

Otway Exploration Drilling Program

We are exploring the Otway Basin for natural gas to supply the domestic market and support Australia's current and future energy needs, ensuring reliable power generation, industrial processes, and residential heating.

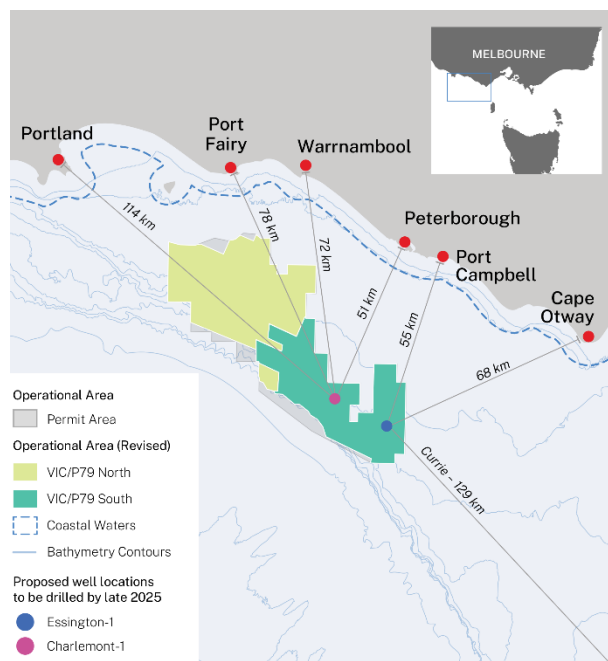
Project Update as of 1 December 2025

- Exploration activities at the Essington-1 well are expected to be completed in early December. Natural gas has been discovered in both target reservoirs.
- Exploration activities at the Charlemont-1 well are expected to commence in early December.
- Collection of anchors and mooring chains for Essington-1 will commence in December.
- Pre-lay of anchors and mooring chains for Charlemont-1 is complete and marked by surface buoys with navigation lights.

ConocoPhillips Australia is part of an industry consortium that has contracted the Transocean Equinox rig.

Watch Our Recent Webinar

Learn about the importance of this natural gas exploration program, the drilling process, and some of the key environmental protection measures that are in place throughout operations. Available via our [Consultation Hub](#).



Exploration Activity Timeline



Pre-lay anchors and mooring chains
Completed



Drilling Essington-1
Completed



Drilling Charlemont-1
Dec



Collect anchor and mooring chains
Dec – Mar

ConocoPhillips Australia is part of an industry consortium that has contracted the Transocean Equinox rig (a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit). Program timing is dependent on prior titleholder operations and sequencing of wells. Additionally, timeframes are dependent on weather and operational conditions. Minor adjustments to the well locations may occur.

Marine Users

Exclusion zones & vessel contacts

Please refer to the [Australian Hydrographic Office](#) for the official Notice to Mariners, which contains further information, including requested clearances from other vessels.

For more general information, please read our [safe operations guide](#) that contains details tailored for marine users.

Compensation

If you are a commercial marine user who has been affected by the Otway Exploration Drilling Program (once activities are underway or while the anchors and chains are in place), you may be eligible for compensation for displacement, loss of catch, or fishing gear loss or damage.

Visit www.omicc.com.au for more information

Natural Gas Discovery in the Otway Basin

Initial results from the Essington-1 well detected the presence of natural gas in the two target reservoirs, Waarre A and Waarre C.

[Read more](#)

Contact Us

If you have any questions regarding the Otway Exploration Drilling Program, please contact the project team at:

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T: 1800 266 108

Or visit the Otway Exploration Drilling Program [Consultation Hub](#).