

# NPD guidelines for designation of wells and wellbores

(Ref. Resource regulations sections 8, 10 and 11)

## Revision history of this document

04.03.2010	More detailed description for designation of multilateral wellbores, including new figure.
20.11.2007	Mistake in table description corrected. The minus sign between III and IV was missing.
17.08.2007	New description how to handle multilateral wellbores.
11.12.2006	Item VIII is introduced to distinguish between wellbores producing from several fields. For the wellbore producing from the "first" field no value (blank) will be used for item VIII, for the next F2 will be used, then F3 etc.
03.06.2002	The first technical sidetrack is called T2, and not T1 as stated in revision of 1.1.2001.
01.01.2001	A change where the wellbore identification was divided into 8 parts, whereby operator companies are responsible for the 8 <sup>th</sup> part
01.01.2000	A new well model based on the POSC standard for naming wells were adopted by the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate
29.04.2010	Designations for multilateral wellbores revised

## Definitions

**Well:** borehole which is drilled in order to discover or delimit a petroleum deposit and/ or to produce petroleum or water for injection purposes, to inject gas, water or other medium, or to map or monitor well parameters. There are several categories of wells. A well may consist of one or several wellbores (well paths) and may have one or several termination points.

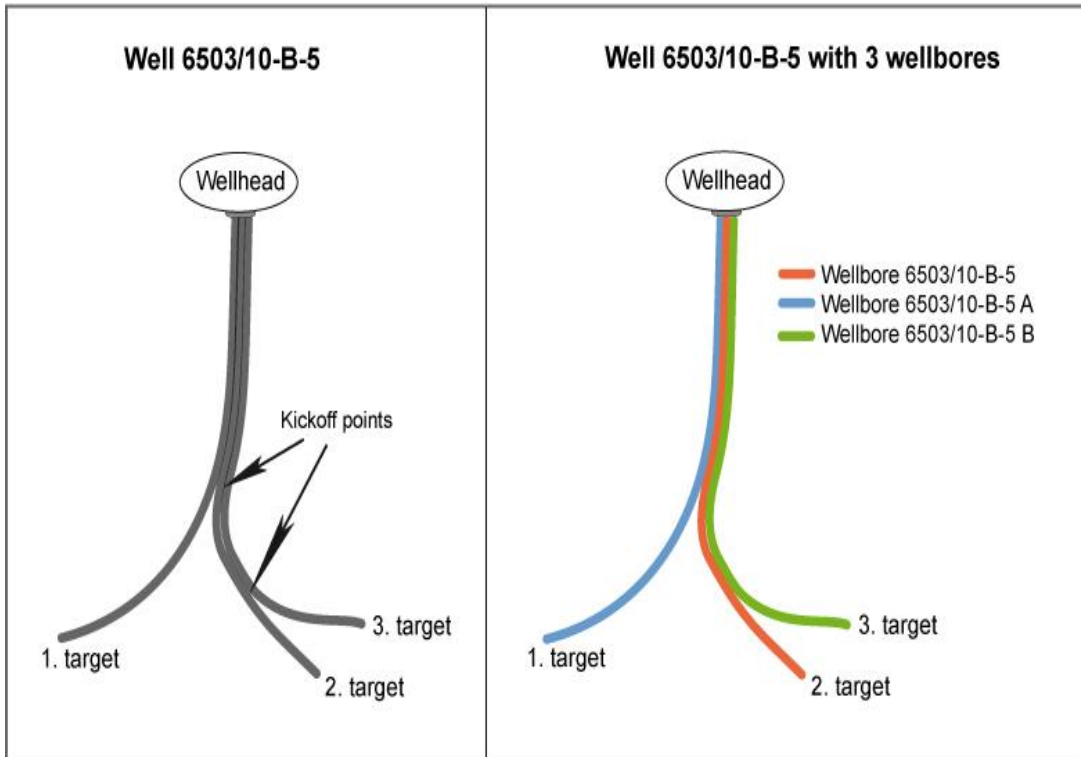
**Wellbore (well path):** designates the location of the well from one termination point to the wellhead. A wellbore may consist of one or more well tracks.

**Well track:** the part of a wellbore (well path) which extends from a point of drilling out on the existing wellbore (kick-off point) to a new termination point for the well.

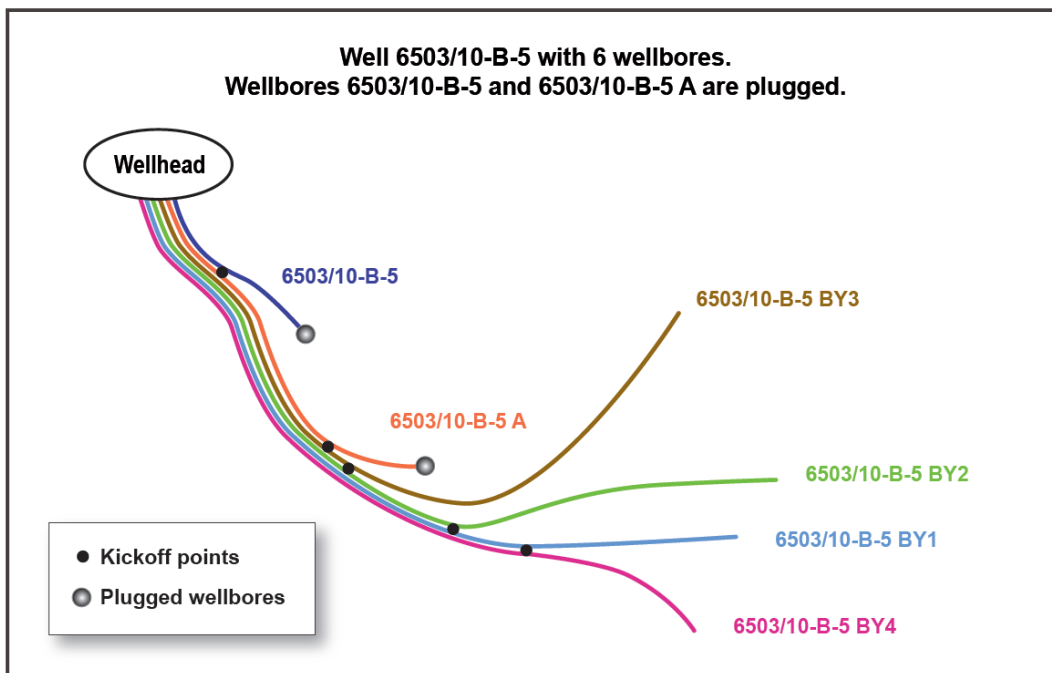
**Multilateral wellbore:** has more than one wellbore radiating from the main wellbore. In contrast to sidetracked wells where the first bottom section is plugged back before a sidetrack is drilled, multilateral wellbores have more than one wellbore open at the same time.

**Shallow borehole:** hole drilled in order to acquire information on the rock characteristics and/ or carry out geotechnical examinations for the location of installations and which are not drilled to discover or delimit a petroleum deposit or to produce or inject petroleum, water or other medium.

### Example 1 - Relation between well and wellbores



### Example 2 - Multilateral wellbores



## Table description

	Wellbore designation maintained by the operator companies based on NPD guidelines												
	Wellbore designation determined by the NPD												
	Well designation determined by the NPD												
Format	9999	/	99	-	A	-	99		AA	AA	A	AA	AAAAAA
Item number	I		II		III		IV		V	VI	VII	VIII	IX

## Textual description

### Well /Wellbore determined by the NPD

Item I: Quadrant number

Item II: Block number

Item III: Identification of the wellbore or name of the installation

- Not used for exploration wells
- A – Z: installation development wells ( except U, T)
- U: shallow borehole
- T: test production well

Item IV: Well Number, serial number/hole number from 1-99

- There must always be a space after Item IV, the well number

Item V:

- S: exploration well planned to be deviated
- A, B, etc.: side tracks
- R: re-entered exploration wells
- Y: planned as multilateral wells (se own description below)

Item VI:

- Numbers 2, 3 etc.: a count of the number of re-entries (i.e. R, R2, etc.)
- Numbers 1,2,3, etc: a count of the well tracks in multilateral wells

Item VII:

- H: Sub-sea completed

Item VIII:

- Fx: Multi field (where x = 2, 3, 4 etc).

Fx is used to identify multi field wellbores and should be used where production / and or injection is done from more than one field. The

wellbore for the “first” field is not using Item VIII, the wellbore for the second field is named F2, for the third F3 etc.

### Wellbore maintained by the operator company bases on NPD guidelines

#### Item IX

This item is used for more detailed identification of a wellbore (for instance when a technical sidetrack is drilled). The item list can be extended, and will be updated by NPD. To ensure that uniqueness is achieved, the item list is sorted in alphabetical order. The current item list is:

- T2, T3 etc are used to identify technical sidetrack wellbores. T2 is used for the first sidetrack, T3 for the next etc
- Q1, Q2 etc are used to identify multi-purpose wellbores and should be used where production and/or injection is done from separate zones within the wellbore. Q1 is used for the first stream, Q2 for the next, etc.

#### **Multilateral wellbores**

Multilateral wellbores have more than one wellbore radiating from the main wellbore. In contrast to sidetracked wells where the first bottom section is plugged back before a sidetrack is drilled, multilateral wellbores have more than one wellbore open at the same time.

Wellbores planned as multilaterals are named Y1, Y2, Y3 etc. (Item V), i.e. 31/2-L-12 Y1H and 31/2-L-12 Y2H. Multilaterals can also be drilled from sidetracks, i.e. 31/2-E-6 DY1H and 31/2-E-6 DY2H.

If a wellbore originally was not planned as multilateral, and the decision to drill multilateral from this wellbore is made at a later stage, the original wellbore keeps its name, i.e. 6608/10-E-1 H and the new wellbores are named Y2, Y3 etc. i.e. 6608/10-E-1 Y2H.

The numbering of the wellbores does not necessarily reflect the order the wellbores were drilled in.

Wellbores drilled out of other wellbores are not designated as sidetracks even if their purpose is observation rather than production and even if they are plugged back after drilling.

#### **Writing rules**

In writing no leading zeros are used. Numbers in Item I shall have right alignment. All other numbers and letters have left alignment. There must always be a space between Item IV (well number) and the rest of the wellbore reference. If any of the items is empty (e.g. Item III for exploration wells), that item is skipped when the well/wellbore name is written.

*According to section 8 in the Regulations relating to resource management in the petroleum activities (Resource management regulations) the licensee*

*shall obtain registration number and well/well path designation from the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate in respect of each separate well or well path prior to commencement of drilling activities.*