

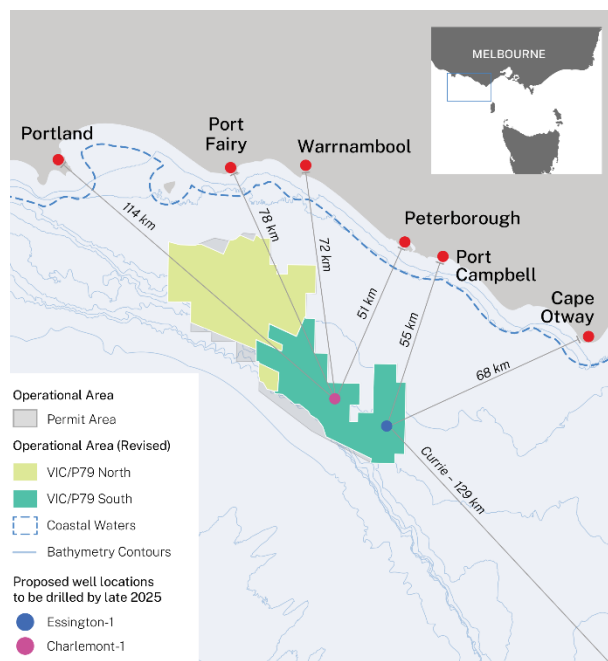
Otway Exploration Drilling Program

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 November 2025

- Essington-1 drilling has started and is likely to continue through to the end of November
- Charlemont-1 drilling is now expected to commence in December 2025
- Pre-lay of anchors and mooring chains continues for Charlemont-1. Once in position these will be marked by surface buoys with navigation lights.

The Transocean Equinox rig is now operating on behalf of ConocoPhillips Australia while drilling the two wells. Anchors and mooring chains from both locations will be collected within 3 months of the activity completion at each well.



Exploration Activity Timeline



Pre-lay anchors and mooring chains
Sept – Nov



Drilling Essington-1
Oct – Nov



Drilling Charlemont-1
Dec



Collect anchor and mooring chains
Nov – 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

Did you know?

Australia is facing forecast gas shortfalls on the east coast from 2028. Natural gas is critical to Australian manufacturing, providing 37 per cent of the energy used by the sector.

Source: [Australian Energy Producers](#)

Contact Us

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

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