OMV in New Zealand

OMV is a hydrocarbon producer and an explorer in the search for new oil and gas reserves offshore New Zealand.

The company began operating in New Zealand after acquiring a 30% share in the Maari oil field following the purchase of Cultus Petroleum of Australia in 1999. It has since expanded into a range of other assets through subsequent acquisitions. These include the Māui gas field and a 74% share in the Pohokura gas field. OMV New Zealand is a subsidiary of OMV Upstream, which is part of the OMV Group, one of Austria’s largest listed industrial companies.

As of year-end 2018, OMV’s proven worldwide reserves were 1.3 billion boe (barrel of oil equivalent). In 2018, OMV Upstream’s global oil and gas production averaged 427,000 boe per day.

OMV is a highly experienced operator of mature onshore and offshore fields, focused on delivering safe and efficient production.

Since acquiring shares in the Maari Field in 1999, OMV has invested more than 3 billion New Zealand Dollars in New Zealand.

With offices in Wellington and New Plymouth, the company is a significant contributor to operating profit within OMV Upstream’s portfolio. OMV has delivered more than 1.1 bn New Zealand Dollars in tax and royalties to the New Zealand government in the last ten years.

Production

OMV has interests in three offshore production licenses or petroleum mining permits – all in the Taranaki region. Current production is 40,000 boe per day (OMV), comprised of 75% gas, 25% condensate and oil.

Maari

Maari is New Zealand’s largest oil field and lies 80 km off the south Taranaki coast. OMV is the operator with a 69% share. Production began in February 2009. Oil is produced at the wellhead platform (Tiro Tiro Moana) and piped to a floating production and storage vessel (FPSO Raroa), anchored 1.5 km away.

There are currently ten production and injection wells on the wellhead platform, including New Zealand’s longest well - an 8km extended reach well into the Manaia structure.

Pohokura

OMV has a 74% share in the Pohokura gas field in the Taranaki Basin. Pohokura began production in late 2006 and meets about 40% of New Zealand’s gas demand. Production is processed through the Pohokura Production Station, which has no staff on site and is remotely controlled from the New Plymouth office.

Māui

Māui was New Zealand’s largest gas field until 2008. It meets about 20% of New Zealand’s gas needs and is 100% owned by OMV. Māui was discovered in 1969. The first gas to shore was ten years later, in May 1979.
Exploration
OMV is actively searching for oil and gas resources in New Zealand. OMV currently holds interests in seven operated exploration permits.

Taranaki Basin
OMV is exploring in the Taranaki region with five operated exploration permits. A dynamic work program is underway across all operated license areas with the intent to grow OMV’s and New Zealand’s reserves through new discoveries in our permits.

Pegasus Basin
OMV operates one offshore permit in Pegasus Basin, offshore Wairarapa. Understanding of this relatively unexplored frontier basin has increased significantly since seismic data was acquired in the first half of 2017. Ongoing geological and geophysical studies will enable a drilling decision, expected to be made in 2021.

Great South Basin (GSB)
OMV has been active in the GSB since 2007 and acquired 19,000 km of 2D seismic data and 4,820 km² of 3D seismic data in the last ten years. OMV’s seismic data is complemented by a comprehensive program of geological and metocean studies, which has provided valuable information as the exploration efforts continue to advance.

In our communities
Being socially responsible is a key part of OMV’s approach to sustainability. OMV actively supports the communities where we operate.

Projects include:
- Working closely with iwi and local youth groups in Taranaki
- Numerous energy efficiency programs, science fairs and university scholarships
- Training iwi representatives as professional marine mammal observers during seismic surveys
- WISE Better Homes funding to retrofit homes with insulation for low income Taranaki households
- Roderique Hope Trust - installation of heat pumps and emergency supplies for displaced Taranaki families in need
- NIWA Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) Project - using PAM to assess cetacean distribution and movement through New Zealand’s Cook Strait
- Translocation of sea birds to Mana Island and wetlands
- Tiaki te Mauri o Parininihi Trust – protecting the health and spirit of Parininihi, Taranaki – including the reintroduction of kōkako birds
- Reintroduction of rare birds at Rotokare Scenic Reserve in Taranaki
- Providing equipment and operating costs for Taranaki Air Ambulance Trust
- Support for Taranaki’s WOMAD festival

Milestones
- 1999 Acquires 30% of Maari oil field
- 2002 Acquires 10% of Māui gas field. Increases Maari share to 69% and becomes operator.
- 2003 Acquires 26% of Pohokura gas field
- 2007 Secures Great South Basin (GSB) exploration permits
- 2008 Maari drilling program begins; Maari wellhead platform and FPSO Raroa arrive
- 2009 Maari first oil. Drilling of Manaia ERD well
- 2010 Maari reaches 10 million barrel milestone; acquires additional seismic in the GSB.
- 2011 Secures two additional Taranaki Basin exploration permits
- 2012 Completes GSB 3D seismic program. Additional permits in Taranaki and GSB
- 2013 Drills Matuku-1 exploration well and Manaia-2 appraisal well; purchase of the FPSO Raroa by the Maari JV
- 2014 Start of Maari Growth redevelopment drilling campaign; acquires Kaka 3D and Mohua 2D seismic. Awarded two operated exploration permits: Pegasus Basin and Taranaki Basin
- 2015 Awarded four exploration permits in Taranaki Basin
- 2017 Maari Field produces 35 million barrels of oil
- 2018 Acquires Shell’s Upstream assets in New Zealand, including interests in Pohokura and Māui and related infrastructure for production, storage and transportation

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