

Another Northwest Shelf gas discovery

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The state's Northwest Shelf continues to deliver good news for US energy company Hess Corporation, which today announced another natural gas discovery in Jurassic and Triassic sandstones.

The company said its Briseis-1 exploration well had encountered 46 metres of net gas pay, in line with pre-drill estimates.

The Briseis-1 well is the second of four exploration wells being drilled on the WA-390-P Permit by Hess in 2008 and follows the successful Glencoe-1 well, which was announced as a discovery last month.

"While we are still in the early stages of our exploration program in Australia, the results of these first two wells reinforce our view of the high impact potential of the WA-390-P Permit," president of exploration and production John O'Connor said.

Briseis-1 was drilled in 1118m of water by the semi-submersible rig, Jack Bates. Following the completion of the Briseis-1 well, the Jack Bates rig will move 25 kilometers southwest to drill the Nimblefoot prospect. The Nimblefoot-1 well will test a separate structure in the same permit.

Hess holds a 100 per cent interest in the 780,000 acre WA-390-P Permit.