

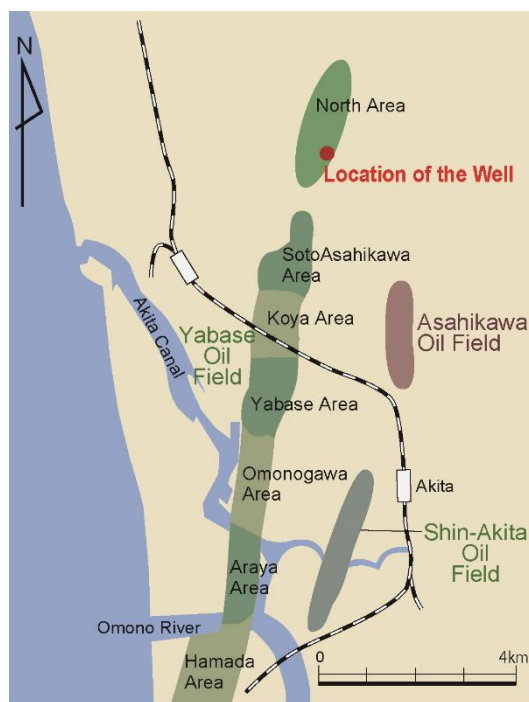
September 30, 2015

### **INPEX to Conduct Drilling in the North Area of Yabase Oil Field, Japan**

**TOKYO, JAPAN** - [INPEX CORPORATION](#) (INPEX) announced today it plans to drill a well for data gathering purposes into the low-permeability sand stratum in the North Area (the Area) of the Yabase Oil Field in Akita Prefecture, Japan. The Area is a former production site with poor flow characteristics. The drilling will be conducted in the first half of 2016 to determine the presence of oil and gas and obtain data to identify the optimum method to improve the productivity of the well through technological studies.

The Area is located approximately seven kilometers north-northwest of the center of the city of Akita.

Having suspended oil and gas production activities at the Area over 40 years ago for economic reasons, INPEX recognizes the Area's oil and gas recovery ratio to be low, amounting to several percent at most, taking into account the overall volume of oil and gas within the low-permeability sand stratum. Based on data acquired from this well, INPEX plans to study and identify the optimal application of modern productivity enhancement techniques. It is noted that such technologies have evolved significantly in recent years, and are therefore expected to significantly improve the Area's productivity and recovery ratio.



<Location Map>

In preparation for the operation, which is the subject of a joint study with Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC), INPEX will prioritize safety throughout the planning and execution of the drilling, while keeping local communities fully informed and taking the appropriate steps to seek their understanding and cooperation.

Moving forward, INPEX will continue to be actively engaged in the efficient and effective utilization of Japan's domestic energy resources through new exploration and development projects within the country.

### **About INPEX**

INPEX CORPORATION is Japan's largest exploration and production (E&P) company, comparable in size and scope to other mid-tier international oil and gas E&P companies. INPEX is currently involved in over 70 projects across more than 20 countries, including two large-scale LNG Projects, the Ichthys LNG Project in Australia and the Abadi LNG Project in Indonesia, as operator. Through sustainably growing its oil and gas development business, INPEX aims to become a top class international oil and gas E&P Company following the majors by the early 2020s. For more information, visit [www.inpex.co.jp/english/index.html](http://www.inpex.co.jp/english/index.html).

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