

Chapter AK

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The World Energy Project benefited from discussions, financial and technical support, and constructive criticism and reviews from many individuals and organizations. Early in this five-year project, a World Energy Consortium was formed that included active participants from 38 private and government organizations that are listed at the end of this section. The consortium was formed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to provide external perspectives to the coordinators and geologists responsible for the petroleum resource assessments and invite participants to share geologic, geochemical, and geophysical data that would have been otherwise unavailable. The confidential data were used in the assessment process, but are not reported in the documentation. Some consortium members provided information but requested that the data remain confidential under terms of confidentiality agreements. This project was funded through the USGS Energy Resources Program. Additional support was also received from other government agencies that facilitated acquisition of proprietary reserve databases for the Middle East and Former Soviet Union.

The USGS-hosted World Energy Consortium met quarterly in Denver from 1997 through 1999. The typical agendas for the two-day meetings, to which all consortium members were invited, included province-level geologic assessment progress reports by USGS personnel, followed by group discussions. Many consortium members made both formal and informal presentations on technical aspects of resource assessment or provided expert characterization of specific petroleum systems. This assessment benefited from routine interactions between consortium members and USGS personnel. Representatives from as many as twelve organizations attended consortium-hosted meetings, such as the one hosted by Texaco in Houston concerning West African provinces. The assessment also benefited from extensive independent analysis of the methodologies, particularly by BP Amoco.

The World Energy Consortium helped ensure that the current assessment was continuously refined by the inclusion of a wide range of up-to-date information and (or) discoveries from many sources. We emphasize however, that the

consortium's role was limited to the exchange of geologic data and knowledge. The assessments were prepared solely by USGS employees. The members of the U.S. Geological Survey assessment team listed in the chapter LS reviewed and refined more than 270 assessments encompassing all or part of 128 provinces in a full year; their efforts are much appreciated.

Although consortium members participated in the assessment process in a variety of ways, we would like to particularly recognize two organizations for their support of this assessment. Exxon Exploration, USA (now ExxonMobil Exploration Corporation) and Amoco Exploration and Production Corporation (now BP Amoco) participated in the consortium for more than four years and provided considerable technical support for our endeavor. Additionally, representatives from Conoco, Mobil, Texaco, PetroCanada, and Phillips were also long-term consortium members. We would like to thank individuals who regularly attended meetings and advised the project. In addition, we would like to recognize the following individuals for their help and support: Arthur Green, Glenn Buckley, Bernard Vining, David Leary, Richard Bishop, Red White, and Pinar Yilmaz from ExxonMobil Exploration Company; Ione Taylor, Martyn James, and Wally Pierce from BP Amoco; Jeff Brown from Mobil; Matthew Strickland and Andy Weinzapfel Conoco; David Boote and Marc Traut from Occidental; John Burton from Phillips; Jack English and Sandy Rushworth from Texaco; Richard Birtles from Shell International; Hugh Balkwill from PetroCanada; John Wood from the Energy Information Administration of the Department of Energy; Didier Arbouille from Petroconsultants International; and Jeane-Marie Boudaire and Fatih Birol from the International Energy Agency.

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The methodologies used to produce this assessment and the design of the final products was reviewed by a number of organizations. In addition, we would like to

thank the National Research Council (NRC) for their comments of the assessment as part of the review of the USGS Energy Program (National Research Council, 1999). The presentation of digital information, such as maps included as part of this assessment and information available on the Internet were endorsed by GIS World (Turner, 1998). The American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) Committee on Resource Evaluation (CORE) reviewed the methodologies and processes used in the assessment and we would like to thank Ben Hare, Chair, and the entire committee for their comments and endorsement (American Association of Petroleum Geologists, 1999; Hare, 1999) and the Subcommittee of Naresh Kumar (Chair, Growth Oil and Gas, formerly with ARCO), Glenn R. Buckley (ExxonMobil Exploration Company), Earle J. Ritchie (Enron Oil and Gas) and William Stanton (Mobil Corporation) for their detailed review. The recommendations of this subcommittee on risking structure, documentation of analogs, clarity of purpose, and data limitations were addressed and incorporated into the assessment process and resulting documents.

As a representative on the U.S. National Committee of the World Petroleum Congress (WPC) and at WPC meetings, Ahlbrandt arranged to have digital products distributed. We are indebted to Ron Jones and Kevin Ferrick, of the American Petroleum Institute, who made arrangements to have products and information distributed at the U.S. National Booth at both of the WPC meetings in Beijing (1997) and Calgary (2000).

A series of publications on CD-ROM were produced as part of this project that show the ranking of oil and gas provinces and the geology of the world (Klett and others, 1997; Persits and others, 1997; Pollastro and others, 1998; Wandrey and Law, 1998; Schenk and others, 1999; Persits and others, 1998; Steinshour and others, 1997; Pollastro and others, 1999). Much of the information included in these publications was obtained from the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Commission for the Geological Map of the World (CCGM/CGMW) particularly for Africa, South Asia, Europe, and parts of the Asia Pacific. We would like to thank Ingo Schröter (UNESCO) and Philippe Bouysse (CCGM / CGMW) for their assistance in obtaining

permission to use these materials. Petroconsultants S.A. (now IHS Energy Group) permitted the inclusion use of certain data in specific formats on these maps and in this publication (see chapter KP). We are very appreciative and wish to thank Didier Arbouille, James F. Leever, Paul McNabb and Jan Roelofsen of IHS Energy Group. We thank NRG Associates for providing the Significant Oil and Gas Pools of Canada database. We thank Richard Nehring of NRG Associates for his permission to use this pool data in specific formats on maps and in this publication. GeoMark provided additional geochemical data to us beyond the purchased database and we thank Steve Brown of GeoMark for this. We thank Geoff Wade and Kristi Griffin of ESRI for permission to use such digital information such as coverages, shapefiles and export file formats.

Everyone involved in the current assessment would like to acknowledge the late Charles D. Masters, who led the World Energy Project for more than 16 years (1979-1995). He was responsible for three previous world assessments that are discussed in chapter PA. This current assessment is considerably different from the previous assessments, although they are all geologically based. Masters was well known and respected and his advice, council, inspirational leadership, and the ability to persevere in the preparation of world energy assessments, under often-adverse circumstances will be sorely missed. His legacy to us is the collection of important contributions in the literature as well as the enduring sense of camaraderie developed among the assessment team members. His advice and counsel are sorely missed.

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**LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE WORLD ENERGY
CONSORTIUM LISTED BY COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION.**

We have made an effort to include all participants and apologize for any omissions.

Anadarko Petroleum: Richard Hook

Apache Corporation: Paul Baltensperger

Apex Petroleum: David Minicucci

ARCO: Creties D. Jenkins, Ben O. Hare

ARI: Scott R. Reeves

Benton Oil and Gas Corporation: Andrew Mirkin

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Robertson Research: Mike Snape

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