

**WESSEX EXPLORATION PLC
(PLUS: WX.P)**

Placing and Proposed Admission to AIM

Wessex Exploration PLC (“Wessex Exploration” or the “Company”), the hydrocarbon exploration company, is pleased to announce a successful Placing raising £3 million before expenses.

Wessex Exploration has placed 100,000,000 new Ordinary Shares at 3 pence per share (“the Placing Shares”) conditional on admission to AIM on 23 March 2011 (or such later date as the Company and WH Ireland may agree). It is intended that the proceeds will be used to fund the exploration necessary to support the Company’s strategy.

Application has been made for the Enlarged Share Capital (the Existing Ordinary Shares together with the Placing Shares) to be admitted to AIM and dealings are expected to commence on 23 March 2011 under the tradable instrument display mnemonic WSX. The last day for dealings in Existing Ordinary Shares on PLUS is expected to be 22 March 2011.

All capitalised terms in this announcement are as defined in the Admission Document which is expected to be published on 23 March 2011 and will be available from the Company’s website, www.wessexexploration.com.

In accordance with the provisions of the Disclosure and Transparency Rules of the Financial Services Authority, the Company confirms that, following this issue, its issued share capital comprises 479,364,824 Ordinary Shares of 0.1p each. All of the Ordinary Shares have equal voting rights and none of the Ordinary Shares are held in Treasury. The total number of voting rights in the Company is therefore 479,364,824.

This figure may be used by shareholders as the denominator for the calculations by which they will determine if they are required to notify their interest in, or a change to their interest in, the share capital of the Company under the Disclosure and Transparency Rules.

Contacts

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