NPD – exploration drilling result

06/01/2003 Press release No 9/2003: As operator of production license 038 in block 15/12, Pertra AS has completed drilling of the appraisal well 15/12-13B in Varg Sør. The well will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

The well was drilled on a prospect in Oxfordian sandstone, previously proven by well 15/12-12, drilled by Norsk Hydro in 2001.

Water depth at the well location is 87 meters. The well was drilled to a total depth of 3050 m below the sea surface.

The well proved a total hydrocarbon column of 90 meters, of which there was an oil column of 35 meters. Geophysical measurements, pressure measurements from the borehole and samples of the reservoir sand are now been evaluated by the operator.

The results of these studies will form the basis for considering development of Varg Sør.

The well was drilled by the "West Alpha" drilling rig, which will now return to land for maintenance. This was the second well drilled by Perta since the company took over as operator on 1 August 2002.

See also table for more information on drilling activities in 2003.

See Factpages for more information about this wellbore.