



**PTTEP Australasia TIMOR SEA OPERATIONS**  
**Incident Information # 84**

*Date: 1 November 2009 1600 WST*

PTTEP Australasia reports there is a fire at the Montara wellhead platform which is burning around the cantilever portion of the *West Atlas* rig which is located directly above the wellhead platform.

All 113 personnel onboard the *West Triton* drilling rig and two nearby work vessels are safe.

There have been no personnel onboard the *West Atlas* rig since August 21 when the emergency first started.

The *West Triton* rig is located approximately two kilometres away from the *West Atlas* rig. It has been drilling the relief well to intercept the leaking well.

Approximately eight non-essential personnel are this afternoon being flown off the *West Triton* rig.

At 0930 (CST) today, the leaking well in the Montara field in the Timor Sea was intercepted.

Operations then started to “kill the well” by pumping heavy mud into the leaking well from the *West Triton* rig.

Whilst this operation was in progress, a fire broke out at the Montara wellhead platform at approximately 1210 (CST). The fire is burning around the cantilever portion of the *West Atlas* rig which is located directly above the Montara wellhead platform.

A fire fighting vessel, the *Nor Captain*, has earlier today sprayed water onto the fire around the cantilever portion of the *West Atlas* rig. It has now moved away and is standing two nautical miles off the *West Atlas* rig.

Seawater is also being pumped down the relief well from the *West Triton* rig in an effort to “wet” the gas and help bring the fire under control.

A specialist fire fighting team headed by Mike Allcorn of ALERT Well Control left Perth today at 1100 (WST) on a charter flight and is heading for the *West Triton* operation.

More updates will be issued as further details become available.

*Ends*

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**NOTE:** This media statement and all previous statements issued by the company can be viewed at [www.au.pttep.com](http://www.au.pttep.com).