

Present and Future of Tamaulipas and Veracruz Continental Platform

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Petroleum exploration in the Tamaulipas and Veracruz Continental Platform began in the 1950s. In recent years Pemex has conducted an intensive exploration program. Oil exploration has been focused in the Marine Golden Lane, offshore Veracruz, where a new field has been found and several prospects have been identified. In the Arenque area, offshore southern Tamaulipas, the Lobina discovery extended the productive area. For gas exploration, basin analysis based on 2D seismic data at the Gulf of Mexico Continental Platform documented three attractive areas for 3D seismic acquisition, plays studies, documentation and evaluation of portfolios and selective exploration drilling based on plays framework. Lankahuasa and Lamprea areas in northern Veracruz and southern Tamaulipas respectively have major activity in exploratory drilling and an intensive and fast track developing is on going. Structural blocks for Neogene gasiferous plays have been detected also updated risk perception with: a) Analysis of core samples of the sea-floor b) High resolution seismic data 3) Sand reservoirs discovered in 5 wildcats and 4) Post-mortem of un-succeeded wells. An attractive sector is the Delta del Bravo area in northern Tamaulipas with a campaign of core sampling of the bottom sea, which fluid analysis indicates presence of dry gas and oil. The area was partially covered by 3D seismic survey where prominent features are shale or salt diapirs that formed conduits for the mini-basins. Exploratory portfolio of prospects is documented to be drill on 2005.
