

NPD – exploration drilling result

31/03/2010 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Det norske oljeselskap ASA a drilling permit for wellbore 16/1-11 A, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

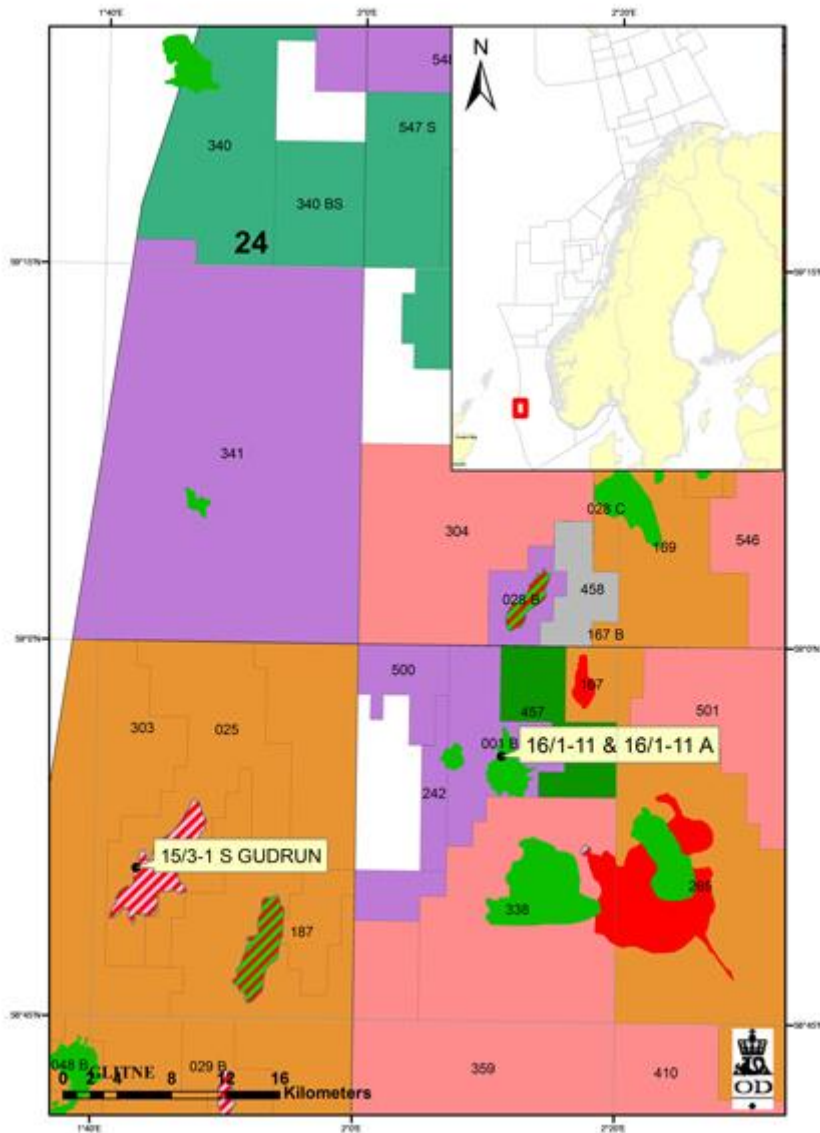
Wellbore 16/1-11 A will be drilled from the drilling facility *Songa Delta* at position 58° 55' 36.15" north 2° 11' 07.48" east, following the completion of the drilling of appraisal well 16/1-11 for Det norske oljeselskap ASA in production licence 001 B.

The drilling program for wellbore 16/1-11 A concerns drilling of an appraisal well in production licence 001 B. Det norske is the operator with an ownership interest of 35 per cent. The other licensees are Bayern (15 per cent) and Statoil (50 per cent). The area in this permit consists of the central to northern part of block 16/1, about 20 kilometres northeast of the 15/3-1 S Gudrun discovery in the central part of the North Sea.

Production licence 001 B was first awarded in 1965 in the first licensing round, and the licence was carved out from 15 December 1999. This is the fifth well drilled in the licence.

The permit is contingent upon the operator having secured all other permits and consents required by other authorities before the drilling starts.

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



16/1-11 and 16/1-11 A

10/05/2010 Det norske oljeselskap ASA, operator of production licence 001 B, is in the process of completing the drilling of appraisal wells 16/1-11 and 16/1-11 A on the 16/1-9 (Draupne) oil and gas discovery.

The discovery was proven in the spring of 2008 in reservoir rocks from the Middle Jurassic (the Sleipner formation) and the Upper Triassic (the Skagerrak formation). The discovery is about 25 kilometres northeast of 15/3-1 S Gudrun and 30 kilometres south of the Jotun field. Prior to the drilling of appraisal wells 16/1-11 and 16/1-11 A, the operator estimated the resources in the discovery at

between 8.9 and 16.9 million standard cubic metres (Sm³) of recoverable oil equivalents.

The primary exploration target for the wells was to delineate the 16/1-9 discovery. Well 16/1-11 proved a 25-metre gas column in the Sleipner formation and a 32-metre oil column in the Skagerrak formation, without encountering the oil-water contact.

The reservoir quality in the gas zone was as expected, but somewhat poorer than expected in the oil zone. Well 16/1-11 A was then drilled deeper into the structure. The oil-water contact was determined using pressure measurements and fluid samples in the Skagerrak formation. This results in a 41-metre oil column in well 16/1-11 A.

A formation test was conducted in the technical sidetrack 16/1-11 T2. The maximum production rates were 175 and 525 Sm³ of oil per flow day through a 28/64 and 60/64 inch nozzle opening, respectively. Preliminary estimates indicate the size of the discovery as somewhere between 13.7 and 18.1 million Sm³ recoverable oil equivalents.

The licensees in [production licence 001 B](#) plan to mature the discovery with a view towards selecting a development concept during the course of 2010.

These are the fourth and fifth exploration wells in production licence 001 B. The licence was originally awarded in the first licensing round in 1965, and subsequently partitioned off on 15 December 1999.

Appraisal wells 16/1-11 and 16/1-11 A were drilled to respective vertical depths of 2596 and 2566 metres below the sea surface, and both were terminated in the Skagerrak formation in the Upper Triassic. The water depth is 112 metres. The wells will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

The wells were drilled by the *Songa Delta* drilling facility, which will now proceed to production licence 475 BS in the Norwegian Sea to drill wildcat well 6406/3-8, where Wintershall Norge ASA is the operator.

