<u>NPD</u> – exploration drilling result

23/04/2013 Statoil Petroleum AS, operator of production licence 360, is about to complete drilling of wildcat well 16/8-3 S.

The well was drilled about 40 kilometres east of the Sleipner Øst field and 60 kilometres south of the Johan Sverdrup discovery in the central part of the North Sea.

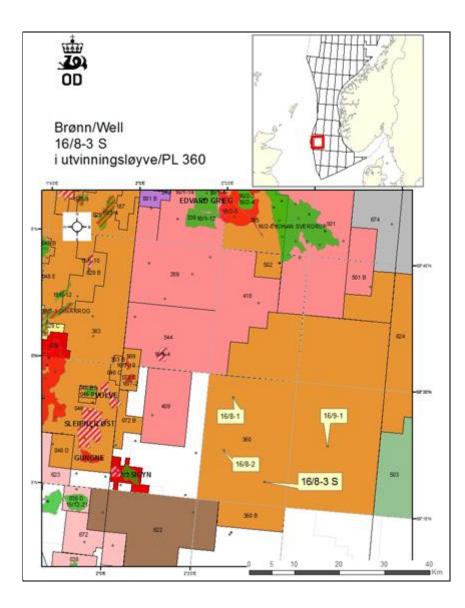
The objective of the well was to prove petroleum in Permian reservoir rocks (the Rotliegendes Group). The well encountered the Rotliegendes Group with reservoir rocks and reservoir quality considerably poorer than expected. The well is dry.

Data acquisition and sampling have been carried out. Well 16/8-3 S is the first exploration well drilled in production licence 360, but there are three older wells within the licence area. The licence was awarded in APA 2005.

The well was drilled to a vertical depth of 3218 metres below the sea surface, and was terminated in the Rotliegendes Group in Permian. The water depth is 72 metres. The well will be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Well 16/8-3 S was drilled by the *Songa Trym* drilling facility, which will now proceed to production licence 169 B2 in the North Sea to drill wildcat well 25/11-27 where Statoil Petroleum AS is the operator.

See <u>Factpages</u> for more information about this wellbore.



16/8-3 S

05/02/2013 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has granted Statoil Petroleum AS a drilling permit for well 16/8-3 S, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Well 16/8-3 S will be drilled from the *Songa Trym* drilling facility at position 58°17'43.36" north and 2°34'54.52" east, after the rig completes a stay at a shipyard.

The drilling programme for well 16/8-3 S relates to drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 360. Statoil Petroleum AS is the operator with an ownership interest of 50 per cent. The other licensees are Dong E&P Norge AS with 20 per cent, Noreco Norway AS with 15 per cent and Wintershall Norge AS with 15 per cent.

The area in this licence consists of parts of blocks 16/5 and 16/6, as well as blocks 16/8 and 16/9. The well will be drilled about 11 kilometres southeast of the 16/8-2 well, and about 17 kilometres southwest of the 16/9-1 well in the central part of the North Sea.

Production licence 360 was awarded on 16 January 2006 (APA 2007). This is the first well to be drilled in the actual licence, but three wells have previously been drilled within the area of the licence.

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

