

Buru Energy submits application for the Rafael 1 well



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The Declaration of Location application is the next step en route to a production licence which is required for the commercialisation of Buru Energy's 100 per cent owned and regionally significant Rafael conventional gas and condensate discovery.

The submission follows the discovery of a potentially major gas and condensate resource by the Rafael 1 well and lodgement of a Discovery Assessment Report to Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) in May 2022.

The Rafael 1 well was drilled in late 2021 and discovered a potentially regionally significant conventional gas and condensate resource in the Ungani Dolomite equivalent reservoir and in the dolomitised Upper Laurel Carbonate reservoir.

Rafael has the potential to be a small footprint, low impact and low emission source of natural gas and to provide very significant benefits to the local community and Western Australia.

“Following the announcement in February 2023 of Buru’s acquisition of Origin Energy’s Canning Basin Joint Venture interests, Buru now holds a 100 per cent interest in EP 428 and the high potential, high quality, liquids rich Rafael conventional gas discovery,” said [Buru](#) chief executive officer Thomas Nador.

“Lodging the Declaration of Location for the discovery with DMIRS reinforces Buru’s strong confidence in the resource and is a key step towards the commercialisation and monetisation of the Rafael development.”

Nador also explained how Buru’s autonomy gained through the deal with Origin Energy allowed it to aggressively pursue the Rafael development.

“Buru has a multi-pronged strategy that includes the acquisition of a 3D seismic survey at Rafael this year as well as preparations for appraisal drilling in 2024 and engineering and commercial work to underpin various path to market options for this potentially significant resource.”

Following the approval of the Declaration of Location by DMIRS, Buru has up to two years in which to apply for a production licence or Retention Lease, a period which may be extended to four years at the discretion of the Minister.

Preparations to acquire a 3D seismic survey over the Rafael gas and condensate accumulation during the 2023 operating season are well advanced and will provide confirmation of reservoir structure size and potential gas column extent within the Ungani Dolomite Reservoir.

The acquired data will be used to optimise well locations ahead of appraisal drilling targeted for 2024 that will provide the important data required to refine the currently estimated contingent resource volumes.

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