

**Communication from the French Government concerning Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 1994 on the conditions for granting and using authorisations to prospect for, exploit and extract hydrocarbons <sup>(1)</sup>**

*(Notice regarding applications for exclusive licences to prospect for liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons, designated the 'Aquila' and 'Arcachon Maritime' licences)*

(2005/C 144/04)

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

By request of 18 December 2004, Vermilion Rep SAS and Vermilion Exploration SAS, with registered offices on Route de Pontenx, Parentis-en-Born, 40161 (France), applied for an exclusive five-year licence, designated the 'Aquila' licence, to prospect for liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons in an area of approximately 709 km<sup>2</sup> covering part of the department of Gironde and the seabed off this department.

By request of 4 March 2005, Island Oil and Gas plc, with registered offices at 'Curdarragh', Annamult, Bennettsbridge, County Kilkenny (Ireland), applied for an exclusive five-year licence, designated the 'Arcachon Maritime' licence, to prospect for liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons in an area of approximately 638 km<sup>2</sup> covering part of the seabed off the department of Gironde, in partial competition with the application for the Aquila licence.

The perimeter of the area covered by this licence is made up of the meridian and parallel arcs successively joining the vertices defined below by their geographical coordinates, the original meridian being that of Paris (Greenwich coordinates):

VERTICES	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE
A	4.30° W (1°31'56" W)	49.90° N (44°54'40" N)
B	3.90° W (1°10'20" W)	49.90° N (44°54'40" N)
C	3.90° W (1°10'20" W)	49.80° N (44°49'16" N)
D	4.00° W (1°15'44" W)	49.80° N (44°49'16" N)
E	4.00° W (1°15'44" W)	49.59° N (44°37'55" N)
F	4.01° W (1°16'17" W)	49.59° N (44°37'55" N)
G	4.01° W (1°16'17" W)	49.56° N (44°36'18" N)
H	4.00° W (1°15'44" W)	49.56° N (44°36'18" N)
I	4.00° W (1°15'44" W)	49.50° N (44°33'04" N)
J	4.10° W (1°21'08" W)	49.50° N (44°33'04" N)
K	4.10° W (1°21'08" W)	49.60° N (44°38'28" N)
L	4.20° W (1°26'32" W)	49.60° N (44°38'28" N)
M	4.20° W (1°26'32" W)	49.70° N (44°43'52" N)
N	4.30° W (1°31'56" W)	49.70° N (44°43'52" N)

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 164, 30.6.1994, p. 3.

Interested companies may, within 90 days of the publication of this notice, submit a competing application in accordance with the procedure summarised in the 'Notice regarding the granting of mining rights for hydrocarbons in France' published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 374 of 30 December 1994, page 11, and established by Decree 95-427 of 19 April 1995 regarding mining rights (*Journal officiel de la République française* of 22 April 1995).

Further information can be obtained from the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry (Directorate-General for Energy and Raw Materials, Directorate for Energy and Mineral Resources, Bureau of Mining Legislation), 61, Boulevard Vincent Auriol, Télédéc 133, F-75703 Paris Cedex 13, France (tel. (33) 144 97 23 02, fax (33) 144 97 05 70).

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