

16 February 2009

MERIDIAN PETROLEUM plc
("Meridian" or "the Company")

Michigan road restrictions

Meridian Petroleum (AIM: MRP), the oil and gas exploration and production company with producing assets in the USA and exploration licences in Australia, has received notification that the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has announced that weight restrictions for commercial truck traffic will be imposed across the central and southern areas of the state. These restrictions will affect all routes designated as 'seasonal' and are the result of a recent increase in temperatures causing a thaw and softening of the ground.

The imposition of these restrictions means that it is not currently possible to transport the drilling rig and associated equipment to the Pontiac drilling location. Depending on weather conditions this may delay the commencement of drilling beyond our previously announced schedule of the second half of February.

The Company will update the market as appropriate and further information on the situation is available from the MDOT website www.michigan.gov/mdot.

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