

NPD – exploration drilling result

21/05/2010 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Statoil ASA a drilling permit for wellbore 15/3-9, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Wellbore 15/3-9 will be drilled from the drilling facility Transocean Leader at position 58° 49' 14.0" N and 01° 46' 20.7" E following the completion of drilling of well 6506/11-A-2 H on the Morvin field for Statoil ASA in production licence 134 B.

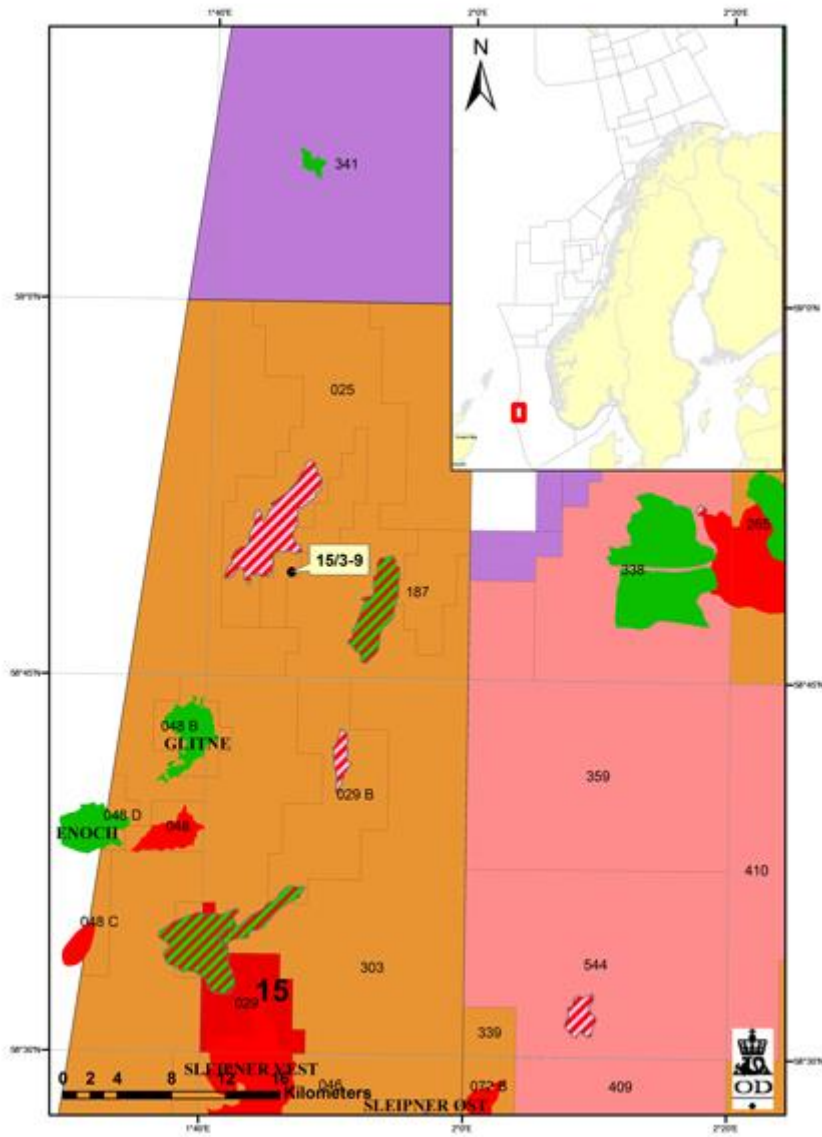
The drilling program for wellbore 15/3-9 concerns drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 187. Statoil ASA is the operator with an ownership interest of 65 per cent. The other licensees are Marathon Petroleum Norge AS (10 per cent) and GDF SUEZ E&P Norge AS (25 per cent).

The area in this licence consists of sections of block 15/3. The well will be drilled between the discoveries 15/3-1 S Gudrun and 15/3-4 Sigrun, about 45 kilometers to the north of the Sleipner Vest field in the North Sea.

Production licence 187 was awarded in September 1993 (14th licensing round). This is the second well to be drilled in the licence.

The permit is granted on the condition that all other permits and consents required by other authorities have been granted prior to start-up of drilling activities.

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



15/3-9

19/08/2010 Statoil Petroleum AS, operator for production licence 187, has completed the drilling of wildcat well 15/3-9. The well is located about 3 kilometres east of the Gudrun field in the central North Sea.

The purpose of well 15/3-9 was to prove petroleum in Upper to Middle Jurassic reservoir rocks (the Draupne and Hugin formations). The well encountered oil in an 18-metre-column in the Draupne formation in reservoir rocks with good reservoir quality. In addition, the well encountered a gas and oil column totalling 35 metres in the Hugin formation in reservoir rocks of varying reservoir quality.

Comprehensive data acquisition and sampling have been carried out. Two small-scale formation tests of oil-bearing zones have been carried out with flow properties as expected.

Preliminary estimates of the size of the discovery range between 0.5 and 3 million standard cubic metres (Sm³) of recoverable oil equivalents.

The licensees in [production license 187](#) will consider this discovery in the context of other oil and gas discoveries in the area, and a tie-in to the Gudrun field is being considered.

15/3-9 is the second exploration well in production licence 187. The licence was awarded in the 14th licensing round in 1993. The well was drilled to a vertical depth of 4630 metres below sea level and terminated in the Sleipner formation in Middle Jurassic. Water depth at the site is 108 metres. The well has been permanently plugged and abandoned.

Well 15/3-9 was drilled by the drilling facility *Transocean Leader* which will now drill a shallow well to examine the seabed conditions on the Gudrun field where the operator, Statoil Petroleum AS, will place the *Gudrun platform*.

