

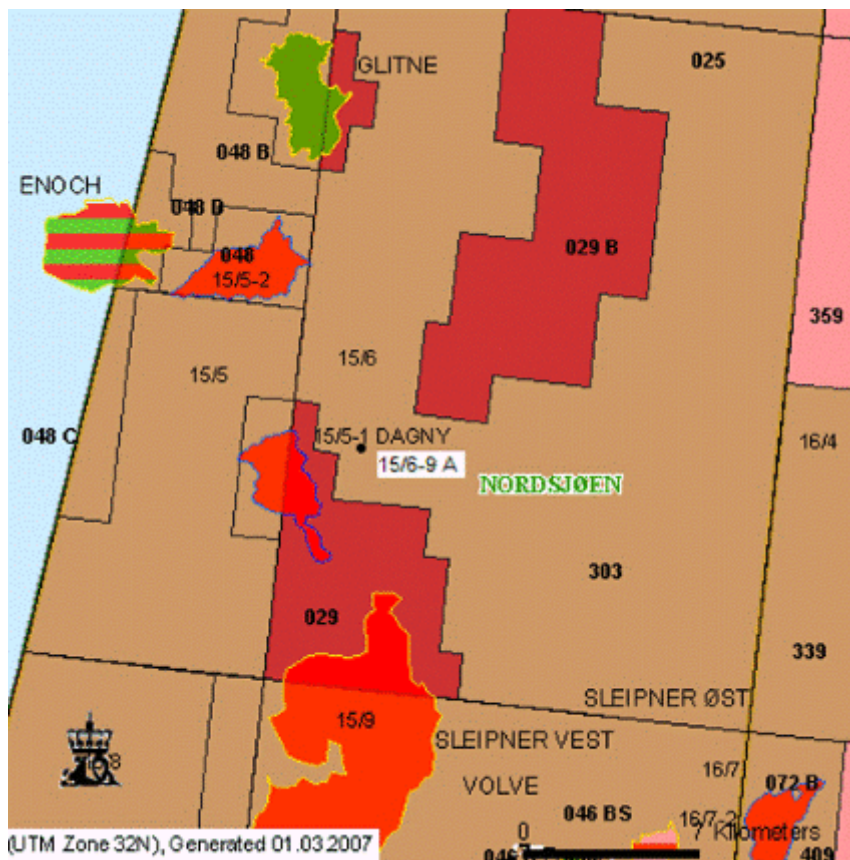
NPD – exploration drilling result

30/05/2007 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Statoil a drilling permit to drill an appraisal well in connection with the "Ermitrude" discovery in production licence 303 in the North Sea.

Well 15/6-9 A will be drilled from the *West Epsilon* drilling facility. Statoil is operator and sole licensee. The area in this licence consists of blocks 15/2, 15/6 and 15/8, the western and eastern parts of 15/3 as well as the southern and northern parts of block 15/5. The 15/6 discovery is located about 7 km north of the Sleipner Vest field and 3 km east of the 15/5-1 Dagny discovery in the central part of the North Sea.

Production licence 303 was awarded in the APA (Awards in Predefined Areas) in 2003. This is the second well to be drilled in this licence.

The NPD's drilling permit is contingent upon other authorities granting the necessary permits and consents before drilling commences.



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

15/6-9 A and B

09/07/2007 Press Release: 26/2007: Statoil ASA, operator of production licence 303, has concluded drilling of appraisal wells 15/6-9 A and B on the 15/6-9 S Ermintrude prospect in the North Sea. The wells are located approx. 7 km north of Sleipner and approx. 3 km east of the 15/5-1 Dagny discovery.

The 15/6-9 S discovery contains light oil in reservoir rocks from the Middle Jurassic (see NPD Press Release 17 dated 29 May 2007). Two sidetrack wells, 15/6-9 A and 15/6-9 B, were drilled to delimit the discovery. 15/6-9 A encountered gas/condensate in the top of the structure, while 15/6-9 B encountered oil further down in the structure.

The appraisal wells show that the size of the discovery is probably within the range of uncertainty, 8 - 12 million Sm³ recoverable oil equivalents, of which about half are gas/condensate and half are oil. The wells were not formation-tested, but extensive data collection and sampling were conducted. The licensees will consider producing the discovery by means of tie-in to Sleipner, Volve or Gudrun.

These are the second and third exploration wells in production licence 303. The licence was awarded in APA 2003 (Awards in Predefined Areas in 2003). Appraisal wells 15/6-9 A and B were drilled by the West Epsilon drilling facility in 114 meters of water. The wells were drilled to respective total vertical depths of 3580 meters and 3870 meters below the sea surface. Both wells were concluded in the Skagerrak formation from the Late Triassic. The wells will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

The *West Epsilon* drilling facility will now drill wildcat well 16/2-3 in production licence 265.

The licensee in production licence 303 is:

Statoil ASA (operator) 100%

