

**18 October 2007**

**Meridian Petroleum plc**  
("Meridian" or "the Company")

**Changes to Board Structure**

Meridian Petroleum (AIM: MRP) announces the following changes to its Board structure. Anthony Mason has resigned from his position as Chief Executive and as a Director of the Company, effective immediately. Stephen Gutteridge, the Company's current Chairman, has been appointed Executive Chairman by the board.

**Background to the changes**

The Company is in the final stages of recruiting a Chief Operating Officer to run the US business and has been actively working towards a sale or farm-out of its Australian assets. The Company intends to concentrate its resources and development plans on its strong portfolio of US assets.

Mr Mason will remain as an employee of the Company until 31 Dec 2007, to assist with the handover to the incoming COO and to help develop the best value option for the sale or farm-out of the Company's Australian assets.

Steve Gutteridge, Chairman, said: "Tony has done a fine job in assembling a valuable portfolio of assets for Meridian, and in successfully bringing the Orion 36 well into production. Our business is currently performing well, underpinned by the strong cash flow of the Orion 36 well, and the Board thanks Tony for his contribution in getting us this far."

**Ends**

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