NPD – exploration drilling result

31/05/2012 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has granted Statoil a drilling permit for well 35/2-3, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Well 35/2-3 will be drilled from the *Scarabeo 8* drilling facility at position 61°49′0,66″ north and 3°35′1326″ east.

The drilling programme for well 35/2-3 relates to the drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 318, where Statoil is the operator with an ownership interest of 60 per cent. The other licensees are Idemitsu (20 per cent) and Petoro (20 per cent). The area in the licence comprises a section of block 35/2. The well will be drilled approx. 15 kilometres southeast of the 35/2-1 discovery.

Production licence 318 was awarded on 18 June 2004 (APA 2003). This is the fourth well to be drilled in the licence.

The permit is contingent upon the operator securing all other permits and consents required by other authorities before commencing drilling activities.

See Factpages for more information about this wellbore.

19/07/2012 Statoil Petroleum AS, operator of production licence 318, is about to complete drilling of wildcat well 35/2-3. The well, which was drilled about ten kilometres southeast of the 35/2-1 "Peon" gas discovery, is dry.

The objective of the well was to prove petroleum in Paleocene reservoir rocks in the Balder and Sele formations.

The well encountered the Balder formation with reservoir rocks and reservoir quality as expected, but the well was dry. The Sele formation was not encountered.

The well is the second exploration well in <u>production licence 318</u>. The licence was awarded in the 18th licensing round.

The well was drilled to a vertical depth of 1606 metres below the sea surface and was terminated in the Shetland group in the Upper Cretaceous.

Water depth at the site is 351 metres. The well will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Well 35/2-3 was drilled by the *Scarabeo 8* drilling facility which will now proceed to the Barents Sea to drill for ENI Norge AS.



