NPD – exploration drilling result

11/08/2003 Press release no. 18/2003: Esso Exploration and Production Norge AS, as the operator of production license 189, blocks 25/8 and 25/9, has completed drilling on wildcat well 25/9-2 S.

The well was drilled in a structure of the Middle Jurassic Age, about 15 km southeast of the Jotun field.

The main purpose of the well operation was to test a prospect from the Middle Jurassic Age.

The water depth at the well location is 122 meters. The well was drilled to a total depth of 2,250 meters MD (2,114 meters total vertical depth) under the sea surface.

The well did not prove traces of hydrocarbons in the relevant sandstone layers. The well has now been plugged and abandoned.

The drilling activity was carried out by Deepsea Trym. The drilling installation will continue working for Esso Norge AS in the Jotun area, and will now drill well 25/8-14 S in production license 027.

The licensees in production license 189 are:

Esso Exploration and Production Norway AS: 45 percent (operator) Norsk Hydro Produksjon AS: 10 percent Petoro AS: 45 percent See also the drilling activity table for 2003.

See <u>Factpages</u> for more information about this wellbore.