

**Max Petroleum Plc
(the "Company")**

Drilling Update

8 March 2010

Max Petroleum Plc, an oil and gas exploration and development company focused on Kazakhstan, is pleased to announce today that it has commenced drilling the KZN-1 exploration well on the North Kyzylzhar II East Block prospect in Block E, the second of twelve post-salt exploration prospects scheduled to be drilled by the Company on Blocks A&E. Furthermore, the Company will commence testing the BOR-1 exploration well on the Borkyldakty prospect in Block E later this week, upon obtaining final regulatory approvals.

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Richard Hook, Chief Operating Officer of Max Petroleum, is the qualified person that has reviewed and approved the technical information contained in this announcement. Mr. Hook is a member of the Houston Geological Society and holds both Masters and Bachelors of Science degrees in geology.