NPD – exploration drilling result

19/08/2005 Press Release no. 15/2005: Norsk Hydro Produksjon AS, as operator of production licence 318 in block 35/2, is about to complete the drilling of wildcat well 35/2-1, due west of 35/3-2 Agat. The well was drilled using the Deepsea Trym drilling rig at a water depth of 384 meters.

The well was drilled to a Tertiary (Pliocene) sandstone prospect and reached a total depth of 687 meters below sea level. Gas was encountered. The possibility of the discovery to be considered commercial is good. The drilling activity took place on a new play and is the shallowest prospect ever drilled on the Norwegian continental shelf.

Whether the well is to be permanently or temporarily plugged is now being evaluated. The drilling rig *Deepsea Trym* will after completion, move to the Troll field to drill a production well.

The licensees in production licence 318 are:
Norsk Hydro Produksjon AS (operator) 60%
Petoro 20%
Idemitsu Petroleum Norge 20%

See Factpages for more information about this wellbore.