

4 April 2012

**\$11 Million Institutional Placement**

- **\$11 million institutional placement at 8.5 cents per share**
- **Commencement of share register transformation. Placement offered and strongly supported by a very limited number of globally significant institutions**
- **Placement underpins funding for the appraisal of the Surprise discovery and ensures Central is adequately funded to allow it to properly assess and finalise its ongoing farm-out discussions**
- **Strong vote of confidence in Central's acreage, growth strategy and drilling risk mitigation endorsed by the Board**

Central Petroleum Limited (ASX:CTP) ("Company" or "Central") advises that it has completed an institutional placement of \$11 million through the issue of 130 million new shares at 8.5 cents per share. The placement was completed at a 6% discount to the 5-day VWAP of Central's shares.

The Placement is to provide the Company with additional working capital for further appraisal and/or drilling work on the Surprise prospect discovery in the Amadeus Basin and to augment working capital which will ensure Central has the flexibility to pursue a number of farm-outs which are in the best interests of shareholders whilst also maximising the Company's acreage valuations. The placement is being conducted in one tranche under the Company's 15% limit permitted under the listing rules without shareholder approval.

The placement was managed by Patersons Securities Limited and the Central board is appreciative of its ongoing support.

Settlement of the placement is scheduled to occur on 11 April 2012 and the new shares are expected to be quoted on that date. Participants in the placement will also receive one free attaching three-year unlisted option exercisable at 12.5 cents, for every two new shares subscribed which will be granted following shareholder approval at a general meeting to be held shortly.

Ends

**For further information, please contact:**

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**General Disclaimer and explanation of terms:**

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