

NPD – exploration drilling result

14/03/2007 Press release 11/2007: Statoil as operator of production licence 339 has terminated drilling of wildcat well 16/4-4. This is the first wildcat well in production licence 339 encompassing the southern part of block 16/4. The licence was awarded in the APA 2004.

The object for the well was a sandstone prospect of the Tertiary Period named Biotitt. The prospect was situated some 20km north-east of the Sleipner field in the central part of the North Sea.

Wildcat well 16/4-4 was drilled to a total depth of 2360 metres in rock types of the Cretaceous Period. A small gas/condensate discovery was made in the Heimdal formation of the Tertiary Period. The well has now been plugged permanently and abandoned.

The licensees to the production licence will consider a production of the find towards the Sleipner field.

Drilling operations were performed by the drilling rig *West Epsilon*, which will now continue well drilling on 15/6-9 in production licence 303.

Licensees to production licence 339 are:

Statoil ASA:	70 %
ExxonMobil:	30 %

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

16/4-4

16/11/2006 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has granted Statoil ASA permission to drill wellbore 16/4-4, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Regulations.

Wellbore 16/4-4 will be drilled from the *West Epsilon* drilling facility at position 58° 31' 47.81" North and 02° 08' 59.69" East. *West Epsilon* is on its way to the location following repairs in Holland.

The drilling programme for wellbore 16/4-4 concerns drilling of a wildcat well in Production Licence 339. Statoil is the operator with ownership interests of 70 percent, whereas ExxonMobil has ownership interests of 30 percent.

The area of this production licence consists of parts of block 16/4, situated approximately 9.5 km north-east of the 16/7-2 H discovery in the middle section of the North Sea.

Production Licence 339 was awarded in the North Sea Awards in 2004. This is the fourth well that is being drilled in block 16/4.

The drilling permit is based on the condition that other permits and consents required by other authorities are issued before the drilling activity commences.

