

Rialto to raise Ivory Coast cash

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RIALTO Energy is planning a \$A60 million two-tranche capital raising through the placement of about 200 million shares at 30c each to sophisticated and institutional investors to raise cash for drilling in the Ivory Coast and an AIM listing.

The 30c price represents a 14% discount to Rialto's last closing price and shareholders will be able to get in on the action too with a capped \$8 million share purchase plan at the same price.

Shareholders will be able to apply for up to \$15,000 worth of shares under the plan, which will go towards the drilling of three wells in block CI-202, pre-front-end engineering and design work on the block and general working expenses.

Meanwhile, Rialto is close to closing the deal on a \$US20 million (\$A18.83 million) investment from the International Finance Corporation, with the issue of 63.7 million shares at 30c at 15.9 million options at 50c to be voted on by shareholders at a shareholder meeting expected to be held in early March.

The cash will go towards its drilling program, which involves the drilling of two appraisal wells in the Gazelle field target, a 2C contingent resource of 14 million barrels of oil and 266 billion cubic feet of gas.

One exploration well will also be drilled to test the Chouette prospect, which is thought to hold a gross mean prospective resource of 84MMbbls and 42Bcf.

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