

NPD – exploration drilling result

16/09/2011 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Statoil Petroleum AS a drilling permit for well 16/2-10 S, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Well 16/2-10 S will be drilled from the *Transocean Leader* drilling facility at position 58°51'16.10"N 2°32'37.45"E following completion of drilling of wildcat well 16/2-9 for Statoil in production licence 265.

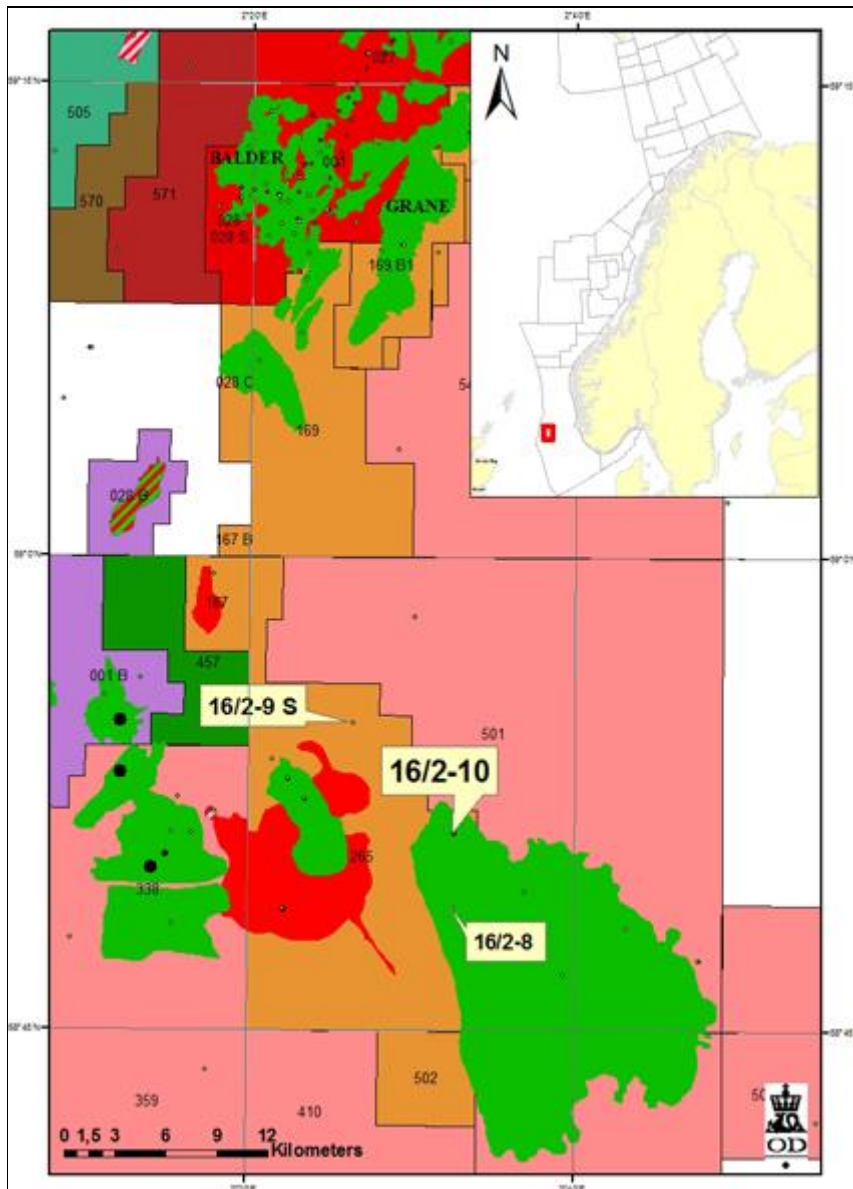
The drilling program for well 16/2-10 concerns the drilling of an appraisal well in production licence 265. Statoil Petroleum AS is the operator with an ownership interest of 40 per cent. The other licensees are Petoro AS with 30 per cent, Det norske oljeselskap ASA with 20 per cent and Lundin Norway AS with 10 per cent.

The area in this permit consists of parts of block 16/2. The well will be drilled about 5 kilometres north of well 16/2-8 in the central part of the North Sea.

Production licence 265 was awarded on 24 April 2001 (North Sea Awards 2000). This is the seventh well drilled in the license's area.

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



16/2-10

26/10/2011 Statoil Petroleum AS, operator of production licence 265, is about to complete drilling of the 16/2-10 delineation well.

The discovery, 16/2-8 ("Aldous Major South"), was proven in August 2011 in Upper and Middle Jurassic reservoir rocks with the same oil/water contact as in the 16/2-6 ("Avaldsnes") discovery well, which was proven in September 2010. The 16/2-10 well was drilled about four kilometres north of 16/2-8.

The primary exploration target for 16/2-10 was to delineate the discovery and the well confirmed the extent towards the north. The secondary exploration target was to investigate the possibility for reservoir quality and petroleum in Upper Cretaceous (the Shetland group) and in Upper Triassic (Skagerrak formation).

Well 16/2-10 encountered a 65-metre oil column in Upper to Middle Jurassic reservoir rocks. The oil/water contact is about 13.5m deeper than in the 16/2-8 and 16/2-6 wells. The reservoir is thicker than expected and has uncommonly good reservoir quality. The gas/oil ratio is 42.6 and 39.6 Sm³/Sm³ and the density has been calculated at 0.82 g/cm³, same as in well 16/2-8.

In the secondary exploration targets, rocks with very limited reservoir quality and without petroleum were encountered.

The well is not formation tested, but extensive data acquisition and sampling have taken place.

The well is the seventh exploration well in [production licence 265](#). The licence was awarded in the North Sea Awards in 2000.

16/2-10 was drilled to a vertical depth of 2066 metres below the surface and was terminated in the Skagerrak formation in Upper Triassic. The water depth is 115 metres. The well will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Well 16/2-10 was drilled by the *Transocean Leader* drilling facility, which will now proceed to the Troll field in the northern part of the North Sea to drill production wells on the field, where Statoil Petroleum AS is the operator.

