



Trondheim, 2009–06–26

Dry well in the Norwegian Sea

Operator Det norske, has together with partners VNG Norge and Concedo, drilled a dry well on the Struten prospect in PL 383 in the Norwegian Sea.

The well encountered a considerable column of reservoir rocks of satisfying quality in the Tilje formation from the Early Jurassic, but without any trace of hydrocarbons. Pre drilling, migration of oil and gas was regarded as the main risk for a dry well. Post drilling, lack of migration is also seen as the most likely cause for the negative result.

Electromagnetic data was collected in the area, and an anomaly was seen over the Struten prospect, which could indicate the presence of hydrocarbons. The company sees the result as support for a view that EM-data only is one tool in the search for oil and gas, and that it by no means offers any guarantee for success.

This was a good structure next to an oil and gas rich area. Thus the result is of course disappointing, although we knew that this was the most likely outcome prior to drilling. We are satisfied to see that the well encountered reservoir rocks in line with our interpretation. We will now evaluate the results and decide on whether to redeem the license or to drill more wells, Det norske vice president for exploration Tom Bugge said.

The well was drilled to vertical depth of 1650 meters below sea level, and ended in rocks from the Early Jurassic. This well is the first exploration well drilled in PL 383. The license was awarded in January 2006 as part of the Award in pre defined Areas 2005 (APA 2005)

Water depth in the area is 377 meters. The well was drilled by semi submersible drilling rig Bredford Dolphin and will now be permanently plugged and abandoned.

Partners in PL 383 are:

Concedo AS 15 percent

VNG Norge AS 30 percent

Det norske oljeselskap ASA (O) 55 percent

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About Det norske (DETNOR`):

Det norske is the second-largest operating company on the Norwegian Continental Shelf with 28 operatorship and interests in a total of 50 licenses. Det norske is the operator of the Frøy Field development and will also operate eight to nine exploration wells in the North Sea and Norwegian Sea during 2009. Det norske's scope of activities is limited to the Norwegian Continental Shelf

(NCS).

Det norske currently employs a staff of more than 130 and the strong growth rate continues. The company's registered office is located in Trondheim and the headquarter operations is divided between Oslo and Trondheim. The company also has offices in Harstad, and Stavanger.