<u>NPD</u> – exploration drilling result

21/06/2006 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Statoil a drilling permit for well path 7122/6-2, ref. Section 8 of the Resource Regulations.

Well path 7122/6-2 will be drilled from the drilling facility at Polar Pioneer in position 71° 35' 13,6" North and 22°51'21,54" East. The drilling program for well path 7122/6-2 applies to drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 110B

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

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

7122/6-2

25/09/2006 Press release 29/2006: Statoil ASA, operator of production licence 110B, has concluded the drilling of wildcat well 7122/6-2.

The objective of the well was to examine the potential for gas in Late Triassic sandstones in a prospect called Tornerose. The prospect is situated approx. 60 km east of the Snøhvit field, and approx. 100 km northwest of Hammerfest. Wildcat well 7122/6-1, drilled by Total in 1987, proved gas in the north-western parts of the structure.

Wildcat well 7122/6-2 was drilled to a total depth of 3057 m below the sea surface. The well was concluded in rocks from the Middle Triassic Age.

The well proved gas in several thin sandstone layers from the Late Triassic Age. The discovery is now being evaluated as part of the resource base for a potential expansion of the LNG plant on Melkøya. The result of this well is considered positive as regards prospectivity in the area.

The well was not production tested, but extensive logging and sampling were carried out for further evaluation of the discovery. The well is permanently plugged and abandoned. Additional drilling is planned in the Snøhvit area in 2007/2008.

Well 7122/6-2 was drilled using the Polar Pioneer drilling rig in 408 m of water. The Polar Pioneer is taken over by ENI for drilling of well 7122/7- 4 on the Goliat discovery in production licence 229.

The licensees in production licence 110B are:

Statoil ASA (operator): 33.53 % Petoro AS: 30.00 % Total E&P Norge AS: 18.40 % Gaz de France Norge AS: 12.00 % Hess Norge AS: 3.26 % RWE Dea Norge AS: 2.81 %