

## NPD – exploration drilling result

10/07/2009 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has granted ExxonMobil Exploration & Production Norway AS a drilling permit for wellbore 25/8-17, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

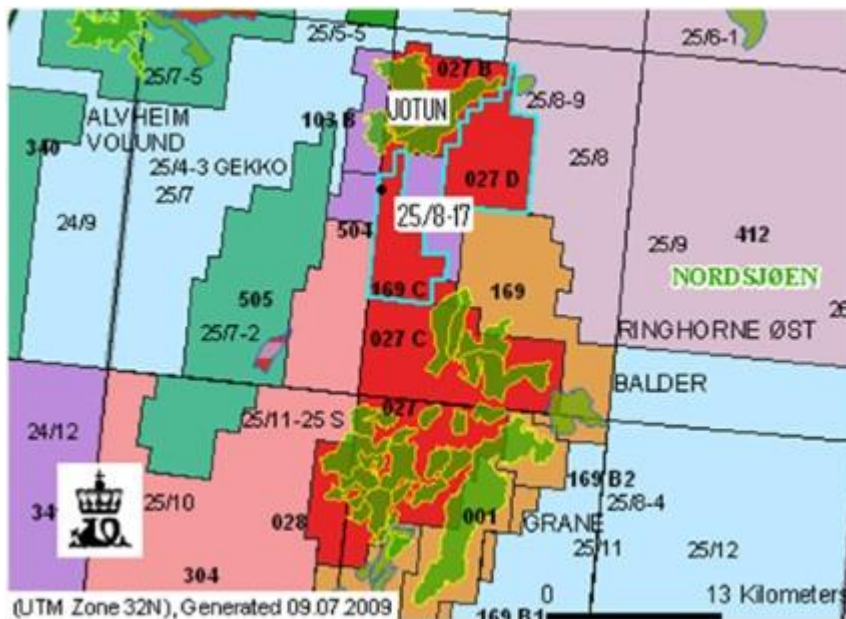
Wellbore 25/8-17 will be drilled from the *Bredford Dolphin* drilling facility at position 59° 23' 32.04" North and 02° 20' 1.95" East after it concludes the drilling of exploration well 35/3-7 S for VNG Norge (Operation) AS in production licence 270.

The drilling program for wellbore 25/8-17 relates to the drilling of wildcat wells in production licence 027 D. ExxonMobil is the operator with a 50 per cent ownership interest, while the other licensees are Dana with a 40 per cent stake and Det norske with a 10 per cent stake. The area in this licence consists of parts of block 25/8. Well 25/8-17 is located just south of the Jotun field in the central part of the North Sea.

Production licence 027 D was awarded on 7 December 2007 as a supplement to the 1st licensing round. This is the second well drilled in the production licence.

The permit is conditional on 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.



## 25/8-17 and 25/8-17 A

12/11/2009 ExxonMobil Exploration & Production Norway AS (ExxonMobil), operator of production licence 027 D, is in the process of concluding the drilling of wildcat well 25/8-17 and appraisal well 25/8-17 A.

Det norske oljeselskap ASA (Det norske) conducted the drilling activity on behalf of ExxonMobil. The wells are about four km south of the Jotun field in the North Sea.

The primary exploration target for the wells was to prove and delineate petroleum in Paleocene reservoir rocks. A small oil column was encountered in the Upper Paleocene (the Heimdal formation) in wildcat well 25/8-17, and the discovery was delineated by well 25/8-17 A.

The reservoir rock was considerably thinner than expected. Limited volumes of oil were proven, but the discovery is not by itself considered interesting for development under the current price assumptions.

None of the wells were formation-tested, but data acquisition and sampling have been carried out. These are the third and fourth exploration wells in [production licence 027 D](#). 25/8-17 was drilled to a vertical depth of 2208 metres below the sea surface and was terminated in the Ty formation in the Lower Paleocene.

25/8-17 A was drilled to a vertical depth of 2154 metres and was terminated in the Heimdal formation in the Upper Paleocene. The water depth is 127 metres. The wells will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

The wells were drilled by the *Bredford Dolphin* drilling facility in a cost-sharing operation between production licences 027 D, 169 C and 504. The drilling facility will now proceed to production licence 408 in the North Sea to drill wildcat well 15/9-23 where Det norske oljeselskap ASA is the operator.

