

Touchstone reports successful drilling of Cascadura-5 Well

TOUCHSTONE Exploration Inc has announced the successful drilling of its Cascadura-5 development well (Cas-5), located on the Ortoire block onshore in Trinidad and Tobago. The company holds an 80% operating working interest in the well, with Heritage Petroleum Company Ltd retaining the remaining 20%.

In a release, Touchstone stated that drilling operations for Cas-5 began on June 4 using Star Valley Drilling Rig 205 and reached a total depth of 7,020 feet over a 22day period. The well has been cased for future production following open-hole logging.

The primary target of the Cas-5 well was the Herrera Gr7bc sands, a key feature of the Cascadura structure, Touchstone stated.

Cas-5 is the second well drilled into the B block of the structure and encountered approximately 620 feet of gross sand.

Touchstone stated that the reservoir intervals were located about 300 feet up dip of the Cascadura-2 well drilled in early 2024.

The release added that although the original planned depth was 6,654 feet, drilling was extended based on encouraging results from drill cuttings and mud logging that indicated sustained hydrocarbon presence. Data collected from wireline logging, mud logging, and drill cuttings all suggest that hydrocarbon- bearing sands are present throughout the primary Gr7bc interval, it stated. **Previous challenges**

Paul Baay, president and chief executive officer of Touchstone, said the operation was completed on time and within budget.

'Cas-5 was drilled on schedule and on budget, with field-estimated costs of approximately US\$5 million, despite extending the target depth. The performance of our new drilling team, along with the use of synthetic oil-based mud and managed pressure drilling, was instrumental in delivering a successful operation. We encountered no material issues during drilling, which we attribute to improvements implemented following previous challenges,' said Baay.

He added that the results met or surpassed expectations.

'The hydrocarbon intervals observed align with or exceed our pre-drill expectations and continue to enhance our understanding of the Cascadura structure as we integrate ongoing seismic interpretation.'

Touchstone also confirmed plans to resume operations at the nearby Cascadura- 4 (Cas-4) well once funding becomes available. Cas-4 is currently cased to a depth of 3,200 feet, with drilling set to continue toward a target depth of approximately 6,500 feet. Like Cas-5, it is also aimed at the Herrera sands.

Upon completion, both Cas-4 and Cas-5 are expected to be tied into the Cascadura natural gas facility. The company noted that all necessary tiein equipment is already on site.