

October 1, 2014

## PRESS RELEASE

JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corporation (President and CEO: Shunsaku Miyake) is pleased to announce today it has invested in Japan Methane Hydrate Operating Co., Ltd., a joint venture company established on October 1, 2014 aiming to participate in the Medium to Long-term Offshore Production Test of methane hydrate conducted by the Japanese government.

We committed to utilizing the technology, knowledge and experience it has accumulated through exploration and production of oil and natural gas operations to contribute for research and future commercialization on Japan's methane hydrate resources as a pioneer.

Please refer to the attachment for the October 1 announcement issued by Japan Methane Hydrate Operating Co., Ltd.

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