

NPD – exploration drilling result

01/07/2009 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has granted VNG Norge (Operations) AS, formerly Endeavour Energy Norge AS, a drilling permit for wellbore 35/3-7 S, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Wellbore 35/3-7 S will be drilled from the *Bredford Dolphin* drilling facility at position 61° 50' 7.2" North and 03° 49' 31.6" East.

The drilling program for wellbore 35/3-7 S relates to the drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 270. VNG Norge (Operations) AS is the operator with a 65 per cent ownership interest. The licensees are RWE Dea Norge AS with a 15 per cent stake and VNG Norge AS with a 20 per cent stake. The area in this licence consists of parts of block 35/3. The license was awarded in the North Sea Awards 2000. This is the second well to be drilled on the licence.

The permit is conditional upon the operator securing all other permits and consents required by other authorities before the drilling activity commences.

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



35/3-7 S

18/09/2009 VNG Norge (Operations) AS has concluded the drilling of wildcat well 35/3-7 S in the northeastern part of the North Sea.

The well, which proved gas, was drilled about 50 km north of the Gjøa field.

The objective of the well was to prove petroleum in reservoir rocks from the Early Cretaceous Age.

The well proved gas in the Agat formation in the Lower Cretaceous. Preliminary estimates indicate that the size of the discovery in 35/3-7 S, together with previously proven gas discoveries in the licence (35/3-2 and 35/3-4, collectively called Agat, proven in 1980), is between three and eight billion standard cubic metres of recoverable gas.

Viewed together with the 35/3-2 Agat discovery, the licensees characterise the discovery in 35/3-7 S as interesting, and it will be evaluated for potential future development.

The well was not formation-tested, but extensive data acquisition and sampling have been carried out.

This is the second exploration well in [production licence 270](#), and the first well drilled by VNG Norge (Operations) AS on the Norwegian shelf. The licence was awarded in the North Sea Awards 2000 (NST 2000).

The well was drilled to a vertical depth of 3945 metres below the sea surface, and was terminated in the Åsgard formation in the Lower Cretaceous. The well will be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Well 35/3-7 S was drilled at a water depth of 257 metres by the *Bredford Dolphin* drilling facility, which will now proceed to production licence 027D in the North Sea to drill wildcat well 25/8-17 where ExxonMobil Exploration & Production Norway AS is the operator.

