

NPD – exploration drilling result

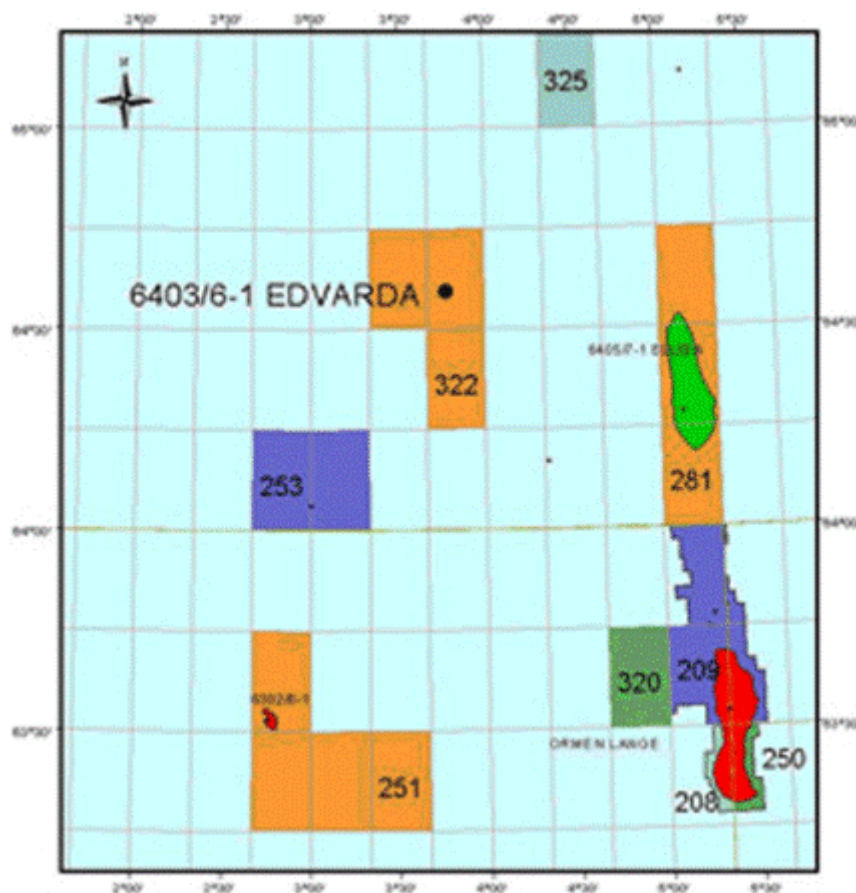
21/03/2006 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Statoil ASA a drilling permit for well path 6403/6-1, ref. Section 8 of the Resource Regulations.

Well path 6403/6-1 will be drilled from the drilling facility at *Eirik Raude* in position 64° 36' 30.1" North og 3° 43' 9.3" East.

The drilling program for well path 6403/6-1 applies to drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 322.

The permission presupposes that other permissions and consents required from other authorities have been granted before the drilling activity commences.

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



6403/6-1

25/07/2006 Press release 23/2006: Statoil, operator of production licence 322, has completed drilling of exploration well 6403/6-1.

This was the first exploration well in production licence 322, which covers blocks 6403/ -5, -6 and 9. The licence was awarded in the 18th round in 2004.

The well's target was a sandstone prospect called "Edvarda" from the Cretaceous Age. The prospect was situated just west of the 6405/7-1-Ellida oil discovery, and northwest of the Ormen Lange field, i.e. in the southern part of the Norwegian Sea, about 230 km northwest of Kristiansund. Exploration well 6403/6-1 was drilled to a total depth of 4095 meters into Cretaceous rocks. The well was dry and has now been plugged and abandoned.

The drilling activity was carried out by the drilling vessel *Eirik Raude*. Chevron has now taken over this rig for drilling off the coast of Canada.

Licensees in production licence 322:

Statoil ASA (operator) - 90 per cent

AS Norske Shell - 10 per cent