

PETROBRAS - PETROLEO BRASILEIRO SA
Form 6-K
March 07, 2014

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer
Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of March, 2014

Commission File Number 1-15106

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A. - PETROBRAS
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Brazilian Petroleum Corporation - PETROBRAS
(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Avenida República do Chile, 65
20031-912 - Rio de Janeiro, RJ
Federative Republic of Brazil
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A. - PETROBRAS

Public Company

Material Fact

Petrobras' Proven Reserves in 2013

Rio de Janeiro, March 7th, 2014 – Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras announces the volume of its proven petroleum (oil and condensate) and natural gas reserves, assessed at the end of 2013 according to the *Securities and Exchange Commission* - SEC criteria.

Petrobras' Proven Reserves in 2013

On December 31st, 2013, Petrobras' proven oil, condensate and natural gas reserves reached 13.123 billion barrels of oil equivalent (boe), which represents an increase of 1.9% from 2012, as shown:

Volumes of Proven Reserves (SEC criteria) in 2013

| | Item | Proven Reserves |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Brazil | Oil and Condensate (billion bbl) | 10.658 |
| | Natural Gas (billion m3) | 299.20 |
| | Oil Equivalent (billion boe) | 12.540 |
| International | Oil and Condensate (billion bbl) | 0.374 |
| | Natural Gas (billion m3) | 35.491 |
| | Oil Equivalent (billion boe) | 0.583 |
| Petrobras Total | Oil and Condensate (billion bbl) | 11.032 |
| | Natural Gas (billion m3) | 334.691 |
| | Oil Equivalent (billion boe) | 13.123 |

During 2013, 1.218 billion boe were added to proven reserves. In that year, interests in fields with proven reserves amounting to 0.118 billion boe were sold. The balance between appropriations and sales resulted in an increase of 1.100 billion boe to proven reserves, against a production of 0.861 billion boe. These volumes do not take into account the production of Extended Well Tests (EWTs) in exploratory blocks in Brazil or the production in Bolivia since the Bolivian Constitution prohibits the disclosure and registration of its reserves. The evolution of the proven reserves, according to SEC criteria, is shown:

Evolution of Proven Reserves (SEC criteria) in 2013

| Composition of proven reserves | | Brazil | International | Total Petrobras |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | | (billion boe) | (billion boe) | (billion boe) |
| a) | Proven Reserves December/2012 | 12.263 | 0.621 | 12.884 |
| b) | Additions to Proven Reserves in 2013 | 1.122 | 0.096 | 1.218 |
| c) | Sales in 2013 | -0.045 | -0.073 | -0.118 |
| d) | Balance in 2013 (b+c) | 1.077 | 0.023 | 1.100 |
| e) | Production in 2013 | -0.800 | -0.061 | -0.861 |
| f) | Annual Variation (d+e) | 0.277 | -0.039 | 0.238 |
| | | 12.540 | 0.583 | 13.123 |

g) Proven Reserves December/2013
(a+f)

Apparent differences in the sum of the shares are due to rounding out.

For each barrel of oil equivalent extracted in 2013, 1.28 barrel was appropriated, resulting in a Reserve Replacement Index (RRI) of 128%. In 2013, the Reserve/Production (R/P) ratio was 15.2 years, as shown below:

Reserve Indicators (SEC criteria) in 2013

| Indicators | Brazil | International | Petrobras Total |
|-------------|--------|---------------|-----------------|
| RRI (%) | 135% | 37% | 128% |
| R/P (years) | 15.7 | 9.5 | 15.2 |

The highlights of 2013, in terms of the proven reserves in Brazil, were:

- Declaration of commerciality at two Transfer of Rights areas of the Santos Basin pre-salt – Búzios field (Franco) and Sul de Lula field (Sul de Tupi):
 - A volume of 0.720 billion boe was appropriated to proven reserves in 2013 from these fields, corresponding to 23% of the volume contracted for these areas;
 - Petrobras has the right to extract up to 5 billion boe of petroleum from certain pre-salt areas acquired in 2010 through the Transfer of Rights Agreement. These new fields include the right to extract 3.186 billion boe, of which 3.058 billion boe from Búzios and 0.128 billion boe from Sul de Lula;
 - The remaining contracted volume for these two fields will be appropriated to proven reserves as projects are implemented.
- Declaration of commerciality of Lapa field (Carioca), in the Santos Basin pre-salt, under the concession regime;

- Declaration of Commerciality of Baúna Sul field, in Santos Basin, and Paturi and Maçarico fields, in the Potiguar Basin;

 - Incorporation of volumes related to the discovery of new accumulations near existing infrastructure, as a result of the on-going success of exploratory activities in different Brazilian basins:
 - For the pre-salt, in the Albacora, Caratinga and Marlim Leste fields, in Campos Basin;

 - For the post-salt, in the Piracaba field, in Santos Basin, in the Taquipe and Araçás fields, in the Recôncavo Basin, and in the Rio Urucu field, in the Solimões Basin.

 - Growth of proven reserves in the pre-salt due to increased well drilling activity and positive responses of production systems in operation, both at Santos and Campos Basins. Of this additional reserves, 62% came from the concessions of Lula, Lula – Iracema Area and Sapinhoá, in Santos Basin and 38% from the concessions of Parque das Baleias and Marlim Leste, in Campos Basin;

 - Better recovery factor in Marlim Sul, Tartaruga Verde and Tartaruga Mestiça fields, in Campos Basin, and Leste de Urucu field, in the Solimões Basin;

 - These appropriations offset the sale of Petrobras' interests in the Atlanta and Oliva concessions, in Santos Basin, as well as in Parque das Conchas (Argonauta, Abalone, Náutilus and Ostra Concessions), in Campos Basin.
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The highlights of 2013, in terms of Petrobras' proven reserves abroad, were:

- Sale of 50% of the assets in Africa, by creating a joint venture for oil, condensate and natural gas exploration and production, and of interests in fields in the US Gulf of Mexico, amounting to 0.073 billion boe;
- Appropriations due to the extension of concessions in Argentina and of the execution of the well campaign planned for onshore fields in Argentina and offshore fields in the US Gulf of Mexico.

Petrobras clarifies that the properties of the hydrocarbon reserves belong to their respective Nation States.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 7, 2014

PETRÓLEO BRASILEIRO S.A--PETROBRAS

By:

/s/ Almir Guilherme Barbassa

Almir Guilherme Barbassa
Chief Financial Officer and Investor Relations
Officer

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act) that are not based on historical facts and are not assurances of future results. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current view and estimates of future economic circumstances, industry conditions, company performance and financial results. The words "anticipates", "believes", "estimates", "expects", "plans" and similar expressions, as they relate to the company, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Statements regarding the declaration or payment of dividends, the implementation of principal operating and financing strategies and capital expenditure plans, the direction of future operations and the factors or trends affecting financial condition, liquidity or results of operations are examples of forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect the current views of management and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. There is no guarantee that the expected events, trends or results will actually occur. The statements are based on many assumptions and factors, including general economic and market conditions, industry conditions, and operating factors. Any changes in such assumptions or factors could cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations.

All forward-looking statements are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement, and you should not place reliance on any forward-looking statement contained in this press release. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information or future events or for any other reason.
