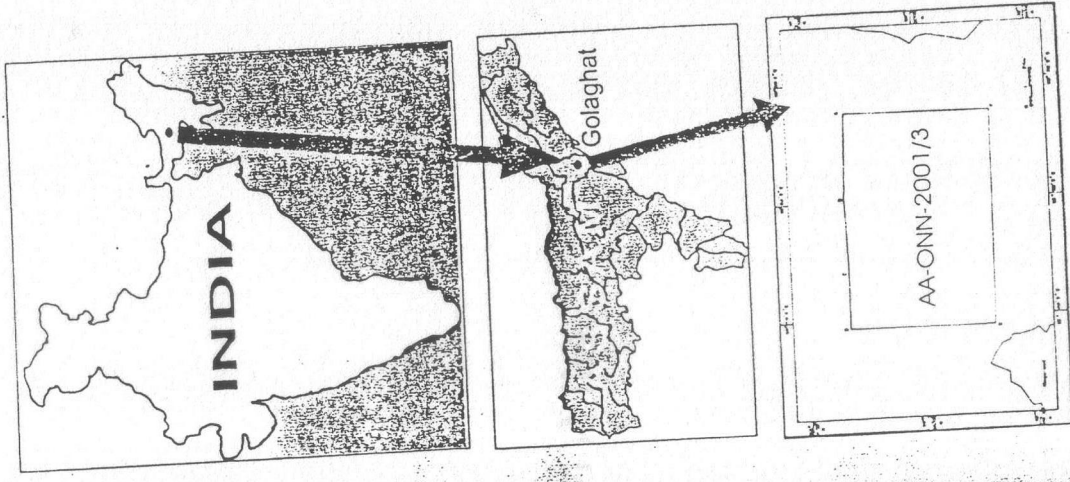
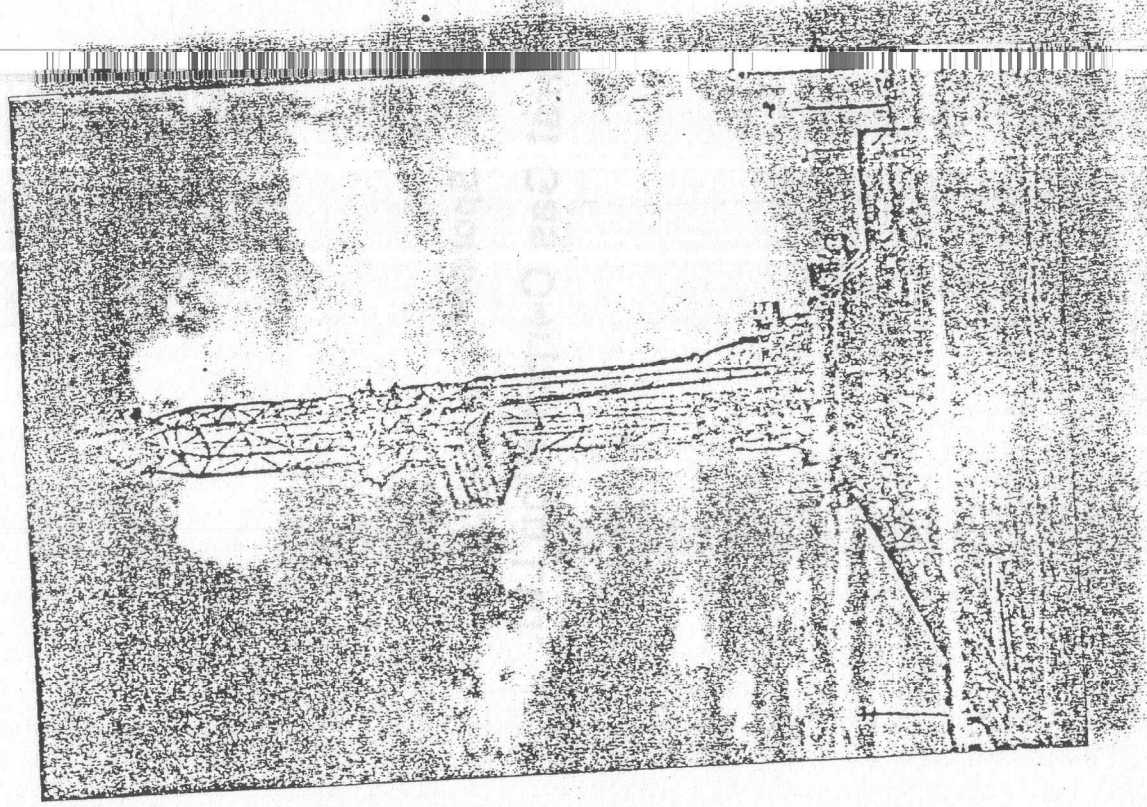


8 p-7
Environmental Impact Assessment of
Proposed Exploratory Drilling in NELP-III Block
AA-ONN-2001/3 in Assam Arekan Basin, Assam

Sponsor:

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd



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**Environmental Impact Assessment of
Proposed Exploratory Drilling in NELP-III Block
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Sponsor

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.



[Handwritten signature]
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FOREWORD

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd., under the new exploration licencing policy (NELP) of Govt. of India, has been awarded onshore block AA-ONN-2001/3 for exploration of hydrocarbons in the of Assam. On completion of seismic survey for search of hydrocarbons in the Block exploratory drilling is required to test the occurrence of hydrocarbons in the identified formation and its commercial viability. It is therefore proposed to drill, initially, one exploratory well in this Block to a depth of 2550 m.

With a view to assessing potential impacts on terrestrial environment due to proposed exploratory drilling, ONGC retained National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to undertake environmental impact assessment (EIA) study as a prelude to the preparation of effective environmental management plan (EMP).

The EIA report incorporates base line data collected for water, sediment and biological components of marine environment, identification, prediction and evaluation of impacts due to proposed activity and an environmental management plan for preventing and minimizing adverse impacts on terrestrial environment.

The co-operation and assistance rendered by the staff of ONGC in preparation of this report is gratefully acknowledged.

Nagpur

September 2005

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