

Preface

Nature has been generous and given the Norwegian continental shelf large petroleum resources. Without technology, expertise, willingness and ability to invest, predictable framework conditions and sound management, it would not have been possible to create the enormous values for society and industry that the petroleum activity has achieved since 1969.

To continue the value creation the industry and the authorities are faced with important decisions.

Oil production is falling, and to counteract this, the industry and the authorities must work together to ensure that all the profitable oil resources are produced. In a few years, gas production will exceed oil production. In addition, exploration is necessary for future production and is important for maintaining both the attractiveness of the Norwegian continental shelf and the technological expertise. It is important that future production is as energy efficient as possible.

The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD) has a unique access to facts about the petroleum activities. The NPD maintains an overview of the resources and follows up the activities on the Norwegian shelf. In this report, the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate presents an updated survey of the activities and discusses important future challenges.

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