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**The Mid Zambezi Basin – could this be the ‘Karoo’ basin that works?**

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Zambia is one of the least explored countries anywhere in the world in the field of petroleum, with only two petroleum exploration wells drilled in the entire country, despite a significant area of sedimentary basin. The Mid Zambezi Basin, located in the south of the country and extending into Zimbabwe, remains undrilled and has very little sub-surface data.

Tower mobilised its exploration team to the blocks to undertake extensive new fieldwork studies in August 2014, and again in 2015. This paper reports on the results of the field analyses and sampling programmes and describes a Permo-Jurassic coal basin that contains good source rocks, reservoirs and cap rocks, a structural style conducive to good trapping geometries, and which is at the necessary level of thermal maturity for petroleum generation and migration. Next year work will start on imaging the sub-surface and Tower hopes to be drilling for oil or gas by 2020.

