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

13/03/2013 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has granted A/S Norske Shell a drilling permit for well 6406/9-3, cf. Section 8 of the Resource Management Regulations.

Well 6406/9-3 will be drilled from the *Transocean Barents* drilling facility in position 64°25'15.97" north and 6°58'42.79" east following completion of drilling of wildcat well 7218/11-1 for Repsol Exploration Norge AS in production licence 531.

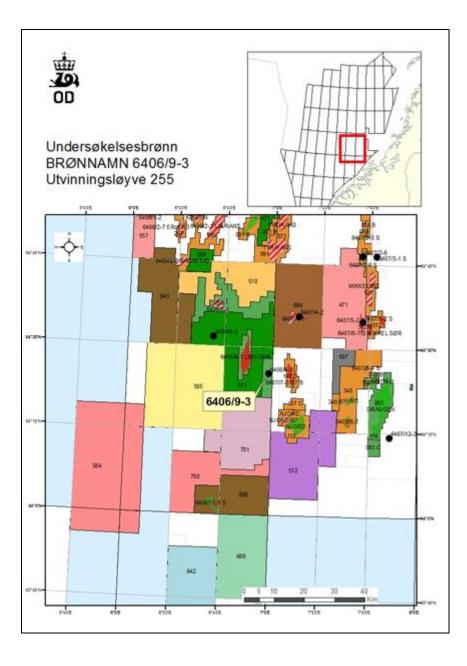
The drilling programme for well 6406/9-3 concerns drilling of a wildcat well in production licence 255. A/S Norske Shell is the operator with an ownership interest of 30 per cent. The other licensees are Petoro AS with 30 per cent, Statoil Petroleum AS with 20 per cent and Total E&P Norge AS with 20 per cent.

The area in this licence consists of parts of blocks 6406/5, 6406/6 and 6406/9. The well will be drilled about 7 kilometres southeast of 6406/9-1 Linnorm.

Production licence 255 was awarded on 12 May 2000 in the 16th licencing round on the Norwegian shelf. This is the sixth well to be drilled in this licence.

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

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



6406/9-3

05/09/2013 A/S Norske Shell, operator of production licence 255, is about to complete drilling of wildcat well 6406/9-3.

The well was drilled about 15 kilometres northwest of the Njord field and 7 kilometres southeast of the 6406/9-1 Linnorm gas discovery, in the southern part of the Norwegian Sea. The primary and secondary exploration targets for the well were to prove petroleum in Middle to Lower Jurassic reservoir rocks (Ile, Tofte and Tilje formations).

The well encountered the lle, Tofte and Tilje formations with variable reservoir quality. A thin gas column was encountered in the lle formation, but the size of the discovery is not commercially interesting. The other reservoir rocks were dense or aquiferous.

The well was not formation tested, but data acquisition and sampling have been carried out.

6406/9-3 is the fifth exploration well in production licence 255. The licence was awarded in the 16th licensing round in 2000.

The well was drilled to a vertical depth of 5095 metres below the sea surface, and was terminated in the Tilje formation in Lower Jurassic.

Water depth is 298 metres. The well will be permanently plugged and abandoned.

6406/9-3 was drilled by the *Transocean Barents* drilling facility, which will now drill wildcat well 35/9-9 in production licence 153 in the North Sea, where GDF SUEZ E&P Norge AS is the operator.

