English Translation of News Release

Approval of the Renewal of the Measures to Prevent Large-scale Acquisition of JAPEX Shares (Takeover Defense Measures) at the 41st Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders

Japan Petroleum Exploration Co., Ltd. ("JAPEX") has, in our Board of Directors Meeting, held on May 13, 2011, decided to renew the measures to prevent large-scale acquisition of JAPEX shares (takeover defense measures) (the "Plan") on subject to the approval of JAPEX's shareholders in the 41st Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders.

At the above mentioned Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held today, shareholders approved Item 6 "Renewal of the Measures to Prevent Large-scale Acquisition of Our Company Shares (Takeover Defense Measures)."

For details of the Plan, please refer to "Renewal of the Measures to Prevent Large-scale Acquisition of Our Company Shares (Takeover Defense Measures) (see JAPEX's website: http://www.japex.co.jp/newsrelease)" announced on May 13, 2011.

JAPEX appreciates the shareholders' intension and, continuously, determined to secure and improve JAPEX's corporate value and the common interest of the shareholders.