

# Cooper appeal grows

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FIVE new petroleum exploration licences in the Cooper Basin will ensure a “guaranteed work program” valued at \$58.9 million over the next five years.

The SA Government said the successful applicants were Leigh Creek Energy, Cordillo Energy, Gidgee Energy and Vintage Energy.

“There are great opportunities to ramp up exploration activities as SA’s restrictions due to COVID-19 begin to ease,” Energy and Mining Minister Dan van Holst Pellekaan said.

“South Australia aims to rebound quickly from the pandemic-led slowdown and petroleum exploration will be a significant contributor to a sharp recovery.”

The successful bidders were selected based on their work programs, financial resources, technical expertise and ability to meet commitments and satisfactorily undertake the proposed work, he said.

“The high level of interest in the bidding round for Cooper Basin acreage confirms its sustained reputation as an excellent exploration investment destination,” he said.

“All of the blocks released last year offer a diversity of play types and give the new licence operators the opportunity to build a strong exploration portfolio.”

The next step for the Cooper Basin applicants will be to engage with native title parties and the State Government to develop access agreements before conducting any exploratory activity on the blocks, which also provides opportunity for public consultation.

The Otway Basin licence is being offered to joint venture partners Beach Energy and Cooper Energy.

High level of interest in bidding round for Cooper

DAN VAN HOLSTPELLEKANN