

NPD – exploration drilling result

01/12/2008 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has issued A/S Norske Shell a drilling permit for wellbore 6603/12-1, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Wellbore 6603/12-1 will be drilled from the *Leiv Eriksson* drilling facility at position 66° 8' 52.353"N and 3° 56' 29.67"E.

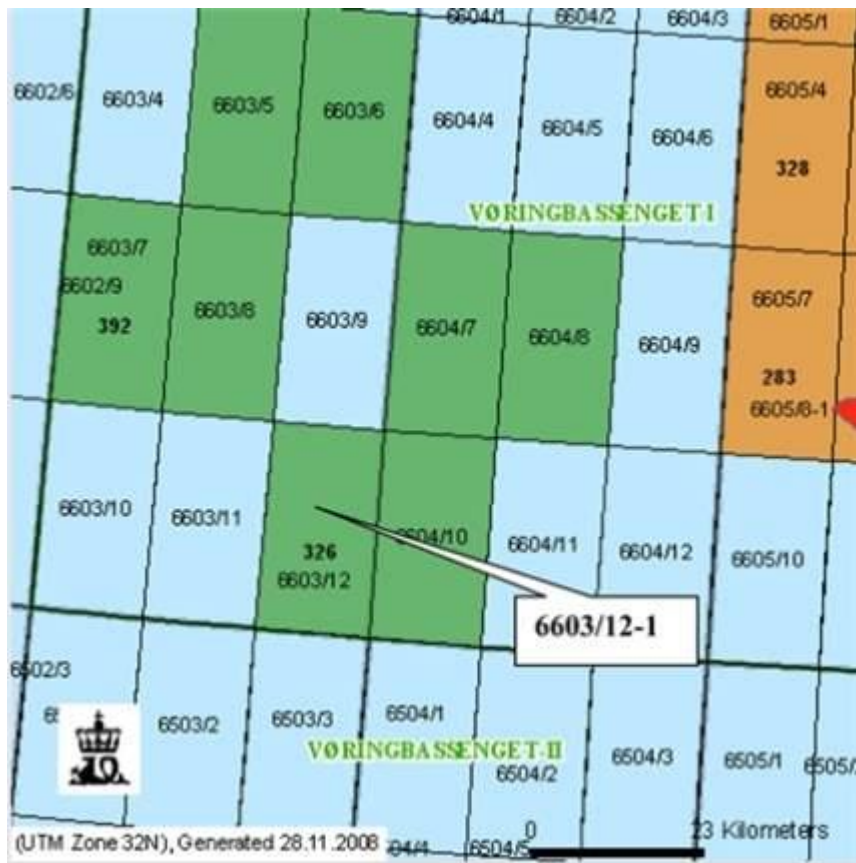
The drilling program for wellbore 6603/12-1 relates to the drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 326. A/S Norske Shell is the operator with 60%, and StatoilHydro AS is the other licensee, with 40%.

This well is located in the Vøring Basin, about 400 km north-northwest of Kristiansund and 115 km southwest of well 6704/12-1 (Gjallar) and 75 km southwest of 6605/8-1 (Stetind 1). Production licence 326 was awarded in the 18th licensing round in 2004.

Wildcat well 6603/12-1 is the first well in production licence 326.

The drilling permit is conditional on the operator securing all other permits and consents required by other authorities prior to commencing the drilling activity.

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



6603/12-1

19/06/2009 Press Release 39/2009: A/S Norske Shell, operator of production licence 326, has completed the drilling of wildcat well 6603/12-1. The well proved gas. The discovery is located 150 km northwest of the 6506/6-1 gas discovery ("Victoria") in the northern Norwegian Sea. The well was drilled in 1376 metres of water, which is the greatest water depth of any discovery made on the Norwegian shelf to date.

The objective of the well was to prove petroleum in Upper Cretaceous reservoir rocks in a prospect called "Gro". The well encountered a 16-metre gas column in the Upper Cretaceous, in a reservoir of varying quality.

There is great uncertainty regarding the size of the discovery. Preliminary estimates indicate between 10 and 100 billion standard cubic metres (Sm³) of recoverable gas.

The well was not formation-tested, but extensive sampling and data acquisition have been performed. Further delineation drilling is needed in order to clarify the resource potential, including the possibility of additional volumes.

The well is the first exploration well in production licence 326, awarded in the 18th licensing round in 2004. The well was drilled to a vertical depth of 3805 metres below the sea surface, and was terminated in the Upper Cretaceous (probably the Springar Formation). The well will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Well 6603/12-1 was drilled by the *Leiv Eiriksson* drilling facility, which will now conduct drilling activity outside the Norwegian shelf.

The licensees in [production licence 326](#)

