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Northern Petroleum Plc

("Northern" (AIM: NOP))

Sale of Interest in Vinkega Gas Field

Northern announces the sale of its interest in the Vinkega gas field for approximately €3.2 million.

The Vinkega gas field was discovered when Vermilion Oil & Gas Netherlands B.V. ("Vermilion") drilled the Vinkega-1 well (spudded 16th November 2009) on its Gorredijk Licence. The field has been mapped as underlying both part of the Gorredijk Licence and part of the Drenthe III Licence, which is held by Northern Petroleum Nederland B.V. ("NPN"), a wholly owned subsidiary of NPN, Nederlandse Aardolie Maatschappij B.V. and Dyas B.V.

All the Drenthe III Licence interest holders have agreed to the sale of their respective Drenthe III interests in the Vinkega field to Vermilion, with NPN's pro-rated share of the consideration being €3.1875 million. Seventy percent of the purchase price has already been paid on signing of the Sale and Purchase Agreement, with the remaining thirty percent being payable following completion, which is subject to the usual governmental and other consents.

Derek Musgrove, Managing Director of Northern, stated:

"I have congratulated Vermilion on their discovery and am pleased that the Drenthe III licence interest holders have reached a settlement that matches the strategies of all participants. The sale will enable a smooth transition into production under Vermilion's team and make a useful financial contribution to our hopefully successful exploration activities on the Drenthe III licence in the near future.

Northern considered that Vinkega was not a prospect of sufficient size and structural appeal to have attracted a wildcat well on the Drenthe III licence alone. On behalf of the Drenthe III licence interest holders I thank Vermilion and their partners for their work and efforts."

- Ends -

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Notes to Editors:

Comprehensive information on Northern and its oil and gas operations, including all press releases, annual reports and interim reports are available from Northern's website at www.northpet.com.

Northern currently holds over 50 licences in a number of low risk areas and continues with its strategy of adding and securing value for shareholders as it engages with projects at all stages of the E&P value chain.