

23 March 2016

Northern Land Council

Cc: Adam Giles

**Call to review process of granting Petroleum Licences EP154 and EP153**

On behalf of Traditional Owners from the Alawa, Kelweyi and Mangarrayi Land Trusts, we have major concerns with the granting of Petroleum Licences EP154 and EP153.

We maintain that we were not properly consulted before the agreement was signed and the licences were given approval by the Northern Land Council.

We are in agreement that the process and risks of onshore shale gas fracking and the scope of the work plan was not explained to us. We believe there has been a failure to undertake proper consultation.

**We are calling for a review of the consultation process, and for these two petroleum exploration licences to be revoked to allow for proper process.**

This issue has been previously raised in a letter to the Northern Land Council on 27 April 2015, where many residents and Traditional Owners signed the below letter:

*In March the NT Government announced approval of Petroleum Licence 154 over the Mangarrayi Land Trust.*

*Representatives of your organisation have claimed that consultation with Traditional Owners was adequate to reach an agreement for exploration, and potentially gas mining, with Jacaranda Minerals and Minerals Australia. We have previously written to you on behalf of 140 residents of Jilkminngan who reject this claim and have called for the licence to be revoked.*

*Northern Land Council lawyer Charlotte Deans and two mining officers visited Jilkminngan on Friday 17 April for an unadvertised meeting in response to receiving our letter. Traditional Owners raised concerns with the lack of transparency involved in the consultation process and were told that they had no option to withdraw from any agreement. We requested to sight a copy of the agreement but those present were told it was confidential. We were also denied the names of the signatories of the agreement. The NLC cannot claim that this process constitutes informed consent when we are actively being denied information and documents about the agreement which opens up our lands to risks from damaging gas mining.*

*We now write on behalf of the Mangarrayi Traditional Owners to request that the Northern Land Council immediately provide us with copies of the following documents:*

- i. The agreement between Mangarrayi Traditional Owners and Jacaranda Minerals/Minerals Australia for Petroleum Licence 154
- ii. Copies of any maps relating to the agreement and depicting exploration boundaries, exclusion zones, sacred site, community living areas and water sources
- iii. The names of signatories to the agreement and minutes from any meetings held to discuss the agreement.

We are asking that the Northern Land Council immediately review its conduct in relation to the formation of this agreement and seek to have this matter discussed as an agenda item at the upcoming Mangarrayi Land Trust meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Concerns were raised in a letter to Chief Minister Adam Giles on 1 April 2015:

We the Mangarrayi Traditional Owners and residents of Jilkminggan and Elsey Station are writing to the NT Government because a Petroleum exploration licence, EL 154, was recently approved over our land and surrounding pastoral stations.

We were not told about the risks to our health, water and environment from fracking and shale gas drilling. We do not want any fracking for gas to go ahead on our land. We want to protect the country for future generations.

We are now calling for a full review into the process of granting Petroleum Licences EP154 and EP153 and for these two petroleum exploration licences to be revoked to allow for proper process.

Signed:

ALAN FULTON

Ponto  
MILDRED

Estelle Farrar

Arthur Daniels

Joelene

Gay Kamangu

WAYNE ROY

ROSINA FARRELL

STEVEN

SANDY

VINCENT FULTON

SISAN FARRAR

ANGELINA FULTON

ROSSLYN F

MARY FULTON

SUZIE FULTON

CHRISTINE CONWAY

GREG MARONEY

GEORGE MARONEY

JIMMY WAVEHILL

MICOMBE DAYLIGHT

TOM HUME

ESTHER WILFRED

CLIVE ROBERTS

MANANNE ROBERTS

VALMAI ROBERTS

JULIE MILLAR

NAOMI WILFRED

BARBARA A

WENDY DAYLIGHT

TRIVOR WILLIE

ELAINE JAMES

ROSSLYN FARRAR

MICHAEL MILLAR

SHEILA

WILLIAM

JOCELYN JAMES

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The Hon. Adam Giles  
GPO Box 3146  
Darwin NT 0801  
Email: [Chief.Minister@nt.gov.au](mailto:Chief.Minister@nt.gov.au)

1 April 2015

Dear Mr Giles,

We the Mangarray Traditional Owners and residents of Jilkminggan and Elsey Station are writing to the NT Government because a Petroleum exploration licence, EL 154, was recently approved over our land and surrounding pastoral stations.

We were not told about the risks to our health, water and environment from fracking and shale gas drilling. We do not want any fracking for gas to go ahead on our land. We want to protect the country for future generations.

Chief Minister Adam Giles has claimed that mining and fracking will create jobs in our communities, but we want to look after the country, not dig it up and destroy it. Last year we wrote to the NT Government to request support for a meatworks on Elsey Station, which would be run by our people and benefit the entire region and its pastoral industry, but these requests have been ignored.

We are putting the NT Government on notice that this project does not have our consent and we are preparing to take action to stop any attempts to harm our lands. The NT Government must immediately withdraw the exploration licence. We will work together with other communities and landholders to keep our community gas-free.

Signed: SHEILA

ROSINA FARRELL

ROBERT-CONWAY

KERRY ROBERTS

STEPHANIE DANIELS

TINA DAYLIGHT

Deanne Ponto

James Daniels

WARRICK SKEEN

FAY ROBERTS

CRAIG THOMPSON

Kerri-Anne Roberts

Nathan Kingsley

Syrita Conway

Loretta Sandy

FIONA K

EVONNE ALBERT

Phillipa Thompson

Leslie Sandy

Harold Albert

Rhondelle Geoffrey

Rhonda Daylight

Joey Wunungmurra

Sandra Hodgson

Shirley McDonald

Danulla Morgan

Joey McDonald

Shirley Roberts

Wayne Ryan

Stuart Yunupingu

GERALD SAMBO

Lewis Roy  
Andoinette

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Signed:

ANTONELLA MARTIN	MARTIRA GEORGE
Jason Vincent	TREVOR ALEX WURRAMARAH
WILTON Ngalmi	Barbara Anderson
SADIE GIBBS	RAY DODD
Jimmy Thompson	PETER WALLA
Lionel Jerry	Soeyes Silvar
PAUL JOHNSON	MOSE SILVER
CECILY CONWAY	ASHWOOD FARRELL
ROBIN GEORGE	DIANNE - RILEY
Leisa Manay	Timmy Watson
Elitza Rankin	Tina Pyro
Danielle Dixon	JESS SMILER
Phillip Watson	DANNY JAMES
	NATHAN THOMPSON
	Joseph Hall

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Signed:

Cecilia Lake  
Muh Gut  
PATRICIA BAKER  
Wandetta Dick  
JEFFREY JOE  
Allen morgan  
Sakitchford  
Rosslyn Farrar  
Virginia Farrar  
Russell Agalara  
WILLIAM John  
Jessica Smilev  
Sally Henderson  
Audrey McDonald  
Dianne Gumbay  
Sally Smith

LATOYA Albert  
CYNTHIA RORY  
Pia Lamsin  
Anton Martin  
Fabian McDonald  
ROSS LIRRIE  
STEVEN SANDY  
Harry ALBERT. SR  
SUSAN MORTON.  
Danie K  
Leslie SANDY  
Trevor Carew  
RICHARD moore  
Mycombe DAYLIGHT  
TOMMY BILLY



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Signed: Ossie Daylight Scott Henderson Wayne Collins  
Kimberley Charlie Doree Sandy Anna Maria McI  
TIMOTHY Gordon Wesley Woods  
Cody Henderson Miss Beke Marlene Collins  
Chucky Doctor Delvina Ngalmi  
SHARNAE ELLIS Bradley Liddle  
Belinda Daniels WENDY DAYLIGHT  
JUNIOR DAYLIGHT Loretha Willy  
SNR Ian DAYLIGHT Sebina Willy  
Hilda Daylight Jnr Hannah Willy  
Kathleen Daylight Kerry Daylight  
Terrence Willy Jnr Annabelle Daylight  
Shonelle Charl

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Signed:

John Leo Hubblester  
DELVINA DANIELS  
Josephine Cane W  
Joshua Forbes  
DEBRA DANIELS  
DAVID DANIELS

# "Fracking" consents qualified

The NT Department of Mines and Energy has granted two petroleum exploration permits over Aboriginal land in the NLC region, the first such permits to be granted for exploration of petroleum, which may use hydraulic fracturing ("fracking").

The NLC conducted extensive consultations with Traditional Owners and affected Aboriginal com-

munities between 2010 and 2013 before they gave their consent – in both cases qualified by excisions which substantially reduced the areas applied for, by strict environmental conditions and by provisions to oversee the fracking operations.

During the consultations, the NLC presented information about exploration techniques, including geological mapping, seismic

studies, stratigraphic drilling and fracking; the exploration companies also gave presentations to Traditional Owners. The NLC Full Council was briefed on the environmental impacts of fracking, and the NLC made relevant submissions to the NT Government.

NLC exploration deeds contain comprehensive provisions for environmental protection that go beyond

what is required under the current regulatory framework. They have specific provisions relating to well design and construction to prevent environmental impacts from hydrocarbons or fracturing fluids.

NLC deeds also protect sacred sites, beyond their excision from the exploration areas consented to.

RIGHT: Permit locations.

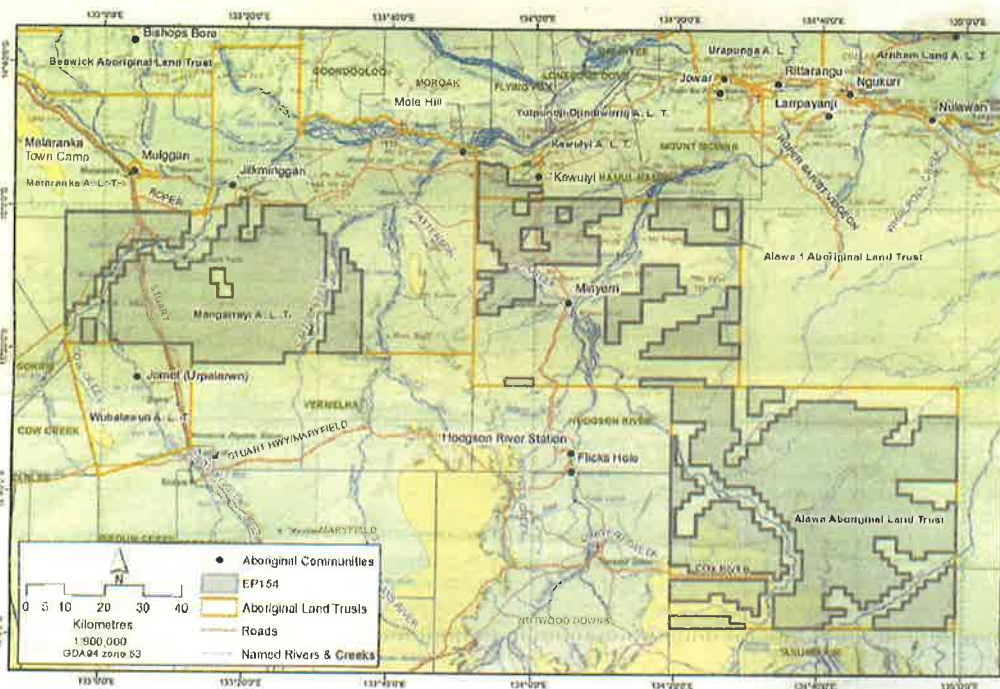


EP 154

EP 154 is held by Jacaranda Minerals Ltd and Minerals Australia Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of Hancock Prospecting Ltd. They lodged an application for consent on 19 January 2009 over 12,859km<sup>2</sup> of land on the Mangarrayi, Kewulyi, Alawa and Alawa 1 Aboriginal Land Trusts in the Katherine and Ngukurr regions.

NLC anthropologists conducted sacred site surveys with Traditional Owners to identify and exclude culturally sensitive areas.

Traditional Owners gave consent over only 6,583km<sup>2</sup>, or 51 per cent of the land originally applied for. The remaining 49 per cent was refused and placed in moratorium, including the entire Kewulyi Aboriginal Land Trust. On the instructions of Traditional Owners, all creeks and rivers were excluded from grant, as were all residences, including the Jilkminggan, Minyerri and Kewulyi communities and outstations.

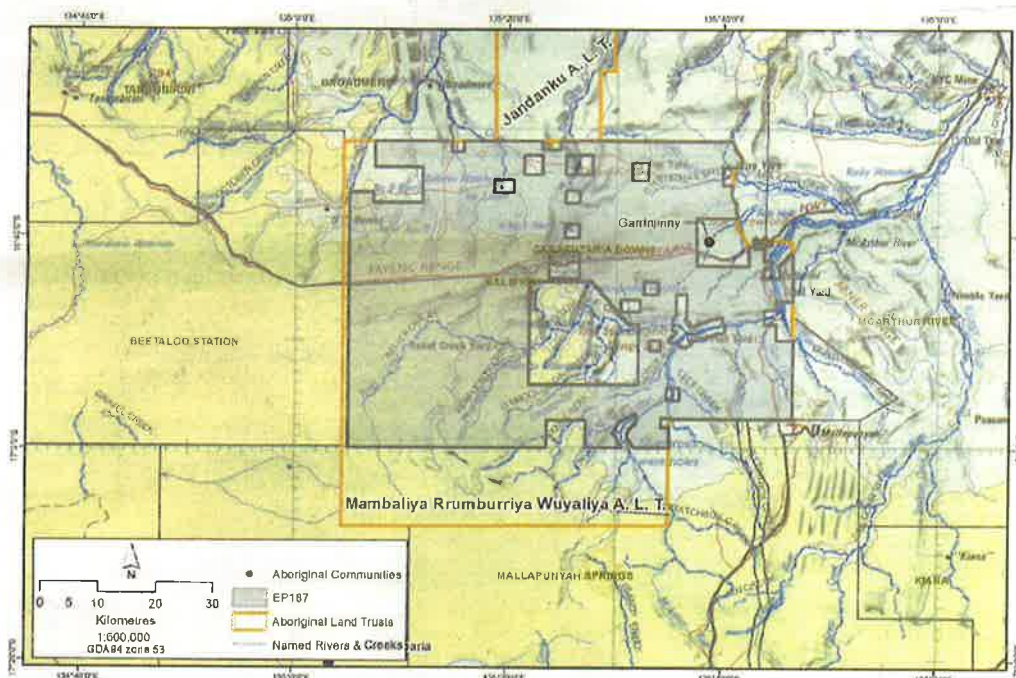


EP 187

EP 187 is held by Imperial Oil & Gas Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Empire Energy Group, an American oil and gas company. It lodged an application for consent on 12 April 2010 over 3,664km<sup>2</sup> of land covering the majority of the Mambaliya Rumburriya Wuyaliya Aboriginal Land Trust in the Borroloola/Barkly region.

Sacred site surveys were done, and Traditional Owners gave their consent to exploration over 2,985km<sup>2</sup>, or 81 per cent of the land originally applied for.

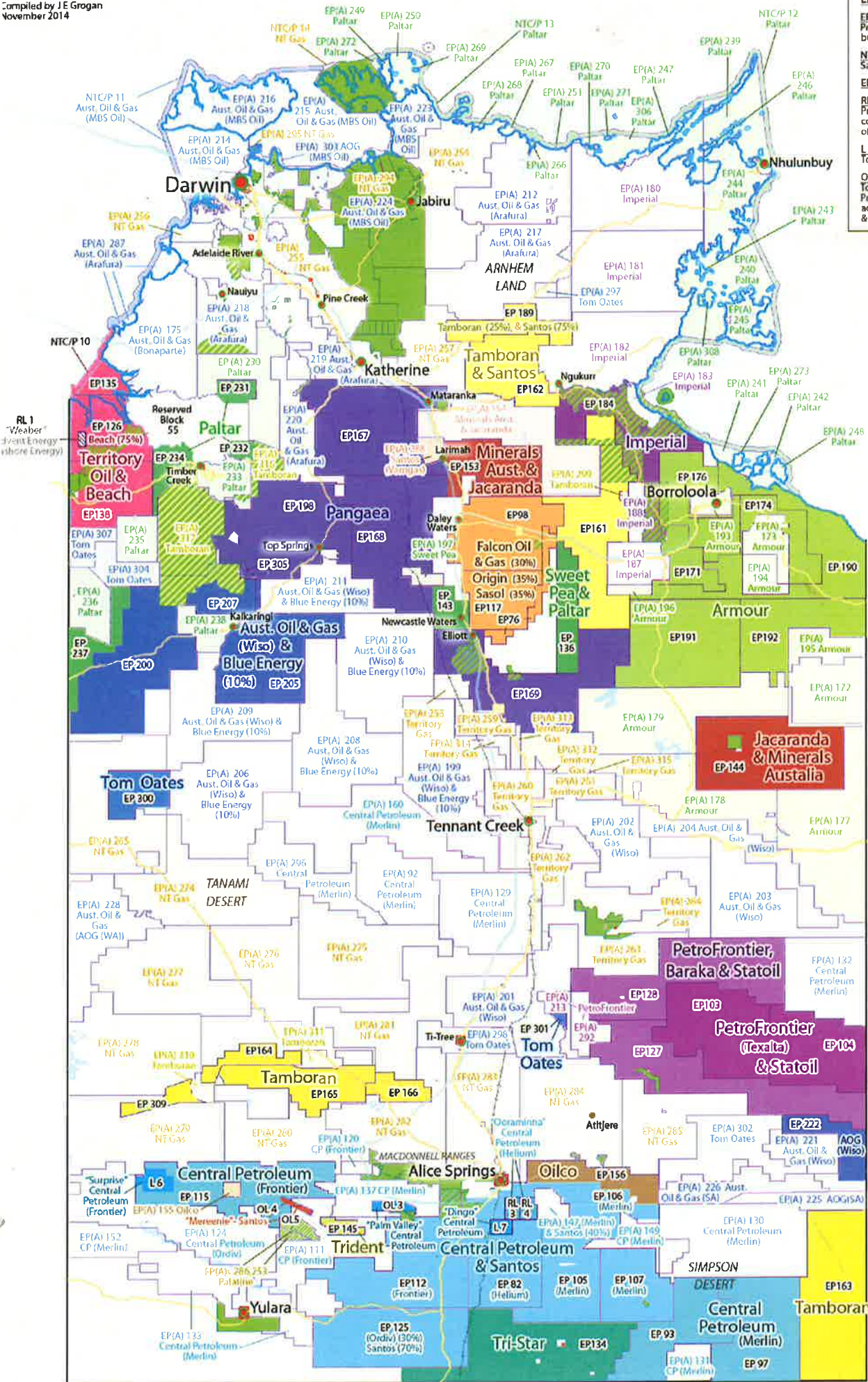
The remaining 19 per cent was refused and placed into moratorium. Water courses form a significant part of the non-consent land, and the community of Garrinjinny was excluded from grant.





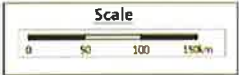
Northern Territory Petroleum Licences

Compiled by J E Grogan  
November 2014



Licence Title Abbreviations:

- EP - Exploration Permit**  
Prime title to explore, drill, survey for, but not produce, hydrocarbons.
- NTC/P - Northern Territory Coastal Permit**  
Same as above in coastal waters.
- EP(A) - Exploration Permit (Application)**
- RL - Retention Licence**  
Provides security of title over currently non-commercial discoveries for a reasonable period of time
- L - Production Licence**  
To explore, test for and produce hydrocarbons.
- OL - Production Lease**  
To explore, test for and produce hydrocarbons. Production Leases OL3, OL4 and OL5 are administered under the Petroleum (Prospecting & Mining) Act



- Key**
- Cities/towns/settlements
  - Roads
  - Railway
  - Lakes/ rivers
  - Coastline
  - Licence boundaries
  - Gas pipeline
  - National parks
  - National Park overlapping a mining licence or application

Full names of companies:

- Baraka Petroleum Ltd
- Beach Petroleum Pty Ltd
- Central Petroleum Ltd
- Falcon Oil & Gas Australia Ltd
- Frontier Oil & Gas
- Imperial Oil & Gas Pty Ltd
- Jacaranda Minerals Ltd
- Minerals Australia Pty Ltd
- NT Gas Aust Pty Ltd
- Oilco Pty Ltd
- Onshore Energy Pty Ltd
- Origin Energy Resources Ltd
- Palatine Energy Pty Ltd
- Paltar Petroleum Ltd
- Pangaea Pty Ltd
- Santos QNT Pty Ltd
- Sasol Petroleum Australia Ltd
- Sweetpea Petroleum Pty Ltd
- Texalta Australia Pty Ltd
- PetroFrontier (Australia) Pty Ltd
- Statoil Australia Theta B.V.
- Tamboran Pty Ltd
- Territory Gas Aust Pty Ltd
- Territory Oil & Gas Pty Ltd
- Tom Oates
- Tri-Star Energy Company
- Trident Energy Ltd

Fully owned subsidiaries

- Company names shown in parentheses on the map are fully owned subsidiaries of the main company of that colour.
- Parent companies and subsidiaries are listed below.
- Central Petroleum (CP)**
    - Merlin Energy Pty Ltd
    - Frontier Oil & Gas Pty Ltd
    - Ordly Petroleum Ltd
    - Hellum Australia Pty Ltd
  - Australian Oil & Gas**
    - MBS Oil Pty Ltd
    - Wiso Oil Pty Ltd
    - Arafura Oil Pty Ltd
    - Bonaparte Oil Ltd
    - Australian Oil and Gas (AOG) (SA) Pty Ltd
    - Australian Oil and Gas (AOG) (WA) Pty Ltd
  - PetroFrontier**
    - Texalta Australia Pty Ltd
  - Santos**
    - Vamgas Pty Ltd