

NPD – exploration drilling result

23/04/2003 Press release no. 11/2003: Marathon Petroleum Norge A/S has, as the operator of Production License 203, completed drilling of appraisal well 25/4-8. This is the last of three planned drilling activities in the area west of Heimdal in the second quarter of 2003.

The well was drilled to delimit a discovery made by Elf in rocks from the early Tertiary age in 1974, the 25/4-3 Gekko discovery. Drilling was carried out in the northern part of this discovery, about 12 km southwest of the Heimdal field.

Water depth at the well location is 121 m. The well was drilled to a total depth of 2263 meters below sea level.

The well proved a gas column of about 8 meters and an oil column of about 7 meters in sand from the Heimdal formation. Core samples and geophysical measurements show little thickness and poor quality of the reservoir in the well location, which is disappointing.

The results from the two wells that were drilled in the area earlier this year were, however, positive. Based on the overall results from the drilling campaign, it is expected that the licensees will work on presenting a plan for development of the reserves in the area in the course of this year or early next year.

The drilling activities for the 25/4-3 Gekko discovery were carried out by Deepsea Bergen. The well is expected to be finally plugged and abandoned on 21 June. The drilling installation will then move to Production License 256 to drill the wildcat well 6406/1-2 with Norsk Agip as the operator.

See also table for drilling activity 2003.

Contact information:

Morten Sand

Ph. +47 51 87 61 87

See [Factpages](#) for more information about this wellbore.