

Permit 55768 – Onshore, Taranaki

An onshore exploration permit has been awarded to AWE Holdings NZ Ltd & Mitsui E&P Australia Pty Ltd.

AWE and Mitsui have committed to reprocess 330 kms of 2D seismic, reprocess the Kaimiro 3D survey and complete an initial interpretation of the newly reprocessed seismic data over 12 months from next April. If results are positive this may lead to exploration drilling.

About the permit area

This permit covers 79.6 km² on the west coast of the North Island, north of Mt Taranaki near the New Plymouth suburb of Bell Block. The area the permit is in was included in the tender in Block 13TAR1.

Click the image to open our online map tool for more detail.

Consultation undertaken

Prior to the launch of Block Offer 2013 NZP&M consulted iwi, hapū and councils in the relevant areas. One submission was received, from a local authority, in which they noted the need to “actively protect Waahi Tapu sites where known to exist and work closely with tangata whenua and oil exploration companies to identify and avoid disturbances of these”.

- [For more information see the Block Offer 2013 Consultation Report \[2.7 MB PDF\]](#)

Company Profile

AWE Limited is an Australian energy company focused on upstream oil and gas exploration and production. AWE currently has six main producing assets in Tasmania, Western Australia, Victoria, Texas and New Zealand. In New Zealand, AWE operates the Tui mining permit, PMP 38158 and has previously held exploration permits in the offshore Taranaki and Canterbury Basins.

Based in Perth, Mitsui is Australia’s fifth largest oil producer, with operations in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and East Timor. Mitsui has an interest in one producing asset in New Zealand – the Kupe field in the offshore Taranaki Basin which is operated by Origin Energy Limited. The company also holds 15% interest in two permits in the offshore Great South Basin that are operated by Shell GSB Limited.

