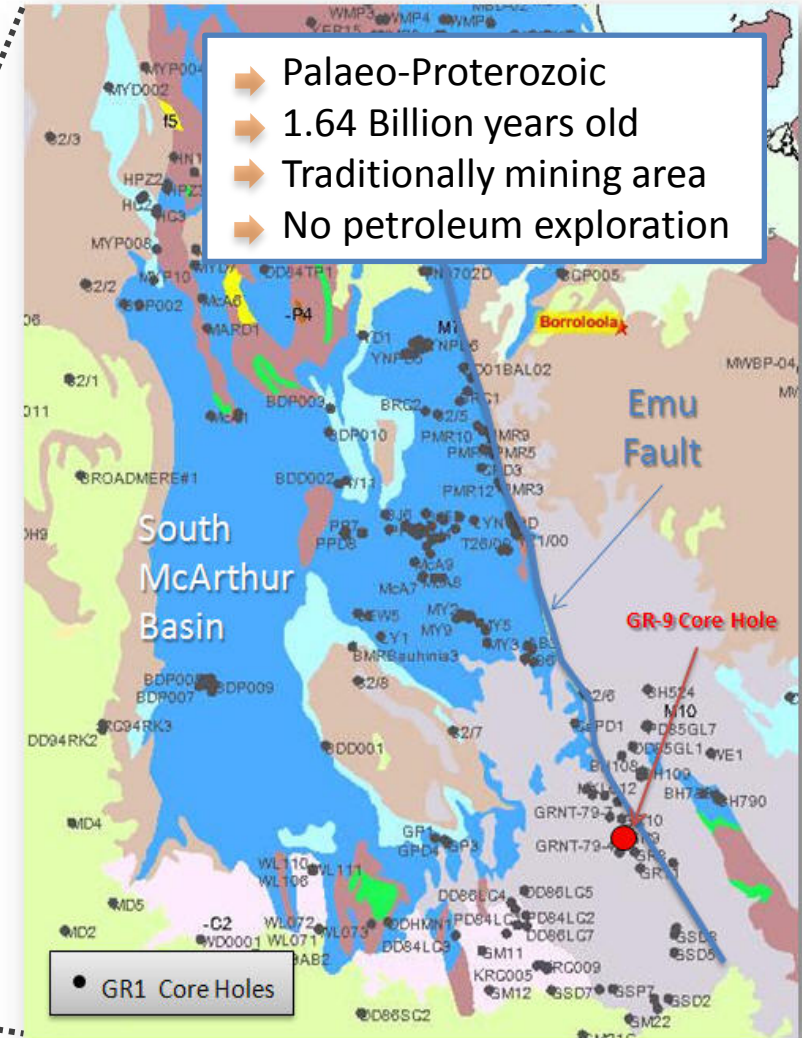
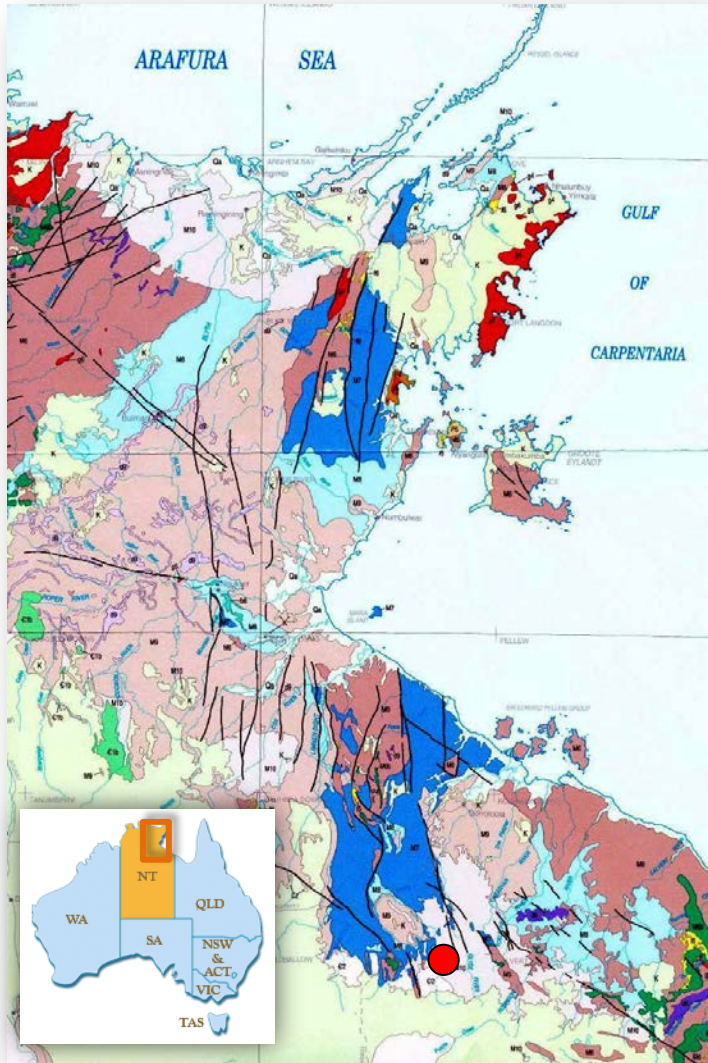
Oz deals currently modest compared with USA & Canada

Jul 2011 **BHP** U\$12.1 billion **Petrohawk Energy**
(Texas & Louisiana Eagle Ford, Haynesville & Permian shale plays)

McArthur Basin

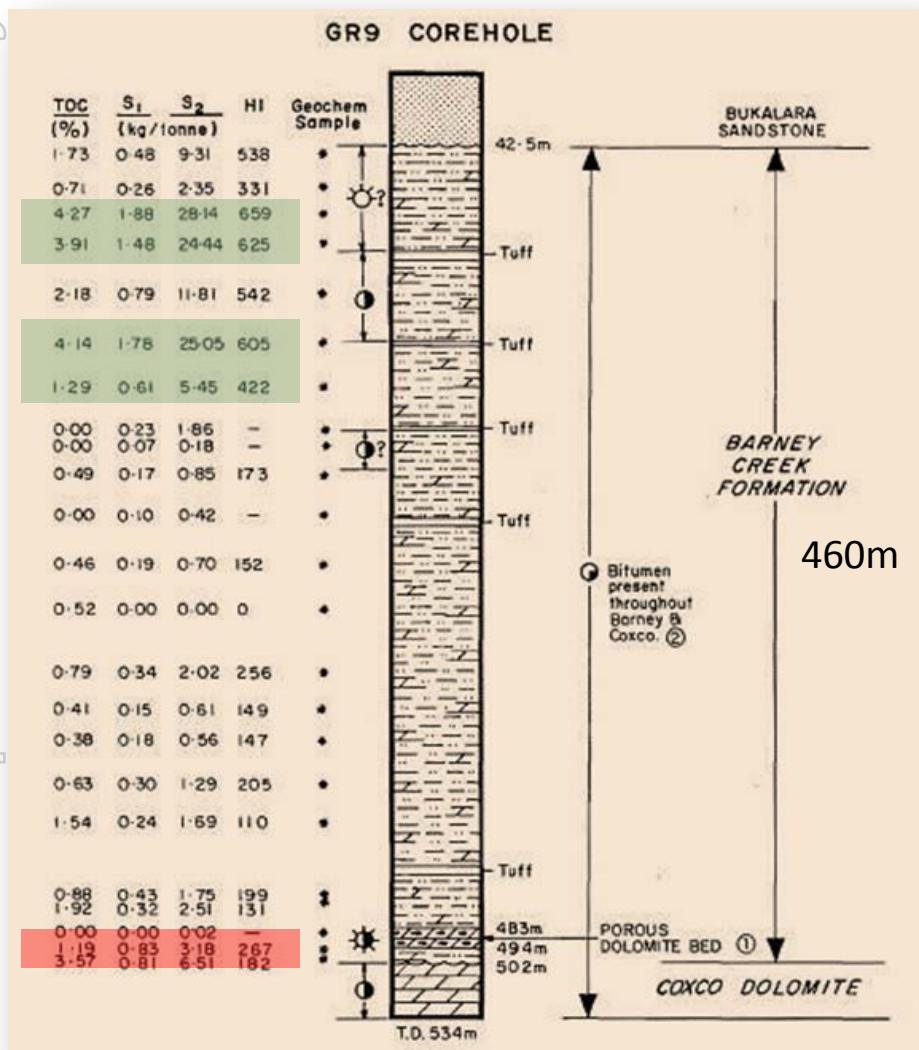
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600 km



Shale Play

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The most spectacular indication of live hydrocarbons encountered to date in the McArthur Group was in the Kennecott-Amoco mineral exploration corehole GR 9, drilled in the Glyde area. A summary log of this drillhole is shown as Figure 5, and the location is shown in Figure 2. Upon unintentional swabbing at the end of drilling (in December 1979), the corehole experienced a gas blow-out which yielded a 5-6m (15-20 ft) long flame. Condensate flow accompanying the gas, was indicated by the bright orange-yellow colour of the flame, and by an accompanying sooty tail. The hole flowed gas for an indeterminate period during the immediately following "Wet" season. By the end of the "Wet" the hole was filled with water and the gas flow had degenerated to a series of gas bubbles percolating through hydrostatic head. A sample of the gas taken at this stage yielded the following analysis:-

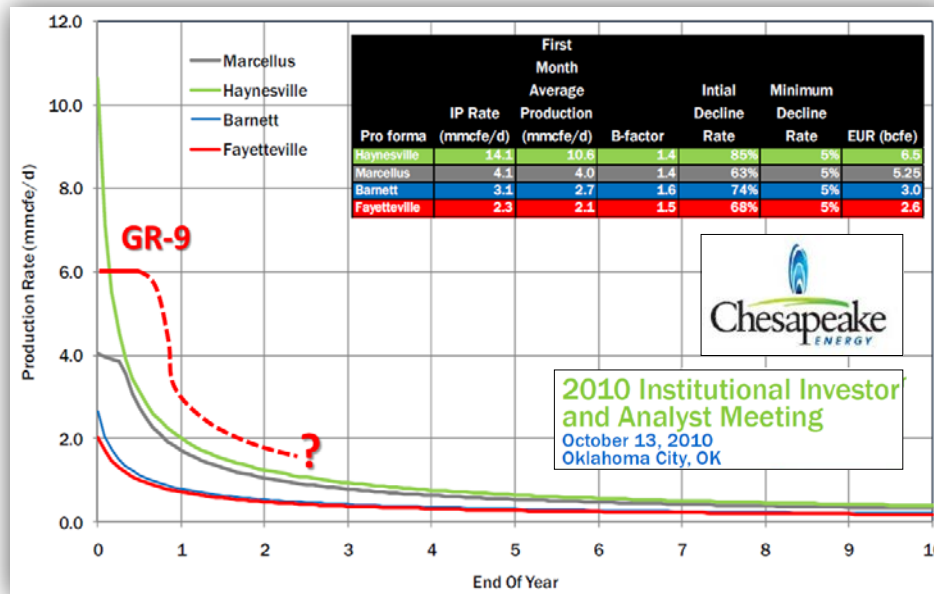
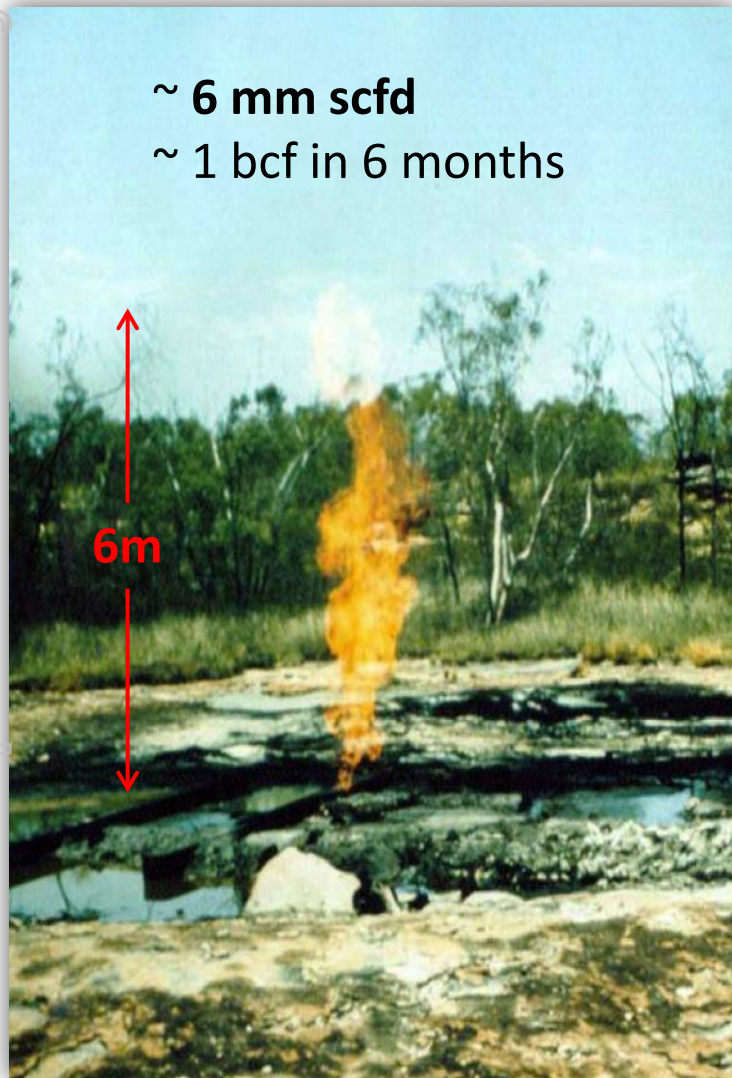
Methane	74.25%
Ethane	10.25%
Propane	3.25%
Iso-Butane	0.175%
N-Butane	0.60%
N-Pentane	0.105%
Hexane	0.165%
Heptane	0.08%
Nitrogen	10.75%
Carbon Dioxide	0.20%

The hole was plugged with cement in April 1980.



GR-9 Well

~ 6 mm scfd
~ 1 bcf in 6 months



“... mineral exploration hole drilled at the Glyde River prospect by Amoco in 1979 flowed gas and condensates at 140psi for 6 months”

Armour Energy ASX announcement 11th October 2010



Play Summary

Uncertainties

Shale Quality

- Distribution of gas-shale
- Regional quality trends

Shale Effectiveness

- Position of OGW/GGW
- Timing
- Sweet spots

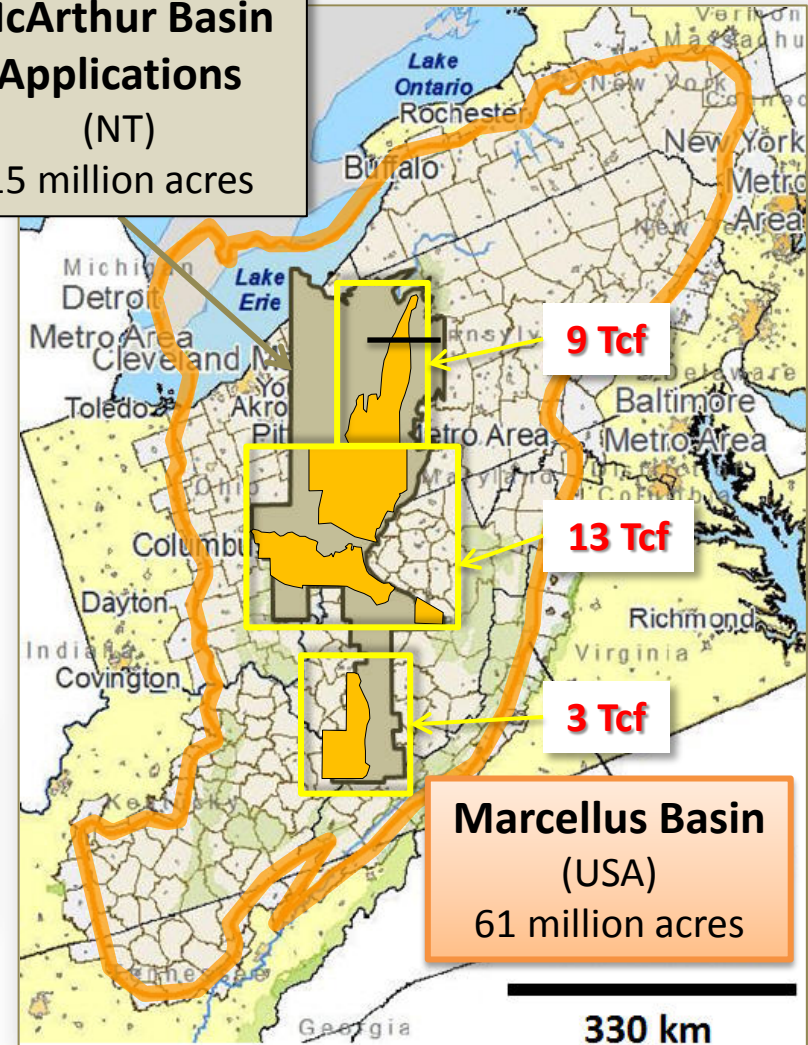
Marcellus Analogue for volume



Access to Aboriginal Land.....

McArthur Basin Applications (NT)

15 million acres

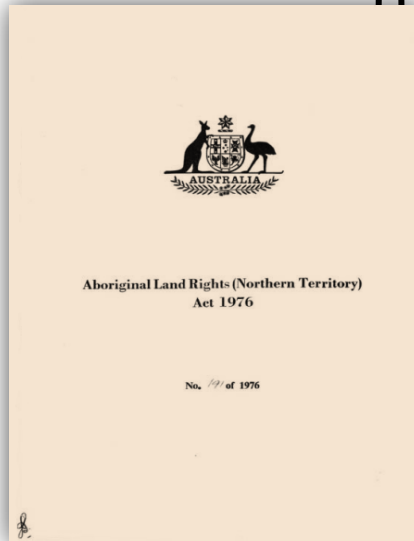
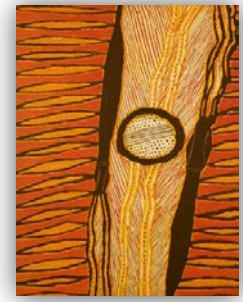
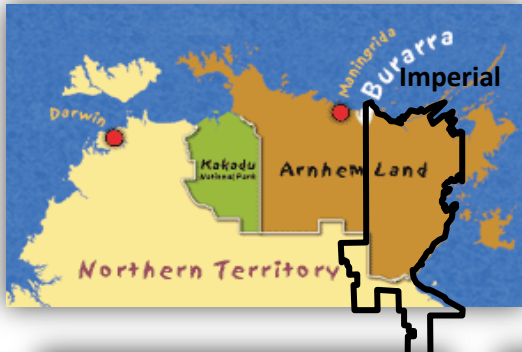


**Marcellus Basin
(USA)**
61 million acres

Aboriginal Land

Imperial Acreage

47,952 km² *Aboriginal Land* 80%
11,220 km² *Native Title* 20%

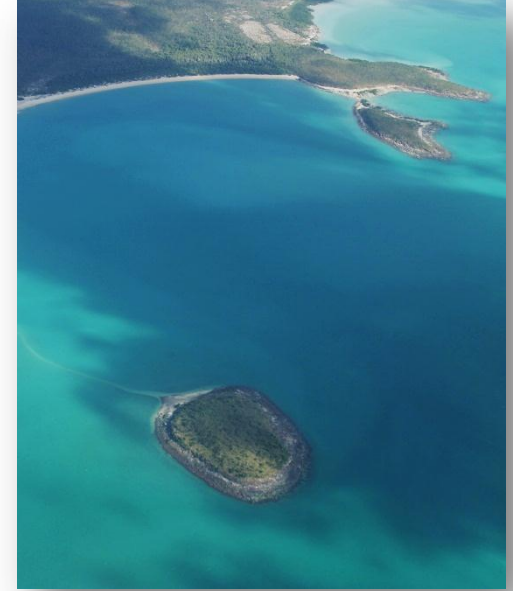
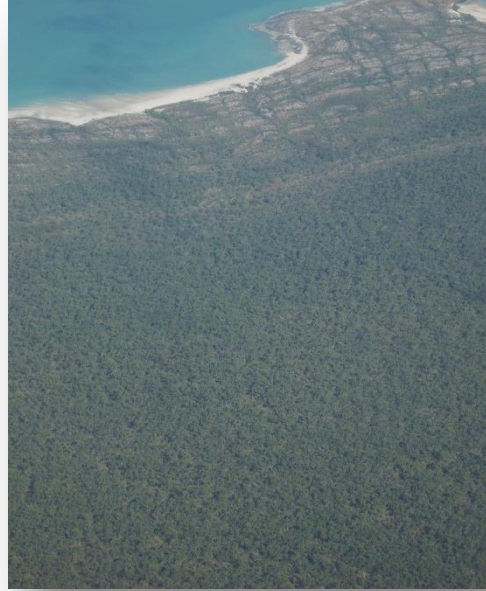


*Galiwinku
Gan Gan
Gapuwiyak
Gurrumurru
Borroloola*



Environment

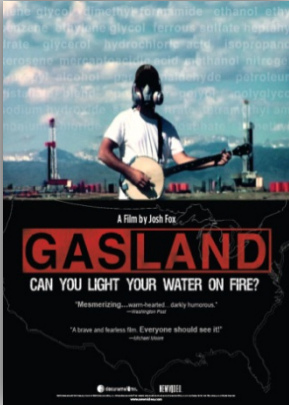
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Perception

Now

Future ?



..... is not necessarily fact

On the one hand....

"...the push to drill for natural gas is turning vast swaths of beautiful American country into dangerous sludge dumps..."

"... dirty business..."

.... yet on the other

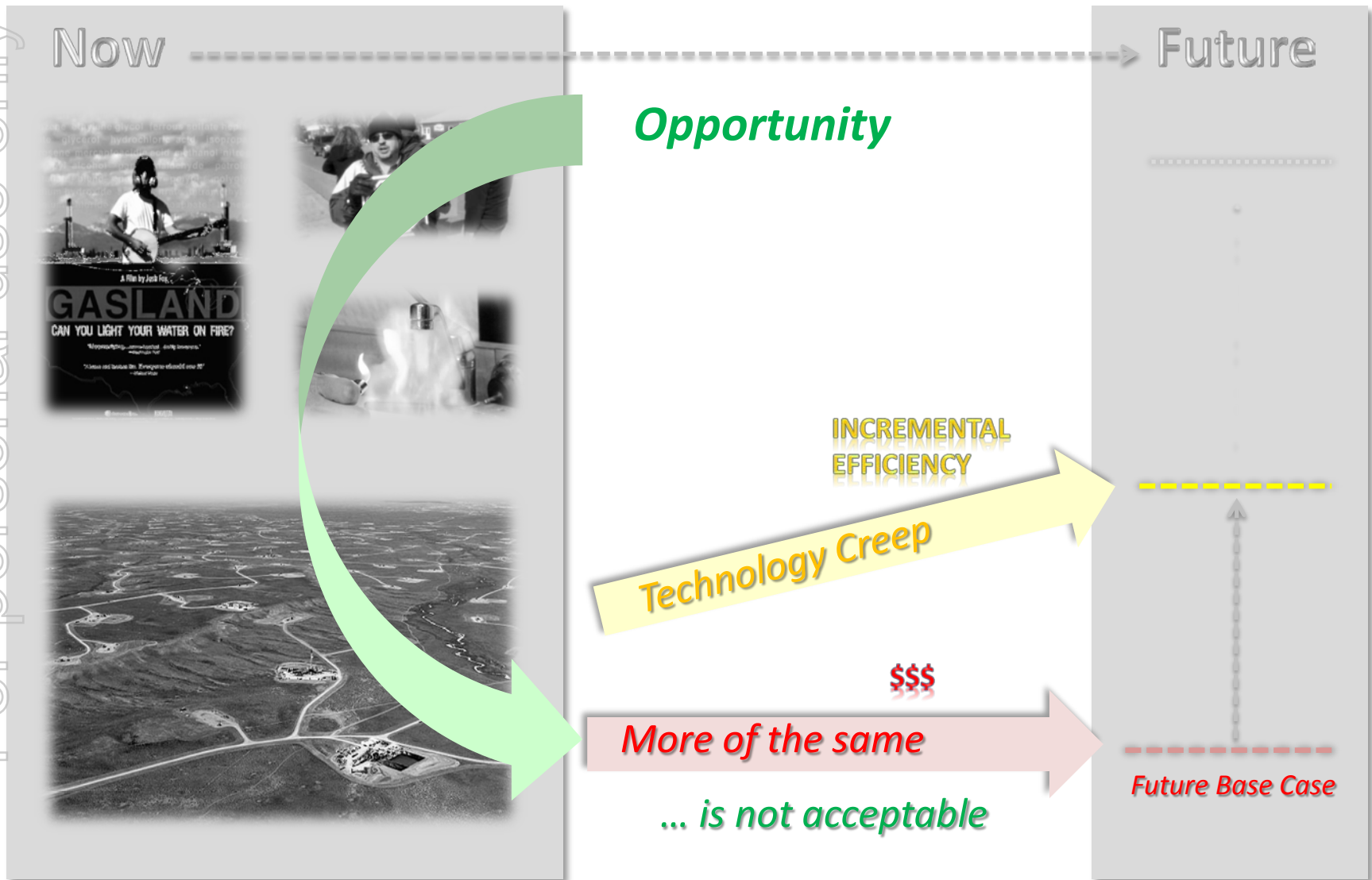
"...2 out of the 3 wells that Gas-Land featured were contaminated biogenic gas unrelated to oil and gas activity"

"...natural gas falsely accused (of) 35 mile fish kill. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency tied the fish kills to coal mine run-off"

.... SO....

Incremental Change

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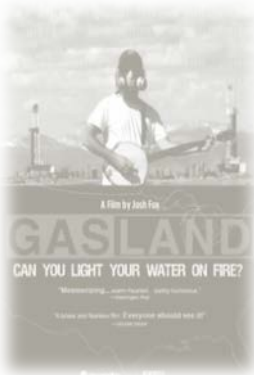


Game Change

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Now

Future



VALUES, ETHICS &
COMMITMENT

Technology Breakthrough

Technology Creep

More of the same

Ambition

Thomas Kuhn (1962)
Paradigm Shift
".... scientific advancement is not evolutionary, rather is a series of peaceful interludes punctuated by intellectually violent revolutions"

Imperial's Vision

Safely develop the shale gas resources while preserving cultural heritage, customs & natural environment

... which means

Guiding Principle

*... being true to
our words*

... then

Resources

**Technology
breakthrough**

Values

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So, the reality is

- ➔ access to resource is constrained by environment & culture
- ➔ protect these or forget the resources

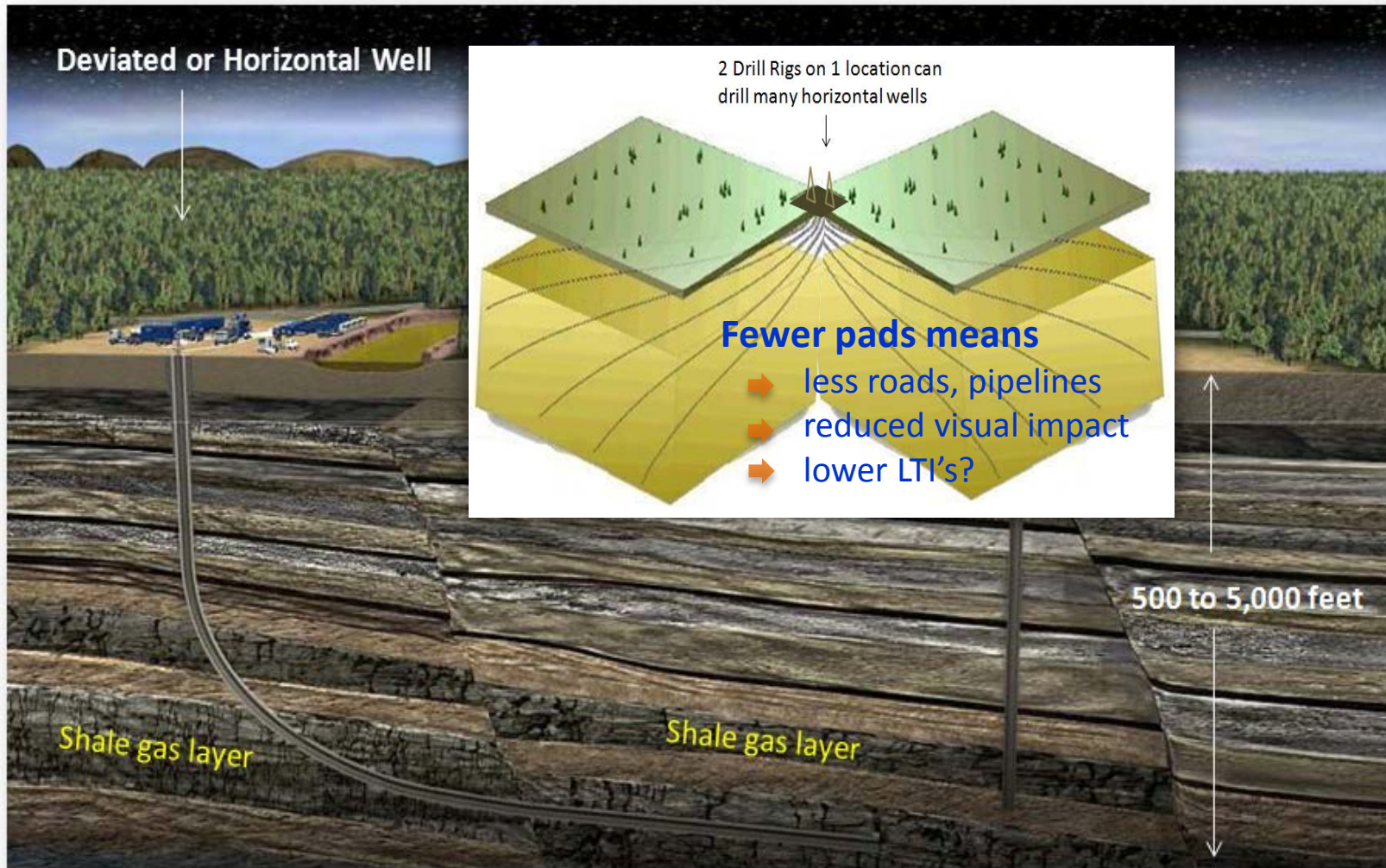
Strategy

Drive the **timely development** & implementation of drilling & production **technology** to

- ➔ remove risk to environment & culture
- ➔ maximise recovery
- ➔ optimise shale gas economics

Minimising Footprint

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Natural Rehabilitation



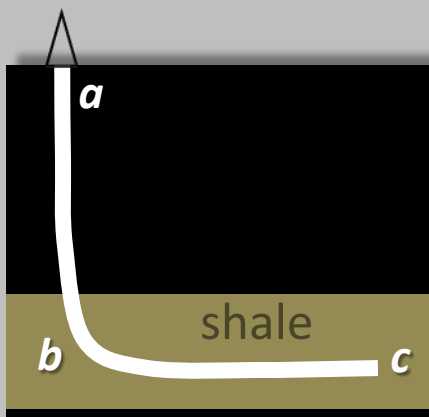
6 months - regrowth
10 years - complete
regrowth

Shale Gas Drilling Limit

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Current

- Deepest (MD) 7,620m *a-c*
- Deepest (TVD) 4,481m *a-b*
- Lateral Length 3,048m *b-c*
- Highest Initial Production
 - 10,000 BOPD
 - 60 MMCF/Day
- Up to 22 fracs per well



Trends

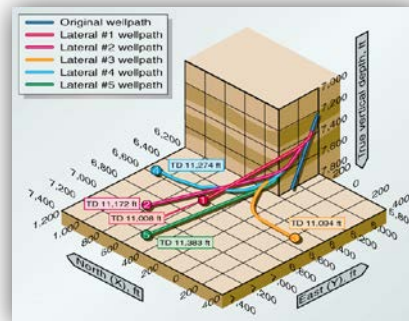
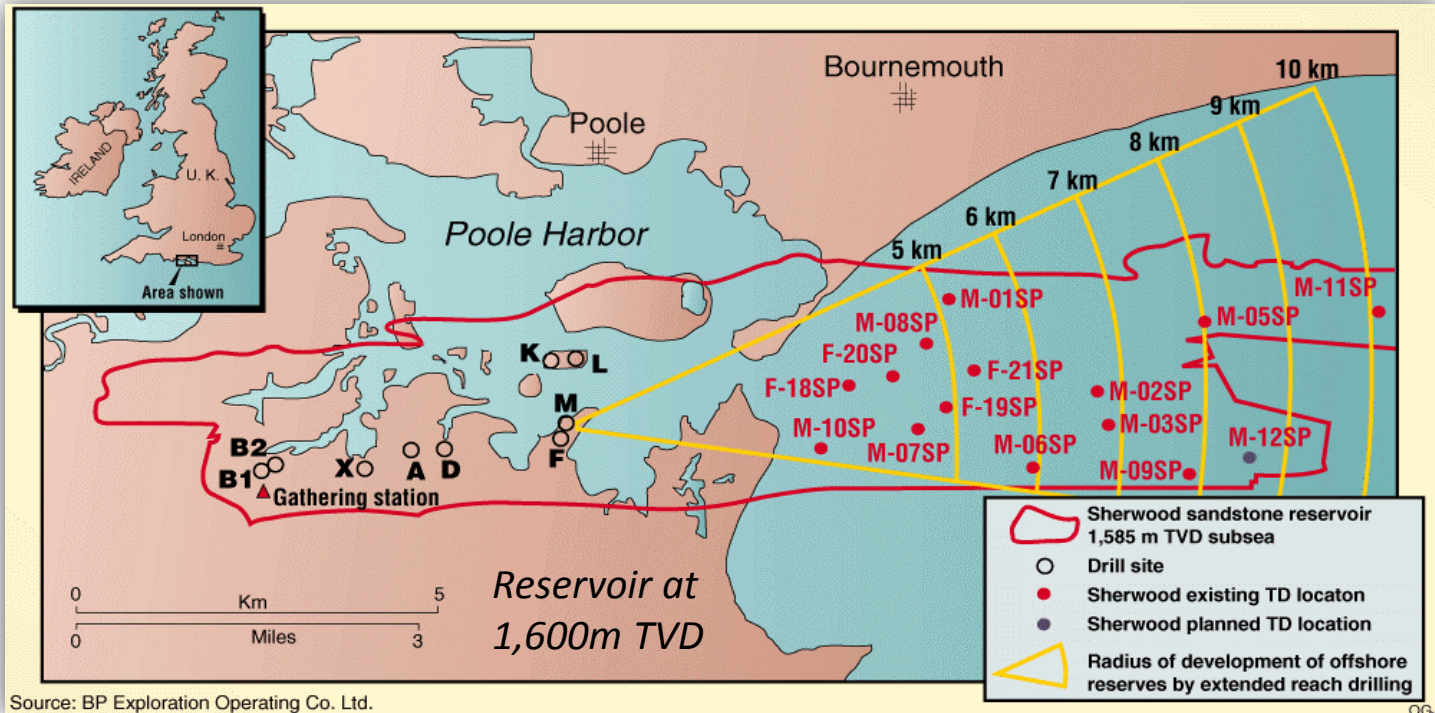
- *Cleaner*
- *Deeper*
- *Hotter*
- *Longer*
- *More Laterals*
- *More fracs per well*
- *Cheaper*



In 2-5 years?

Values provided by Packers Plus April 2011

Push the limit



1999

World record for
11km long reach
horizontal well

Strategy

Drive the **timely development** & implementation of **drilling & production technology** to

- remove environment risk
- maximise recovery
- optimise shale gas economics



Technology Challenge

- *Cheap*
- *Safe*
- *10km+ fraced horizontal wells*
- *with multi-lateral, multi-level & multi frac*
- *that have no lasting impact on environment*

Call for Action

➔ Acknowledge the past but no precedent for future

➔ Responsibility to protect heritage & natural environment

- *no compromise!*

*“...I’ll tell you what I want,
what I really, really want...”*

➔ Technology breakthrough in 2-5 years

- *Safe, cheap & clean*
- *10km+ fraced horizontal wells as standard*
- *multi-lateral/level/frac*



The first predominantly Aboriginal-led petroleum exploitation company with focus on the East Arnhem Region

..... a 'NOC' like **PetroMin** in PNG



Petromin PNG Holdings Limited is an independent company created by the State of Papua New Guinea to hold the State's assets and to maximise indigenous ownership and revenue gains in the mineral and petroleum sectors.

It is empowered as the vehicle to better leverage the State's equity holdings and encourage more production and downstream processing of oil, gas and minerals in PNG through proactive investment strategies either wholly or in partnership with resource developers.

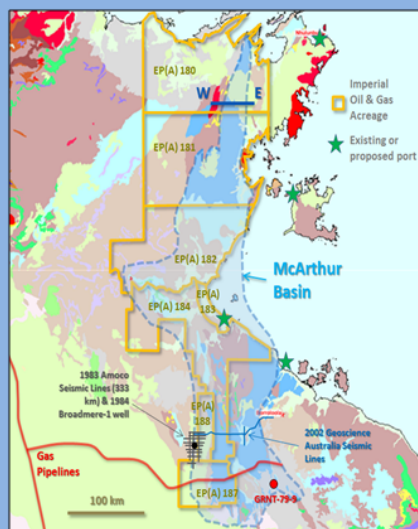


McArthur Basin Shale Gas Play Northern Territory Onshore Australia



Opportunity

In 2010 Imperial Oil & Gas secured **100% interest** in 59,000 km² of prospective shale gas exploration acreage in the Proterozoic McArthur Basin (*Exploration Permit Applications EP (A) 180 – 188*). The McArthur is a petroleum frontier basin at **low exploration maturity** and no prior shale gas activity. It is an inverted Proterozoic basin with **thick carbon-rich black shale** petroleum source rocks also mined for Pb-Zn. There are **direct indications of oil & gas** in the basin and existing gas pipelines. Analogue shale gas basins suggest Imperials acreage contains of the order of **24 Tcf of potential recoverable resources**. For the permits to be granted and exploration work to start agreements must be negotiated with Traditional Land Owners. This process has commenced.

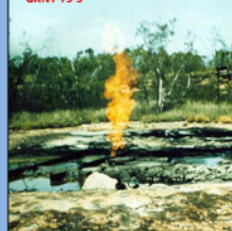


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Amour Energy ASX, 11th Oct 2010

GRNT-79-9



Exploration Plays The target gas resource is in 1,640 million year old Palaeo-Proterozoic organic-rich black shales of the **Barney Creek Formation** and equivalents, proven gas-prone in the South McArthur Basin. In particular the 1979 mineral core hole GRNT-79-9 ignited and sustained a 6m high yellow smoky gas flare for approximately 6 months producing an estimated 0.5 Bcf at 6mmscfd. Gas analysis revealed C1-C7. In addition oil bleeds are common in cores and hence shale oil offers secondary potential.

The Meso-Proterozoic **Velkerri Formation** also contains carbon-rich black shales & siltstones and is present in the southern EP(A)s 187 & 188. This formation is the focus of shale gas exploration by others in the adjacent Beetaloo Basin to the south.

Key Uncertainties & Risk Consistent with a frontier basin the regional extent, quality, and thermal maturity of the Barney Creek & Velkerri Formation shales have yet to be adequately constrained due chiefly to past focus on mineral exploitation from the former. Potential gas-prone sweet spots are yet to be delineated and hence Imperials strategy of acquiring a very large initial acreage position.

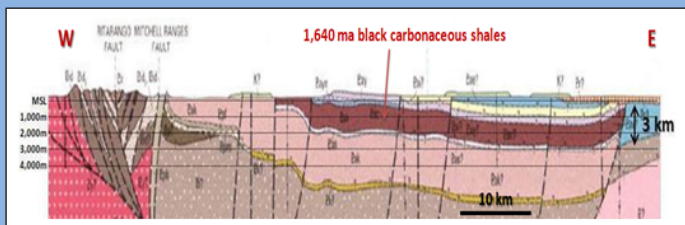
Land access and permit grant in six of the seven permit applications requires approval of the Traditional Owners given they are in Aboriginal Freehold Land. This is a risk given the licenses may not be granted for some time or at all. If negotiations are successful then some permits could be granted and work commence as early as 1H 2012. If not then the majority of the permits enter a 5 year veto period after which negotiations may re-commence.

Exploration Work Programmes Once each permit is granted, the work programmes in all 7 permit areas are essentially the same. **Years 1 & 2** of the 5 Year initial Exploration Term will be concerned with demonstrating the quality of any potential gas shales by geological fieldwork, sampling, and by acquiring drill core samples. This work will form the basis for a Petroleum System Analysis to constrain whether, and in what locations, these shales may be capable of gas (or oil) production. The option to exit can be exercised at the end of any permit year.

Year 3 will focus on 2D seismic acquisition to define the basin shape and depth as well as subsurface targets for vertical test drilling in **Year 4**. If proven to contain shale-gas then **Year 5** will include the drilling and evaluation of a deviated or horizontal well involving fracking and gas production testing.

Barney Creek Formation

Lithofacies	Carbonaceous black silty dolomitic shale
Depth	Outcrop to 4,000m
Gross	500 – 1,000m
Net	13% (in GR-9) to 2
TOC	0.4 – 10.4%
S1+S2	5 – 70 kg/ton
Maturity	Immature to GGW



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