



2018

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL WORK BY THE
OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY
FACTS AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS



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The Norwegian Oil and Gas Association (formerly the Norwegian Oil Industry Association) is an interest organisation and employer's association for oil and supplier companies related to exploration for and production of oil and gas on the Norwegian continental shelf (NCS). It represents just over 100 member companies, and is a national association in the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO).



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1

FOREWORD

THE NORWEGIAN OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION PUBLISHES AN ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT CONTAINING A DETAILED OVERVIEW OF ALL EMISSIONS/DISCHARGES FROM THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. ITS PURPOSE INCLUDES COMMUNICATING ALL EMISSION/DISCHARGE DATA FROM THE INDUSTRY'S ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON ITS WORK AND RESULTS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AREA.



The Norwegian petroleum industry has a clear ambition: it will be a world leader in the environmental sphere. That calls for constant improvement. Detailed reporting of emissions and discharges is essential for measuring progress and how far goals are met.

This report derives its information from the Epim Environment Hub (EEH), a joint database for Norwegian Oil and Gas, the Norwegian Environment Agency (NEA), the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority and the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (NPD). Pursuant to the Environment Act, all operators on the Norwegian continental shelf (NCS) must submit annual emission/discharge reports in accordance with the requirements specified in the management regulations and set out in detail in the NEA guidelines for reporting from offshore petroleum activities (M-107). Where the operator companies are concerned, these requirements mean that all emissions/discharges and all waste generated from operations on the Norwegian continental shelf (NCS) must be reported in detail on an annual basis. In addition to sending the emission/discharge report for each field to the NEA, all the data are posted to the EEH. That applies both to planned and officially approved operational emissions/discharges and to those which occur accidentally. Common parameters ensure consistent emission/discharge reporting from all production licences.

This environmental report contains a synthesis of all emissions/discharges, as well as a summary of results from research projects related to the marine environment and the climate.

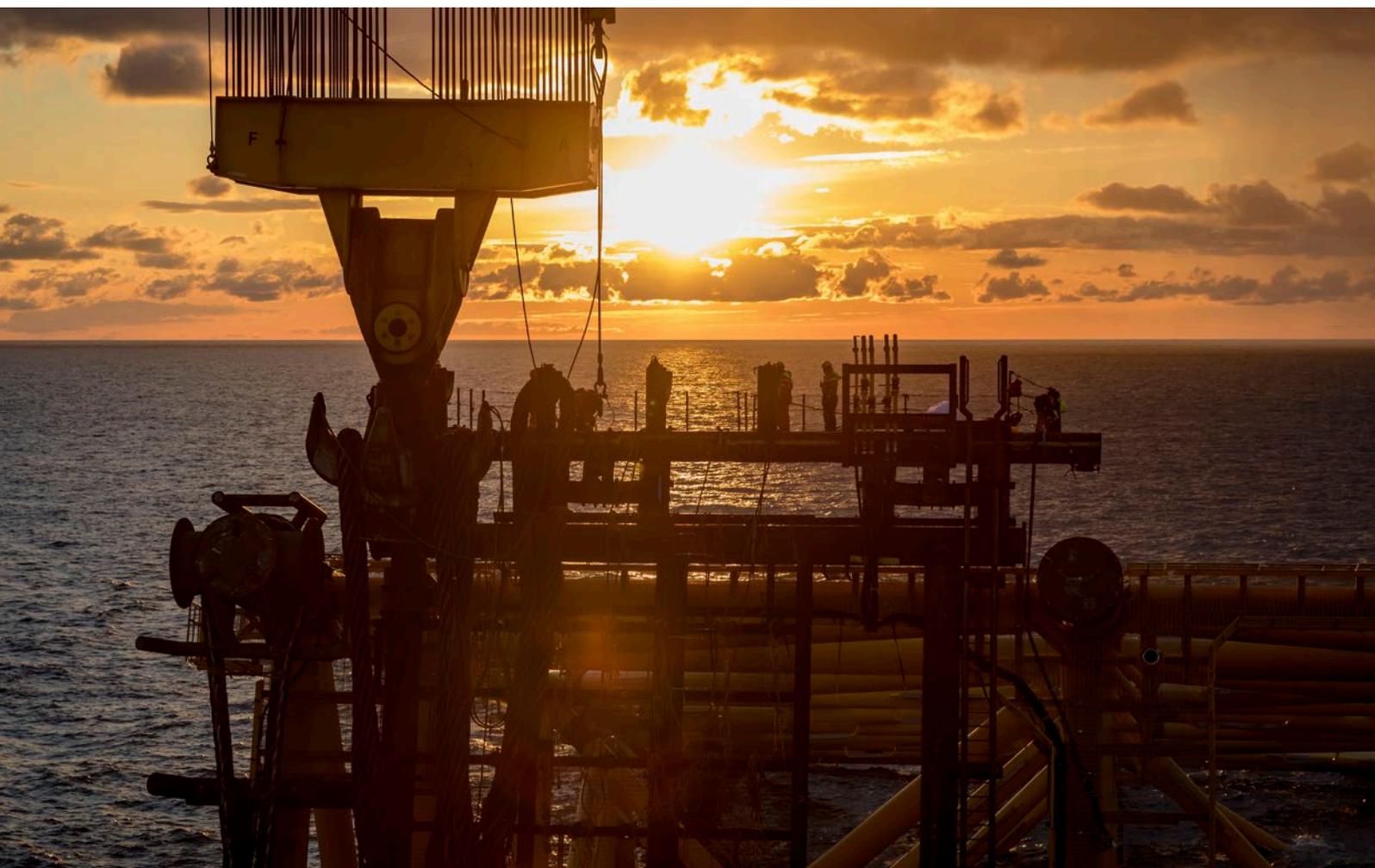
The definition of the petroleum industry accords with the one provided in the Norwegian Petroleum Tax Act. Emissions/discharges from the construction and installation phase, maritime support services, helicopter traffic, and those parts of onshore plants which do not relate to offshore production are therefore excluded from this report.

This English version is a translation of the Norwegian report. Electronic versions in both English and Norwegian are published on the Norwegian Oil and Gas website at www.norskoljeoggass.no. The field-specific emission/discharge reports submitted to the NEA can also be downloaded from the site.

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SUMMARY

EMISSIONS/DISCHARGES FROM OPERATIONS ON THE NCS ARE DECLINING AT THE SAME TIME AS OVERALL PRODUCTION INCREASED IN 2017 FOR THE FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW – GAS EXPORTS HAVE NEVER BEEN HIGHER. THIS MEANS THAT CO₂ INTENSITY (EMISSIONS PER UNIT PRODUCED) DECLINED FOR THE FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW. DISCHARGES OF PRODUCED WATER AND DRILL CUTTINGS WERE ALSO REDUCED IN 2017.



Optimism once again prevails in the Norwegian petroleum sector. A broad range of measures have been initiated in the planning, execution and operational phases, and costs for new developments have been cut by 30-50 per cent over the past couple of years. The past year saw a number of new projects unleashed, and a turning point for oil investment is due in 2018.

Despite low oil prices, the production trend on the NCS has been rising. Norway has never sold so much offshore gas as it did in 2017. Oil production fell slightly, but overall output of oil and gas nevertheless climbed for the fourth year in a row. Drilling activity was slightly higher than in 2016 thanks to production wells. Thirty-six exploration wells – 24 wildcat and 12 appraisal – were spudded in 2017, unchanged from the year before. Eleven discoveries were made, seven fewer than in 2016.

Despite the increase in activity and production, emissions to the air and discharges to the sea are both declining overall. Total greenhouse gas (GHG) released from the NCS in 2017 amounted to 13.6 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent, compared with 13.8 and 14.2 million in 2016 and 2015 respectively. The main reason why emissions have fallen for two years in a row is a significant reduction in flaring on existing NCS fields as well as lower amounts from engines. Reported methane emissions declined further in 2017 because of the transition to more detailed mapping of emission sources and representative emission factors for the individual sources. Specific GHG emissions per unit produced (CO₂ intensity) therefore also went down for the fourth year in a row.

A status review in 2017 showed that the industry's KonKraft goal for 2020 was already exceeded by the end of 2016. Drawn up by the petroleum industry in 2016, a roadmap for the

NCS sets specific goals and ambitions for further cuts in GHG emissions. The companies are working systematically to identify and implement measures, and collaborate through various fora to benefit from experience transfer in order to reduce emissions from oil and gas production on the NCS.

Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is crucial for achieving the ambitions expressed in the Paris agreement. The Norwegian government's ambition is to realise a full-scale CCS facility by 2022. Crucial for reducing emissions from its land-based industry, Norway's projects represent a major industrial potential for the nation. Sintef produced a report on industrial opportunities and employment from CCS in Norway during the spring of 2018, which presents the potential for creating value and jobs from investing in domestic CCS infrastructure. CO₂ storage would allow natural gas to be sold as emission-free hydrogen, the process industry on land can be safeguarded and developed towards a low-emission society, and storing CO₂ from industrial sources elsewhere in Europe would represent a new business opportunity for petroleum companies on the NCS.

Discharges to the sea derive primarily from drilling wells and from the produced water which comes up with the oil. Drilling discharges mainly comprise drilling fluid and rock particles (drill cuttings) from the borehole. Discharges are only permitted from wells drilled

with water-based fluid, while spent oil-based drilling fluids and cuttings contaminated with them are either shipped ashore as hazardous waste for safe treatment or injected back underground in dedicated wells. Both the consumption of oil-based fluids and the quantity of waste sent ashore from drilling operations declined in 2017 compared with earlier years. Discharges of drill cuttings with water-based fluids amounted to roughly 90 000 tonnes in 2017, down by just under 14 per cent from the year before.

Discharges of oily water from petroleum operations on the NCS have three main sources, with produced water making the biggest contribution at 134 million standard cubic metres (scm). Annual produced water discharges peaked in 2007 at almost 162 million scm, and have since varied between 130-150 million scm.

On certain fields where conditions are appropriate, all or part of the produced water is injected back into the sub-surface. Such injection increased substantially in 2002 and has been around 20 per cent of the total quantity in recent years. Just over 23 per cent was injected in 2017. Produced water represents the most important source of oil discharges on the NCS. The water is treated before release with the aid of technologies which differ





between the various fields. The oil content in produced water averaged 12.1 milligrams per litre (mg/l) across the NCS in 2017, down from 12.3 in 2016. The regulatory threshold is 30 mg/l.

Discharges of both produced water and cuttings contain chemicals – either naturally occurring in the sub-surface or additives. The use and discharge of chemicals is strictly regulated in Norway. Chemicals are assessed on the basis of their environmental properties and criteria laid down in the HSE regulations with associated guidelines. Chemical additives are divided into four categories (green, yellow, red and black), where green substances have no or very limited environmental impact while black can only be discharged in special circumstances – where this is crucial for safety, for instance. The operators are required to make regular assessments of which chemicals can be replaced with less environmentally harmful alternatives – known as the substitution duty.

Extensive substitution of chemicals has reduced the release of the most environmentally harmful substances to a fraction of the figure only 10 years ago. However, a marked rise in reported discharges of black chemicals occurred in 2011-14. Discharges of red chemicals have also gone up since 2011. These increases primarily reflect changed reporting and

substitution requirements. Discharges of fire-extinguishing foam were not reported earlier because this was a safety chemical with no alternative products able to offer a satisfactory extinguishing performance. Alternatives with less environmentally harmful properties are now available. These are currently being phased in, and are part of the reason why discharges of red chemicals have risen. Mandatory fire drills and system tests will lead to the release of foam. Discharges of black chemicals amounted to about 4.7 tonnes in 2017, less than a third of the 2014 figure.

New fire-extinguishing foams still contain components which fall into the red category. This contributed significantly to a marked increase in red-chemical discharges in 2013-16. Reclassification of certain chemicals from yellow to red also contributed to this rise. Discharges of red chemicals came to 96 tonnes in 2017, down from 103 tonnes in 2016.

Extensive preventive work by the operators to avoid unintentional discharges has led to a continued decline in the number of oil spills. They totalled 46 in 2017, of which 18 had a volume larger than 50 litres. Looking only at crude oil discharges larger than one cubic metre, just two such discharges occurred during the year – unchanged from 2016.

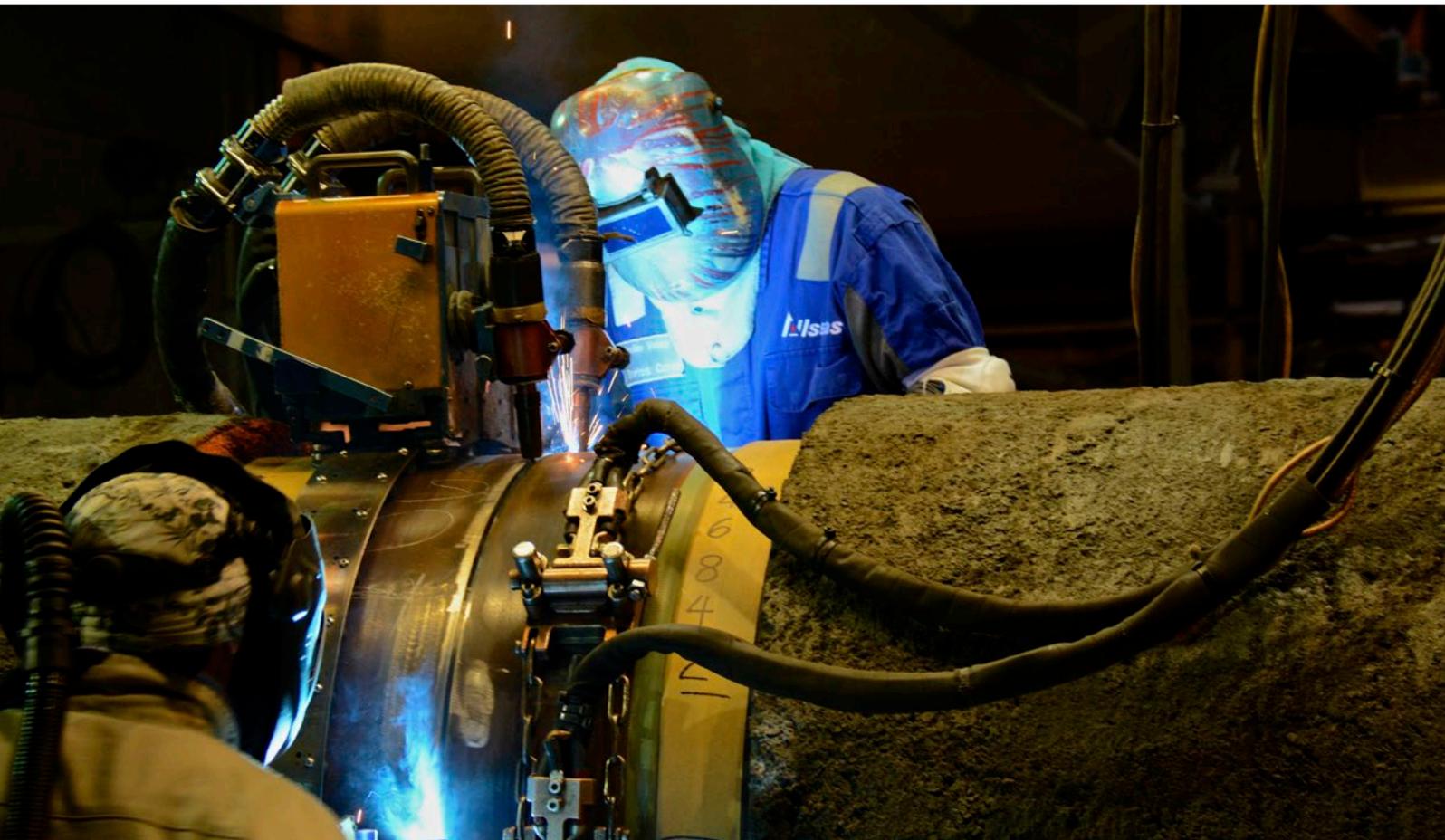
The oil content in produced water averaged 12.1 mg/l across the NCS in 2017, compared with 12.3 in 2016. The regulatory threshold is 30 mg/l.



3

LEVEL OF ACTIVITY ON THE NCS

NORWAY'S PETROLEUM SECTOR HAS BEEN THROUGH THREE DEMANDING YEARS SINCE OIL PRICES BEGAN TO FALL IN THE SUMMER OF 2014. HOWEVER, OIL PRICES STABILISED AT A HIGHER LEVEL IN 2017, WHILE COSTS IN THE INDUSTRY HAVE BEEN CUT SUBSTANTIALLY THROUGH EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS, REDUCED SUPPLIER PRICES AND SIMPLIFICATIONS.



Optimism once again prevails in the Norwegian petroleum sector. The past year saw a number of new development projects unleashed, and a turning point for oil investment is due in 2018.

The oil and gas industry on the NCS has been through a demanding time since the sharp fall in oil prices began in the summer of 2014. Much has since been done by the industry to cut costs through a broad range of measures in the planning, execution and operational phases, and costs for new developments have been cut by 30-50 per cent over the past couple of years. The general picture is therefore that new projects have good profitability and are robust against prices significantly below the present level. At the same time, oil prices have again recovered and the

companies are seeing a number of profitable opportunities. The investment decline of the past few years is flattening out, with the petroleum industry again heading for brighter times.

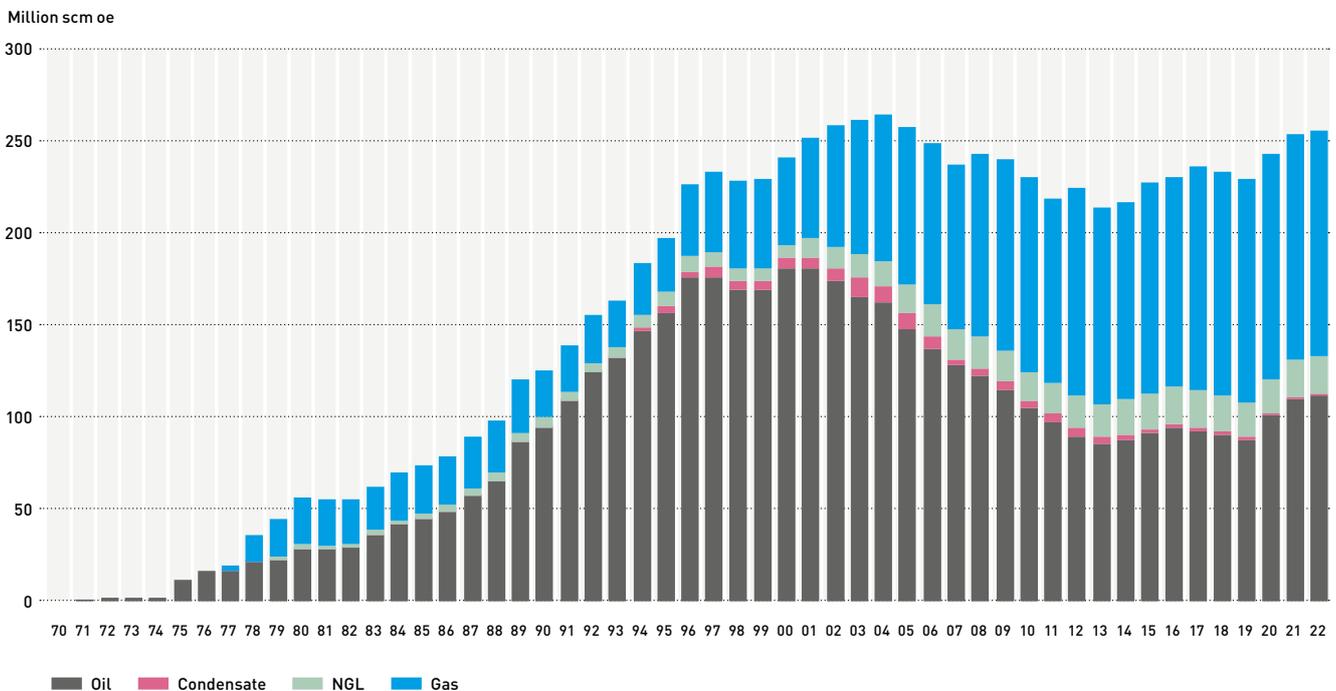
RISING PRODUCTION TREND

Despite low oil prices, output from the NCS has been on an upward trend. Gas sales set a new record in 2017. Oil production declined slightly, but overall petroleum output rose for the fourth year in a row.

Final figures show that 92 million scm (1.59 million barrels per day – b/d) of oil were produced in 2017, compared with 94 million scm (1.61 million b/d) the year before – a two per cent reduction. The NPD’s forecast for 2017 did not expect oil production to fall from the year before. Most of the decline reflected an unplanned maintenance shutdown on Goliat. A further two per cent drop to 90.2 million scm (1.55 million b/d) is predicted by the NPD for 2018. Oil production is expected to continue falling until 2020, but Johan Sverdrup will then contribute to a recovery.

01 HISTORICAL AND EXPECTED PETROLEUM PRODUCTION (MILLION SCM OE)

Source: NPD





Gas sales in 2017 amounted to 124.2 billion scm, a new Norwegian record. These sales are difficult to predict, even in the short term. They were 6.6 per cent higher in 2017 than the NPD forecast at the same time last year. This development partly reflects continued high demand from continental Europe and the UK. A number of the fields on stream have increased production. Short-term gas sale predictions show that the level is expected to remain high and stable, with a slight increase over the next five years.

The NPD's overall production forecast up to 2022 shows a rise from 2020. Oil and gas output in 2022 is expected to approach the previous record set in 2004. Gas will then account for about half the amount produced.

NEW PRODUCTION PEAK IN PROSPECT FOR 2023

The contribution from petroleum covered by a production decision is expected to be high and stable over the next five years. Output will rise in the early years of the period because of new measures on the fields, discoveries sanctioned for development, and when these come on stream. The contribution from discoveries where development has yet to be decided will rise later. Output from undiscovered resources is expected to acquire greater significance up to 2030. Based on these assumptions, total production from the NCS is expected to reach a new peak in 2023.

36 EXPLORATION WELLS SPUDDED

Thirty-six exploration wells were spudded in 2017, the same number as the year before. While oil company spending on wildcatting came to NOK 11 billion

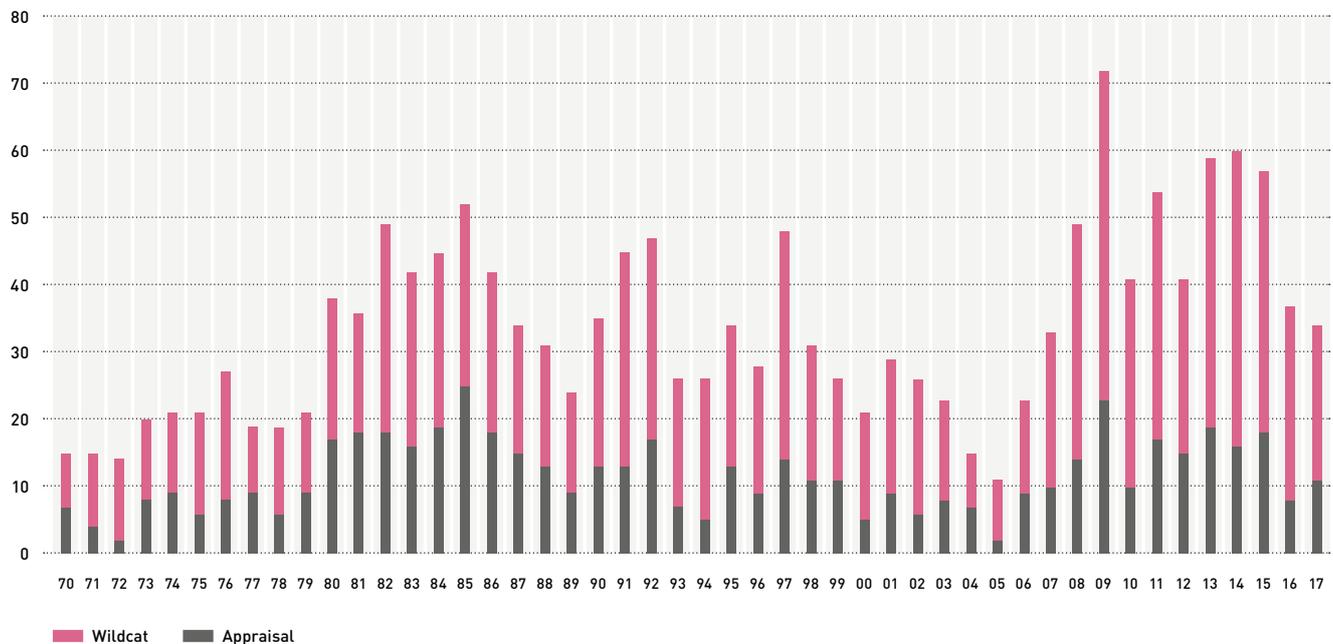
in 2016, it dropped to NOK 8.7 billion in 2017. Wildcats accounted for 24 of last year's exploration wells, and appraisals for 12. Eleven discoveries were made, seven fewer than in 2016.

48 PER CENT OF RESOURCES SOLD AND DELIVERED

The NPD's base estimate for total proven and unproven petroleum resources on the NCS is about 15.6 billion scm of oil equivalent (oe). Of this, 7.1 billion or 45 per cent has been sold and delivered. The overall resource base has increased by 1.3 billion scm oe since 31 December 2016. This is because the NPD mapped areas not opened for petroleum activities in the north-eastern Barents Sea during 2016-17. Forty-four per cent of remaining petroleum resources at 31 December 2017 are now estimated to lie in the North Sea, 20 per cent in the Norwegian Sea and 36 per cent in the Barents Sea.

FIGURE 02 EXPLORATION WELLS SPUDDED ON THE NCS (MILLION SCM OE)

Source: NPD



10 PDOS SUBMITTED IN 2017

The government received 10 plans for development and operation (PDOs) in 2017, covering Njord further development, Bauge, Ekofisk 2/4 Victor Charlie, Valhall flank west, Yme, Skogul, Snorre further development, Arefugl, Fenja and Johan Castberg. Snorre further development is one of the biggest improved recovery projects on the NCS, and among the Norwegian fields with the biggest remaining oil volumes.

24TH ROUND – MOST APPLICATIONS IN BARENTS SEA

The government invited the oil companies on 29 August 2016 to nominate blocks for possible inclusion in the 24th licensing round. Numbered licensing rounds cover the opened frontier areas of the NCS, where the potential for making big discoveries is at its greatest. At the deadline of 30 November 2016,

11 companies had applied for production licences. The largest number of applications related to the Barents Sea, and the companies were particularly interested in the north-western part of the area on offer. Furthermore, applicants were dominated by large and medium-sized companies with good technical and financial capacity for exploring such areas. Fishing- and environment-related conditions are set for the blocks on offer, which was made clear in the announcement letter. The Ministry of Petroleum and Energy aims to award new licences under the 24th round before the summer of 2018.

TURNAROUND FOR OIL INVESTMENT IN 2018

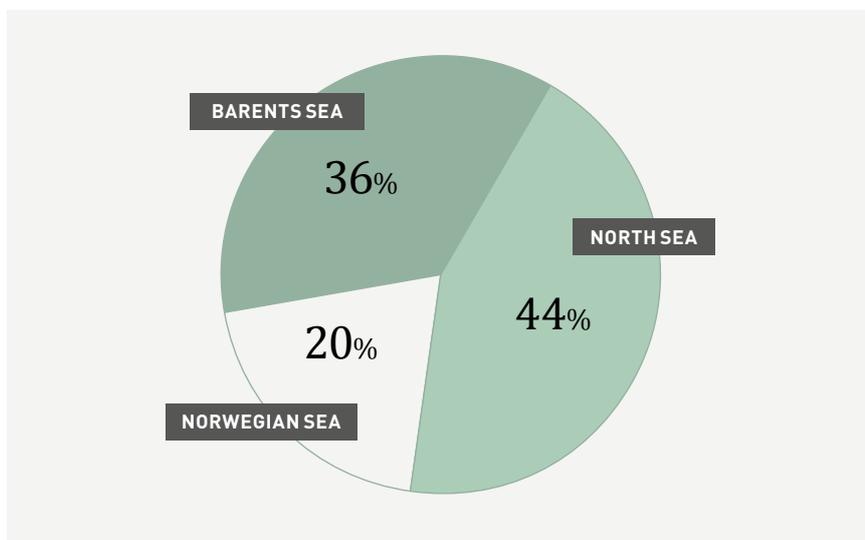
According to the investment survey for the petroleum sector from Statistics Norway (SSB), capital spending on oil and gas recovery and pipeline transport

came to NOK 148.8 billion in 2017. That was down by NOK 15.7 billion or 9.5 per cent from the year before. This decline primarily reflected lower investment in fields on stream, land-based activity, and cessation and removal, and represented the third year of falling petroleum investment. However, oil prices stabilised at a higher level in 2017 while costs have been cut substantially through efficiency improvements, reduced supplier prices and simplifications. Over the past year, these developments have unleashed a number of new projects with break-even prices considerably below today's oil price.

In the investment survey for the first quarter of 2018, operators on the NCS estimate that capital spending in the sector will come to NOK 160 billion for the full year. This represents an upward adjustment of 11 per cent from the 2018 estimate in the previous quarter. Field development accounts for virtually the whole increase. PDOs submitted for no less than seven development projects in December 2017 are now included in the figures. At the same time, such plans are expected for several more projects later this year. If timetables for these are maintained, investment in field development – viewed in isolation – could be even higher than the figure presented in the survey so far.

FIGURE 03 REMAINING PETROLEUM RESOURCES BY SEA AREA (MILLION SCM OE)

Source: NPD





4

DISCHARGES TO THE SEA

DISCHARGES TO THE SEA DERIVE PRIMARILY FROM DRILLING WELLS AND FROM THE PRODUCED WATER WHICH COMES UP FROM THE RESERVOIR WITH THE OIL. PRODUCED WATER DISCHARGES PEAKED AT JUST OVER 167 MILLION SCM IN 2007. THE OVERALL AMOUNT DISCHARGED IN 2017 CAME TO 134 MILLION SCM.



4.1 DISCHARGES FROM DRILLING

Drilling discharges mainly comprise drilling fluid and rock particles (drill cuttings) from the borehole. Discharges are only permitted from wells drilled with water-based fluid, or with permission from the NEA where contamination from oil-based fluid is less than 10 grams of base oil per kilogram of cuttings. Drilling activity in 2017 was somewhat higher than the year before, but lower than in 2015.

Drilling activity rose somewhat in 2017 from the year before (see figure 4) to 177 new production wells, but was slightly down from 2015. Exploration wells were unchanged from 2016, at 36, but considerably fewer than in 2013-15.

The fluid used when drilling wells has many functions. These include bringing up drill cuttings, lubricating and cooling the drill bit, preventing the borehole from collapsing and, not least, keeping pressure in the well under control to prevent an uncontrolled blowout of oil and gas.

The industry primarily utilises two types of drilling fluids today: oil- and water-based.

Ether-, ester- or olefin-based “synthetic” fluids were also utilised earlier, but have been little used in recent years.

Discharging oil-based or synthetic drilling fluids, or cuttings contaminated with these, is prohibited if the oil concentration exceeds one per cent by weight – in other words, 10 grams of oil per kilogram of cuttings. Cuttings contaminated with less than one per cent of oil-based or synthetic drilling fluids may only be discharged with permission from the NEA. Spent oil-based drilling fluids and contaminated cuttings are either shipped ashore as hazardous waste for acceptable treatment or injected in dedicated wells beneath the seabed.

Consumption of oil-based drilling fluid in 2017 was down by more than 20 per cent from the year before, despite rather higher drilling activity.

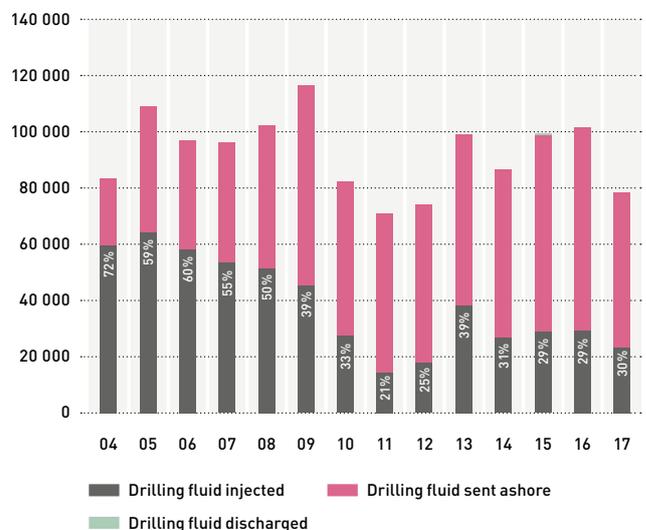
The proportion of drilling fluid injected was 30 per cent, somewhat higher than in 2016. Injection wells have been drilled on a number of new fields, but have not been replaced on certain older fields where they were found to contain fractures and leaks in 2007-09.

A permit to discharge treated drill cuttings was issued for the Johan Sverdrup field in December 2016. This specifies that discharges will start in 2019, when the permanent drilling rig has been installed.

FIGURE 04 WELLS DRILLED ON THE NCS AFTER 2000



FIGURE 05 DISPOSAL OF OIL-BASED DRILLING FLUID (TONNES)





The quantities of cuttings presented above are based on calculations of the rock drilled out. However, the amount recorded as being delivered to land in the form of hazardous waste is substantially larger. This is because cuttings from many fields are slurrified by adding water so that they can be handled more easily to and from the vessels shipping them to land. The variation accordingly reflects water added to the cuttings before reception ashore.

Oil-contaminated cuttings delivered as waste totalled just over 53 000 tonnes in 2013, rising to almost 118 000 tonnes

in 2016. A substantial reduction to almost 80 000 tonnes occurred in 2017. Water and cuttings are separated on land, with the former treated and discharged to the sea while the latter are subject to further treatment in accordance with the applicable regulations.

Discharges of cuttings drilled out with water-based fluids in 2017 came to roughly 90 000 tonnes, down by just under 14 per cent from the year before. Water-based fluids consist primarily of natural components such as clay or salts, which are classed as green chemicals in the NEA's classification system. In line

with Ospar, they pose little or no risk to the marine environment when discharged. The possible impact of these discharges is followed up by extensive environmental monitoring (see section 5.1).

FIGURE 06 DISPOSAL OF DRILL CUTTINGS CONTAMINATED WITH OIL-BASED DRILLING FLUID (TONNES)

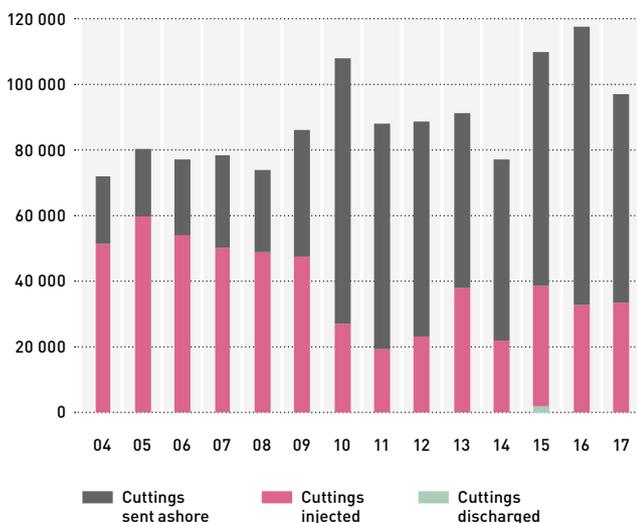
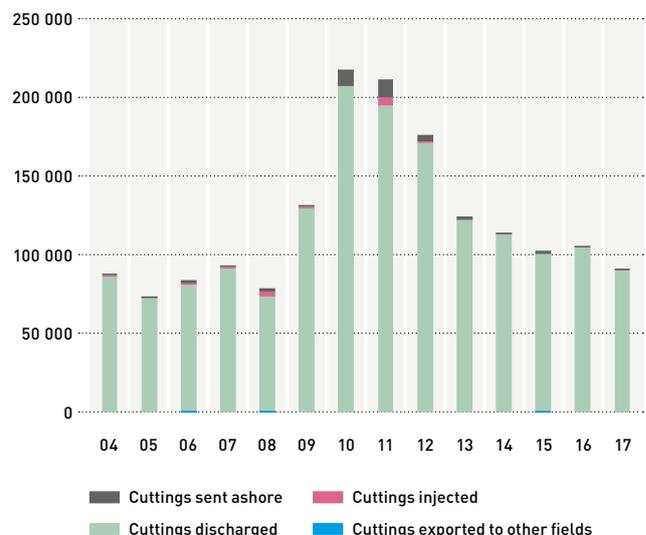


FIGURE 07 DISCHARGE OF DRILL CUTTINGS FROM WELLS DRILLED WITH WATER-BASED FLUID (TONNES)



4.2 DISCHARGES OF OILY WATER

Discharges of oily water from petroleum operations on the NCS derive from three main sources, with produced water accounting for the biggest contribution.

Produced water: Accompanies the oil and gas up from the reservoir, and occurs naturally in the formations. A complex mix, it can contain several thousand separate compounds. The water is therefore subject to routine analyses. Where water is injected to improve recovery, it will mix with the formation water and may also contain various chemicals added, for example, to prevent bacterial growth, corrosion and emulsion formation.

Various treatment technologies are applied on the platform in order to help get the water's oil content as low as possible before discharge to the sea.

The regulatory threshold for the oil concentration in produced water discharged to the sea is 30 milligrams per litre (mg/l).

Displacement water: Seawater is used as ballast in the storage cells on some platforms. When oil is to be stored in the cells, this water must be treated before discharge. The seawater has a limited contact area with the crude, so the quantity of dispersed oil is usually small. The volume discharged depends on the level of oil production.

Drain water: Water falling as rain or used to wash down decks may contain chemical residues and oil. Drain water forms only a small proportion of the total quantity discharged.

Jetting may also form an additional category. Particles and oily sand which accumulate in the separators must be flushed out by water jetting from time to time. Some oil contamination remains on the particles after the water has been treated in accordance with the regulations. The quantity of oily water discharged is marginal.

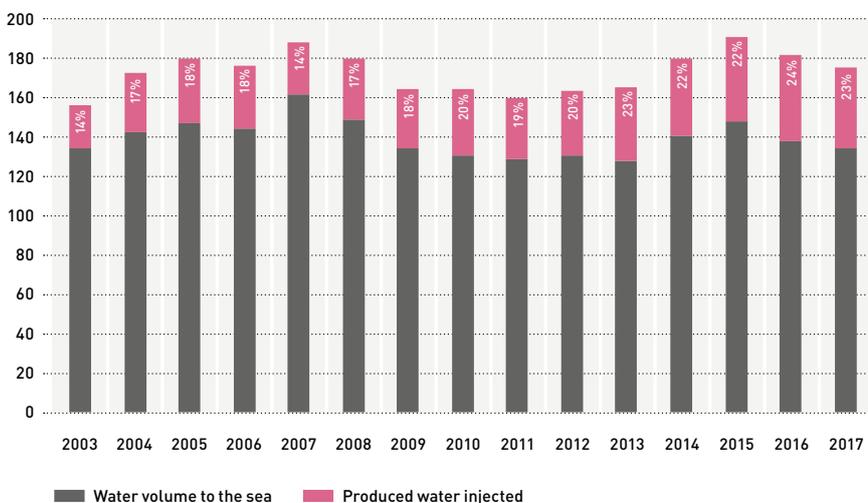
Oily water can also derive from cleaning process equipment, from accidents, or from the deposition of oil droplets released by flaring in connection with well testing and workovers.

PRODUCED WATER DISCHARGES

A continuous rise in discharges of produced water on the NCS was forecast for many years, with the volume expected to exceed 200 million scm in 2012-14. However, it peaked at 160 million scm in 2007 and declined substantially thereafter. Annual discharges rose to almost 150 million scm in 2012-15, but fell again in 2016 to just over 138 million scm. The downward trend persists, with discharges falling by just under three per cent in 2017 to 134 million scm.

On certain fields where conditions are appropriate, all or part of the produced water is injected back into the sub-surface. Such injection rose substantially from 2002, and has been about 20 per cent of the total quantity in recent years. About 23 per cent, or a little over 40.9 million scm, was injected in 2017.

08 PRODUCED WATER DISCHARGED TO THE SEA AND INJECTED BELOW GROUND (MILL SCM)



Produced water in new fields consists wholly of the amount already present in the reservoirs. However, its quantity increases as the field ages because water is injected to maintain reservoir pressure and improve the oil recovery factor. Treated seawater is normally used. Oil recovery factors for fields on the NCS are generally well above the global average. Despite this, discharges on the NCS are comparable with international figures.

The relative proportions of produced water and oil on the NCS have therefore shown a rising tendency. However, they declined somewhat in 2016 – probably because a number of new fields came on stream. This trend continued in 2017.

Monitoring has not identified any environmental effects from releasing produced water (see section 5.1).

DISCHARGES OF OTHER WATER TYPES

Displacement water dominates discharges of other water types. The volume discharged declined steadily up to 2009-11 and thereafter rose slightly. But it fell somewhat in 2016 and this decline continued in 2017. Displacement water accounts for just under 29 million scm of discharges.

DISCHARGES OF OILY WATER

Water is treated before discharge with the aid of different technologies on the various fields. The average oil content of produced water for the whole NCS was 12.1 mg/l in 2017, compared with the official requirement of 30 mg/l. That was a slight decline of 1.7 per cent from 2016.

The quantity of oil in produced water discharged to the sea fell from just over 1 698 tonnes in 2016 to 1 621 (see figure 12). A total of 1 722 tonnes of oil was released with water from drainage,

displacement, production and jetting in 2017, compared with 1 805 tonnes the year before.

DISCHARGES OF OTHER SUBSTANCES WITH PRODUCED WATER

Produced water has been in contact with the sub-surface for a long time, and therefore contains a number of naturally occurring substances. In addition to oil, these typically include monocyclic and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), alkylphenols, heavy metals, natural radioactive materials, organic substances, organic acids, inorganic salts, mineral particles, sulphur and sulphides. Their composition will vary from field to field, depending on sub-surface properties. The content of environmentally hazardous substances is generally low, close to the natural background level in seawater.

FIGURE 09 RATIO BETWEEN PRODUCED WATER AND OIL PRODUCTION ON THE NCS (CU.M)

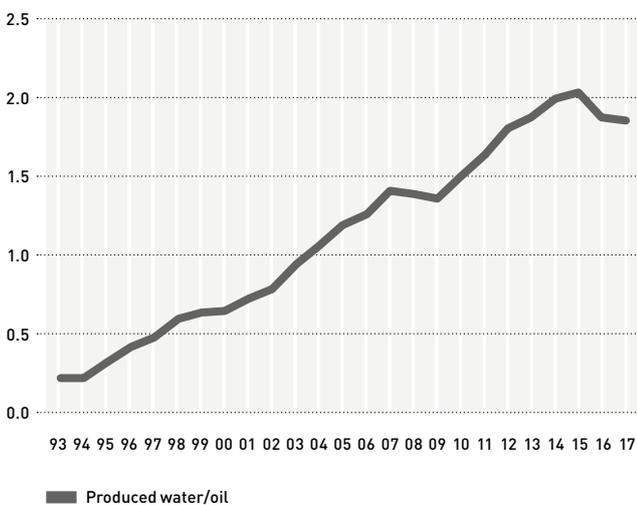


FIGURE 10 DISCHARGES TO THE SEA OF OTHER OILY WATER TYPES (MILL CU.M)





FIGURE 11 OIL CONCENTRATION IN PRODUCED WATER DISCHARGED TO THE SEA (MG/L)

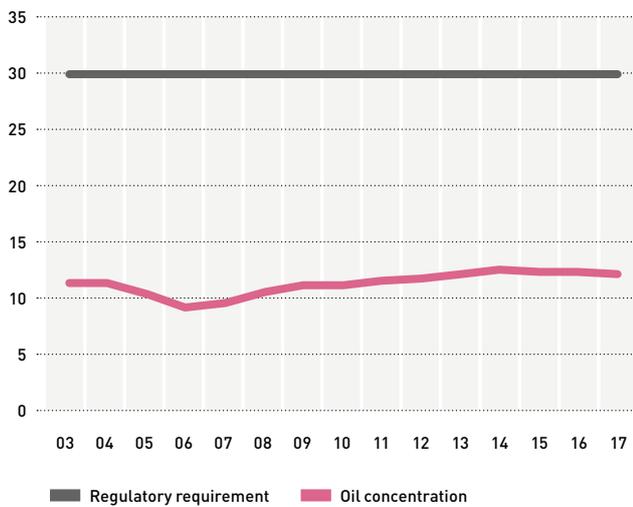
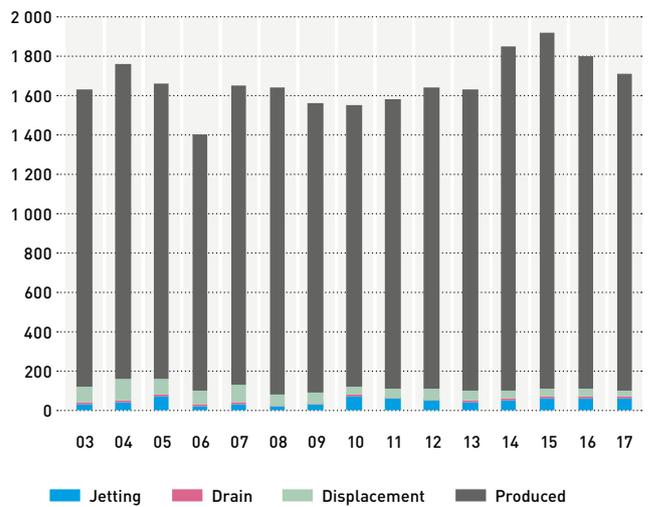


FIGURE 12 OIL CONTENT IN WATER DISCHARGED ON THE NCS (TONNES)



4.3 TREATMENT OF OILY WATER – EIF AND RBA

The strategy of zero harmful discharges on the NCS is pursued with a risk-based approach, where risk assessments are used to ensure that measures will be applied where they have the biggest environmental effect while also providing a sensible cost/benefit balance. These efforts have led to a substantial reduction in oil released to the sea by injecting produced water below ground or treating it before discharge.

The potential environmental risk associated with produced-water discharges is assessed for the individual field through analyses and model calculation, and expressed as an environmental impact factor (EIF). These calculations show that dispersed oil in water forms a very small part of the risk picture associated with produced water discharges, while chemical additives may make a bigger contribution. The EIF is related to a facility, and is intended to provide the basis for substituting chemicals and assessing which components in the produced water contribute to risk. From 2010-17, the EIF for produced water has been updated through the Dream joint industry project (JIP) charter and work on Ospar's risk-based approach (RBA), which includes revised predicted no effect concentration (PNEC) values in line with marine environmental risk assessments (ECHA 2008). The EIF is not without problems as an indicator of environmental impacts. Its methodology has its limitations, which should be taken into account when assessing and possibly deciding on mitigating measures for the individual field and facility.

Research and EIF calculations show that certain chemical additives and natural components from the sub-surface, discharged together with produced water, have harmful effects on aquatic organisms. However, this is only possible with concentrations found close to the discharge point – within a few hundred metres up to about 1 000 metres. Chemical additives which contribute to the environmental risk are subject to substitution (see section 4.4). Water-column monitoring on the NCS

confirms that no negative effects can be demonstrated from the discharges beyond the immediate vicinity (see chapter 5). Effects relate primarily to outcomes in biomarkers, which indicate that the organisms have been exposed but that no impact has been felt by groups of individuals, populations or the ecosystem.

Substantial investment has been made in treatment technology and injection in order to reduce oil discharged with produced water. On some fields, several billion kroner have been spent on treatment solutions for oily water. Running such facilities also costs from a few to several tens of millions of kroner per annum. New treatment technology and improved operation have reduced the concentration of oil in produced water on a number of fields. Most fields have discharges far below the regulatory ceiling of 30 mg/l. However, problems are experienced on some for various reasons in achieving stable operation of injection facilities and treatment processes, and the level there is accordingly rather higher.

On behalf of Norwegian Oil and Gas, DNV GL has reviewed discharge data and treatment technologies on the NCS. Its findings emphasise facts which have also been reported earlier by the environmental authorities.

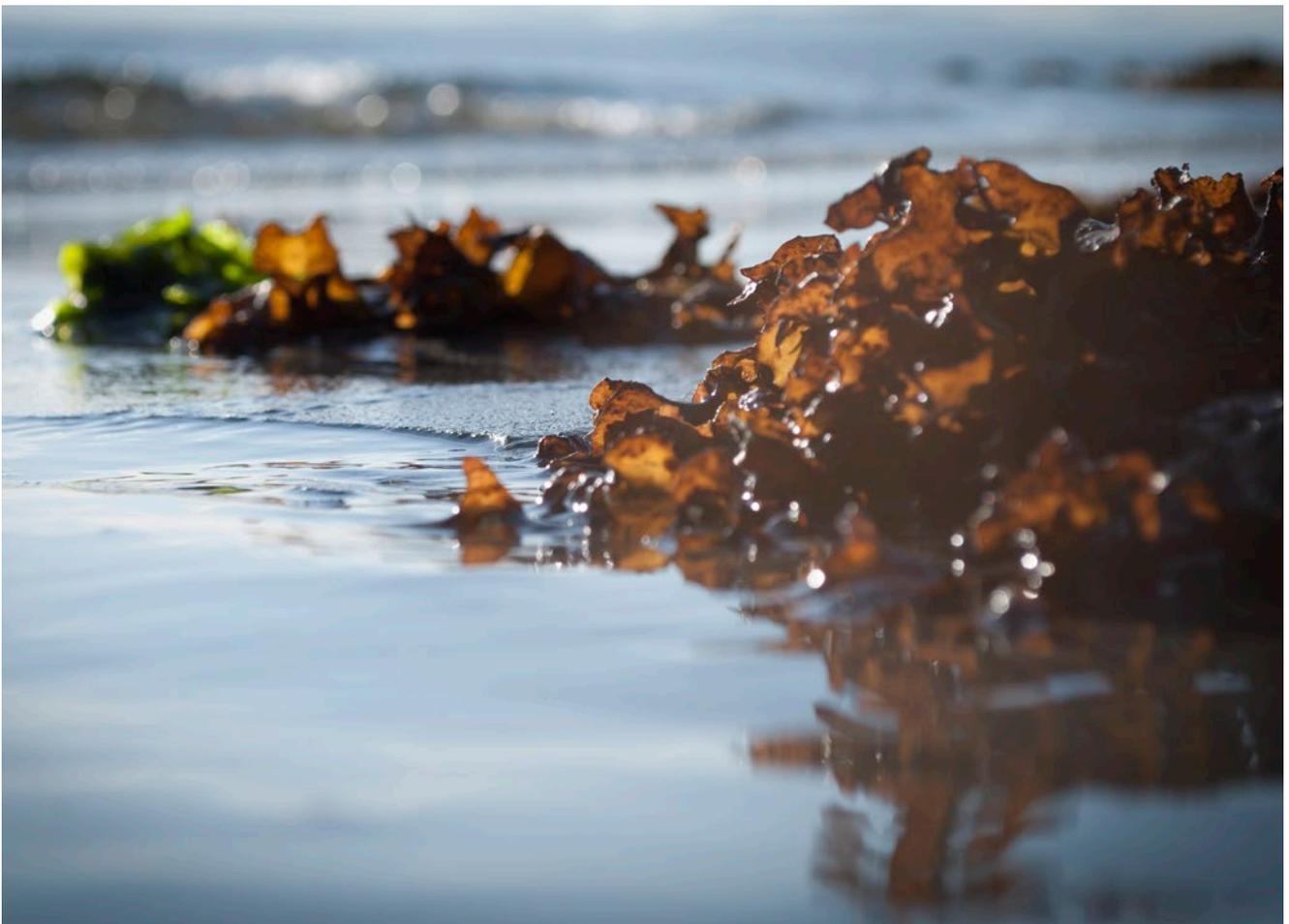
- A good treatment effect can be achieved on some fields with simple techniques, while others face more challenging conditions and require additional measures. Even when the latter are implemented, variations in conditions can lead to significant fluctuations in the treatment effect.

Substantial investment has been made in treatment technology and investment to reduce oil discharged in produced water. Generally speaking, the concentration is far below the regulatory ceiling of 30 mg/l.

- Different treatment techniques have limitations related to operational conditions, including oil type, water quality and volume, pressure changes, use of chemicals, phasing in wellstreams from other fields and so forth.
- A technique which works well in one location can accordingly be less suitable or inappropriate elsewhere.
- Treatment success can fluctuate substantially over time – from one month to another and from year to year – as a result of varying operating conditions.

The best available techniques (BAT) are assessed when evaluating a solution for individual fields. Such assessments extend far beyond simply looking at dispersed oil in water. Energy consumption and cost are other key subjects, for example. Where new fields on the NCS are concerned, injection is always assessed as a possible strategy for handling produced water. However, not all fields have reservoirs with the right properties for injecting produced water. Where conditions are appropriate for injection, this is often a preferred option based on environmental assessments.

Work on the RBA through Ospar also covers whole effluent testing (WET). This activity has involved acquiring produced-water samples from 25 offshore fields for chemical analysis and testing with bacteria (*Microtox*), phytoplankton (*Skeletonema costatum*) and crustaceans (*Acartia tonsa*). Similar activities have also been pursued on British, Dutch and Danish fields, among others. The work was due for completion in late 2018, but Ospar's oil industry committee (OIC) has postponed this to 2020.



4.4 CHEMICAL DISCHARGES

Chemicals are assessed on the basis of their environmental properties, including persistence, potential for bioaccumulation and toxicity (PBT). The Norwegian government has also specified criteria in the activities regulations and in guidelines for reporting from offshore petroleum operations.

Chemical additives covered by requirements in emission/discharge permits are divided into four categories (green, yellow, red and black) in accordance with the classification in the activities regulations.

1) GREEN Chemicals considered to have no or very limited environmental impact. Can be discharged without special conditions.

2) YELLOW Chemicals in use, but not covered by any of the other categories. Can normally be discharged without specified conditions.

3) RED Chemicals which must be given priority for substitution, but which can be discharged with government permission.

4) BLACK Chemicals which the government can permit to be discharged in special circumstance – where this is crucial for safety, for instance.

A more detailed description is provided in the NEA's M-107 guidelines on reporting from offshore petroleum operations (in Norwegian only).¹

Discharges of chemical additives from Norwegian petroleum operations totalled just over 139 000 tonnes in 2017, down by almost 10 per cent from 2016. Overall discharges have declined steadily since 2013. Green chemicals accounted for almost 91 per cent of the total, while the red and black categories amounted jointly to some 0.07 per cent of discharges. Yellow chemicals represented 10.6 per cent.

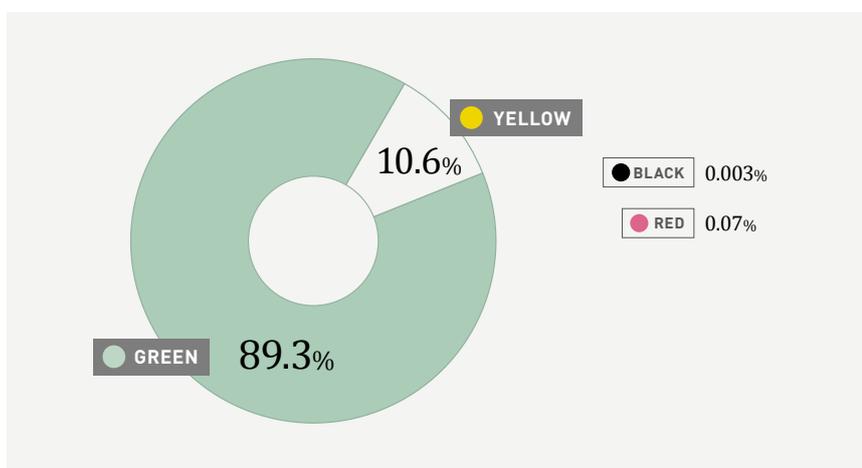
Replacing chemicals with less environmentally harmful alternatives – known as the substitution duty – represents an important part of efforts to reduce possible environmental effects from offshore discharges. Operators regularly assess the chemicals used to see if they can be substituted. Extensive substitution of chemicals has reduced releases of the most environmentally harmful substances to a fraction of their level only 10 years ago.

Alternative types of fire-extinguishing foams with less environmentally harmful properties came on the market from 2011. The NEA therefore incorporated foams in the substitution obligation, which meant that operators had to report discharges in connection with testing and exercises. This is the most important reason for the marked rise in black chemical discharges. It will take several years before all fire-extinguishing foams have been replaced across the whole NCS.

The trend since 2014 has been a substantial reduction in discharges of black chemicals. These came to 4.7 tonnes in 2017, a slight increase from 3.6 tonnes the year before. Where red chemicals are concerned, a steady rise occurred in 2013-16. Discharges fell slightly in 2017 to about 96 tonnes.

Complex factors underlie the variations for red and black chemicals in recent years, but changed requirements for both reporting and substitution work are the most important. The most significant contribution has been that discharges of fire-extinguishing foam were not reported earlier because this was a safety chemical with no alternative products able to offer a satisfactory extinguishing performance (see the HSE regulations). Alternatives with less environmentally harmful properties are now available. These are being phased in, but it will be several years before all fields on the NCS have replaced the old types with new versions. Mandatory drills and system tests will therefore lead to discharges of foam for a number of years to come. The new alternatives still contain components categorised as red, which make a substantial contribution to the marked increase in discharges for this category of chemicals. Reclassifying certain chemicals from yellow to red categories has also contributed.

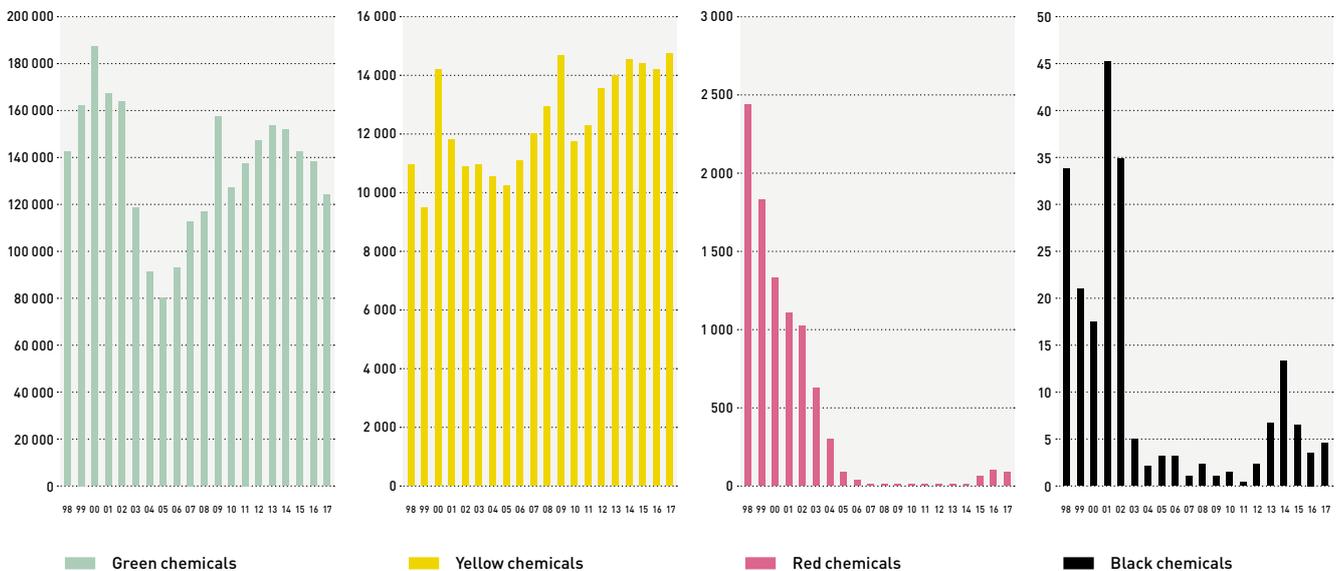
FIGURE 13 BREAKDOWN OF DISCHARGES OF CHEMICAL ADDITIVES FROM THE NCS BY THE NEA'S CATEGORIES (2017)



¹ <http://www.miljodirektoratet.no/Documents/publikasjoner/M107/M107.pdf>



FIGURE 14 DISCHARGES OF CHEMICAL ADDITIVES FROM THE NCS BY THE NEA'S CATEGORIES (TONNES)



4.5 UNINTENTIONAL SPILLS

Unintentional spills are defined as unplanned emissions/discharges which occur suddenly and are not covered by a permit. Possible environmental consequences of such releases will depend on the properties and quantity of the substance emitted/spilt, and when and where the incident occurred. Giving a high priority to preventive measures over many years has yielded a downward trend in the number of acute emissions/spills. The total volume in 2017 was 12 cubic metres.

Unintentional spills are classified in three principal categories:

- oil: diesel, heating, crude, waste and others
- chemicals and drilling fluid
- emissions to the air.

Norway’s oil and gas industry pays great attention to adopting measures to reduce incidents which cause unintentional spills. All spills down to less than a litre are reported to the NEA in the annual emission/discharge reports.

UNINTENTIONAL OIL SPILLS

Unintentional oil spills have generally declined in number over the past 20 years, with a clear downward trend since 2008. The marked fall in the number of spills from 2013 to 2014 reflects a clarification of the regulations which reduced oil discharges smaller than 50 litres but correspondingly increased unintentional releases of chemicals. Forty-six incidents involving spillage of oil occurred in 2017, compared with 39 the year before. Spills larger than 50 litres have become steadily less frequent since 1997, but they increased slightly in 2017 to 18. That compared with nine the year before.

A similar declining trend can be observed for crude oil spills alone over almost 20 years, with numbers varying somewhat from 2013. There were 21 such discharges in 2017, including 11 smaller than 50 litres, eight in the range from 0.05 to one cubic metre and two above one cubic metre.

The total volume of oil unintentionally spilt varies substantially from year to year,

with the statistics affected by large single incidents. Totalling more than 4 000 cubic metres, the second largest oil spill on the NCS occurred in 2007. The combined volume in 2017 was 12 cubic metres, down from the year before.

UNINTENTIONAL CHEMICAL SPILLS

No similar declining trend can be seen for unintentional chemical spills, but a marked reduction has occurred over the past three years. Incidents have generally lain around 150-160 annually over the past six-seven years, but rose substantially in 2014 to 237 spills. Most of this increase occurred in the size category below 50 litres, where the number doubled as a result of clarifications to the

regulations which led to fewer spills being classed as oil and more as chemicals. Just over 140 spills occurred in 2017, down from 160 the year before.

Unintentional chemical spills had an overall volume of 951 cubic metres in 2017, including 860 tonnes of green chemicals, 46 tonnes of yellow, six tonnes of red and just under a tonne of black.

Discharged volumes were dominated in 2007-10 by individual years when leaks from injection wells were discovered. These are now shut in. The biggest leak in 2017 was just under 490 tonnes, with green chemicals accounting for just over 489 tonnes.

FIGURE 15 UNINTENTIONAL OIL SPILLS TO THE SEA ON THE NCS

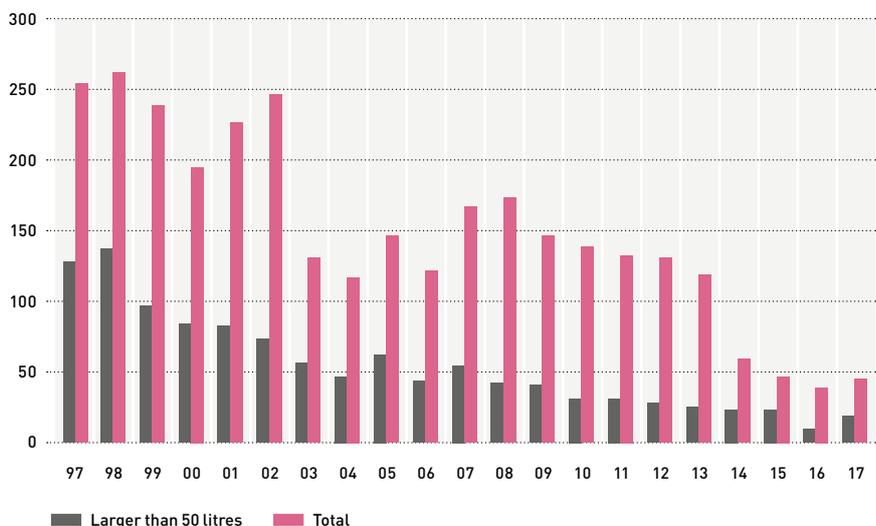


FIGURE 16 UNINTENTIONAL CRUDE OIL SPILLS TO THE SEA ON THE NCS

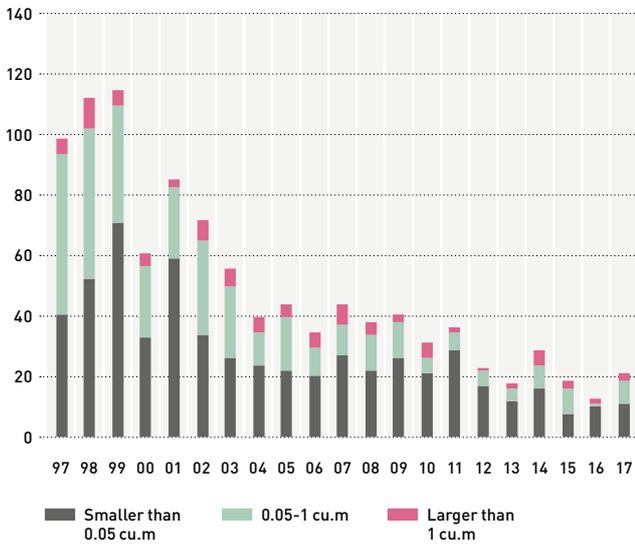


FIGURE 17 VOLUME OF UNINTENTIONAL OIL SPILLS ON THE NCS (CU.M)

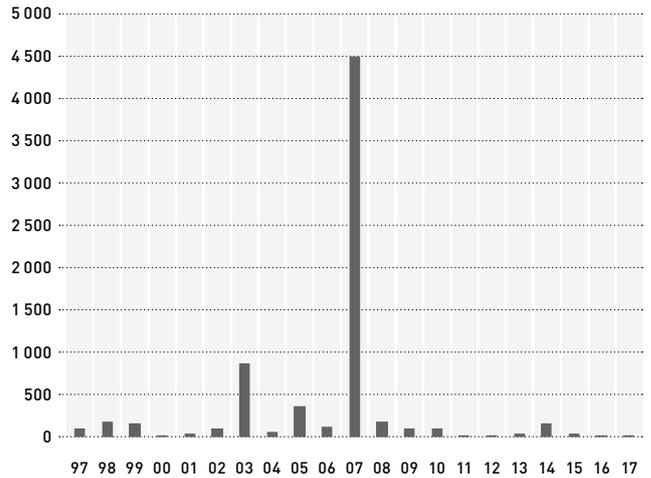


FIGURE 18 UNINTENTIONAL CHEMICAL SPILLS ON THE NCS BY THREE SIZES OF SPILL

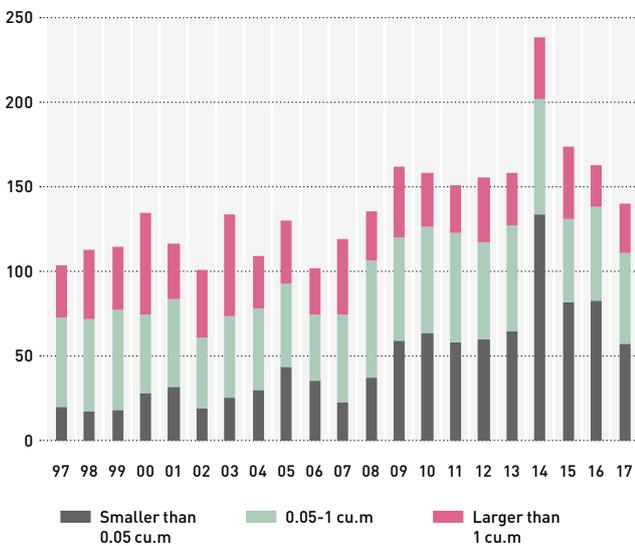
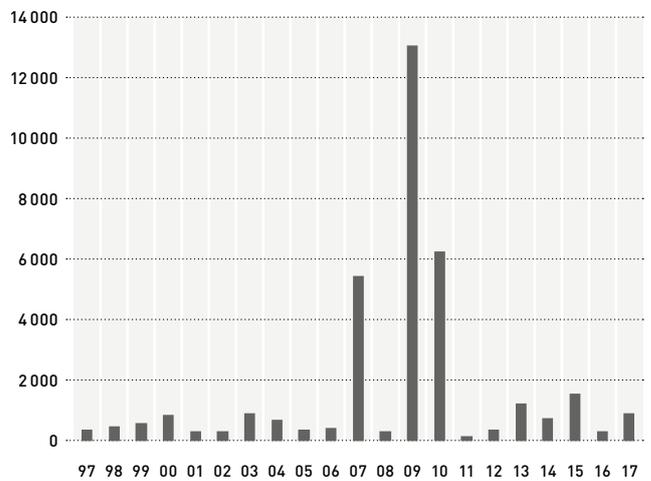


FIGURE 19 TOTAL VOLUME OF UNINTENTIONAL CHEMICAL SPILLS (CU.M)



5

OFFSHORE OPERATIONS AND THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

LIKE ALL OTHER HUMAN ACTIVITY, OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION INVOLVES A RISK OF AFFECTING THE ENVIRONMENT. SUCH EFFECTS CAN BE CAUSED BY BOTH OPERATIONAL DISCHARGES AND INCIDENTS WHICH LEAD TO ACUTE (UNINTENTIONAL) DISCHARGES TO THE SEA.



5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

The industry has worked systematically to reduce and prevent discharges. Substantial resources have also been devoted to understanding which discharges could cause effects, so that the most effective measures can be implemented. This commitment covers mapping and monitoring of the climate to assess its condition, developing better methods for environmental monitoring, and research. Both preventive and consequence-reducing measures are utilised, such as chemical substitutions (see section 4.4) and oil spill clean-up.

The oil and gas sector conducts extensive environmental monitoring of the NCS on an annual basis. This aims to document the condition of the environment and its development as a result of both human impacts and natural variations. Substantial research work is also being pursued by individual companies as well as through funding from Norwegian Oil and Gas to such bodies as the Research Council of Norway. These activities cover both the development of monitoring methods and improved understanding of the impact of petroleum industry discharges on the marine environment.

Monitoring covers investigations of the water column as well as benthic sediments and fauna, and visual inspection of the seabed in areas where species assumed to be particularly vulnerable to discharges (corals, sponges and so forth) are present.

WATER-COLUMN MONITORING

Produced water discharged to the sea contains chemical compounds which could be toxic for marine organisms.

The NEA has revised its M-300 guidelines on water-column monitoring. The recommended approach is now to conduct a large-scale survey every three years, rather than the smaller annual inspections carried out previously. This will provide better time for further development of methods in the intervening periods, while each survey will acquire more data. A major survey was conducted in 2017, involving water-column monitoring with five work packages based on caged mussels, catching wild fish and zooplankton, and

research and methodological development in such areas as DNA adducts in fish. The work was conducted through a collaboration between the International Research Institute of Stavanger (Iris), the Norwegian Institute for Water Research (Niva), the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research and Sintef. Results will be available during 2018, and are due to be presented at the Forum for Offshore Environmental Monitoring in October.

SEDIMENT MONITORING – SEABED INVESTIGATIONS

Environmental monitoring has been under way since the early 1970s. A major meeting of scientists, civil servants and industry representatives in the late 1980s laid the basis for more systematic conduct of sediment surveillance.

A regional approach, with monitoring of each region every three years, was introduced in 1996. In addition, a baseline investigation must be conducted for each field before it comes on stream to document its natural environmental condition. The NCS is divided into 11 geographic regions for seabed monitoring, which is conducted in accordance with standards described in the NEA's guidelines. Carried out by independent consultants, the scale of this work must be related to offshore petroleum activities in each region. Scope, methods used and results are reviewed and quality assured by a panel of experts on behalf of the NEA.

Monitoring of benthic habitats involves sampling the seabed – usually with the aid of a grab – followed by sediment analyses

to establish its physical, chemical and biological condition. Some stations have been investigated regularly for more than 30 years, and the data are therefore very valuable to scientists and government in assessing both natural and anthropogenic changes to the environment over time. Great interest accordingly exists in applying this material to the government's administrative work, along with data from the big Mareano mapping programme. A project was accordingly pursued in 2015-17 to assess the comparability of the two data sets, since two different grab sizes – 0.1 and 0.25 square metres respectively – have been used. The findings of this study include:

- in shallower waters (< 500 metres), Mareano should use the Norwegian standard (0.1-square-metre Van Veen grab)
- geological and chemical results from Mareano's grab can probably be used, but not faunal data.

The monitoring programme is one of the most extensive conducted regularly on the North Atlantic seabed, and covers an estimated 1 000 stations on the NCS. Of these, about 700 are in the North Sea. Once the production phase has ceased, two further rounds of investigations are conducted at three-year intervals in order to observe developments on the field after all discharges have ceased.

The Ekofisk area, Statfjord area and Barents Sea regions were investigated in 2017. Visual monitoring was also conducted alongside investigations





in the Barents Sea. Results from the environmental monitoring will be presented to the Forum for Offshore Environmental Monitoring in October. All data are stored in the MOD database, which can be accessed by scientists and government agencies. The MOD was modernised and transferred to an improved software platform in 2016, and the new version has now been completed. Its information can also be exchanged with the Norwegian Marine Data Centre (NMDC), which has a large number of partners (www.nmdc.no).

A number of major research projects and programmes have been pursued by independent scientists to study possible effects of oil and gas industry discharges to the sea. These include the Research Council of Norway's Marinforsk programme, launched in 2015, and the earlier Sea and Shore (Proof/Proofny) programme which has run for more than a decade. Surveillance results have been used in a number of scientific papers. Both Proofny and the environmental monitoring data have been presented in review articles or reports where all results and earlier papers are reviewed.^{2,3} From 2015, Marinforsk has taken over as one of the relevant programmes for the effects of pollution from petroleum operations. It also addresses pollution and other ecosystem impacts from environmental

toxins and waste, the minerals industry, aquaculture, other influences and overall effects.

Proofny concludes that the potential for environmental harm from the discharges is generally moderate, and that the concentrations which have yielded effects in laboratory studies do not normally occur more than about a kilometre from the discharge sources and usually only a few hundred metres away. The impact of discharges from drilling operations is only detectable in the immediate vicinity of the well site. Effects on benthic organisms primarily derive from physical factors (particle discharges) and often cannot be distinguished from the impact of the actual structure (facility) on currents and thereby on changes to particle size in the sediment.

Since these publications appeared, the Barents Sea drill cuttings research initiative has begun. Initiated by Eni Norge, this project has a five-year time frame. It aims to provide information about the extent of effects from drill-cutting discharges over time through studies of seabed biology and ecology, geology and oceanography. The project is a collaboration between the University of Tromsø, Akvaplan-Niva and the Northern Research Institute (Norut). Wells drilled from 1989 to 2015 have been investigated. Samples were taken

in a straight line from the discharge point to distances of 30, 60, 125 and 250 metres. This is closer than regular sediment monitoring, where samples are only taken at distances above 250 metres.

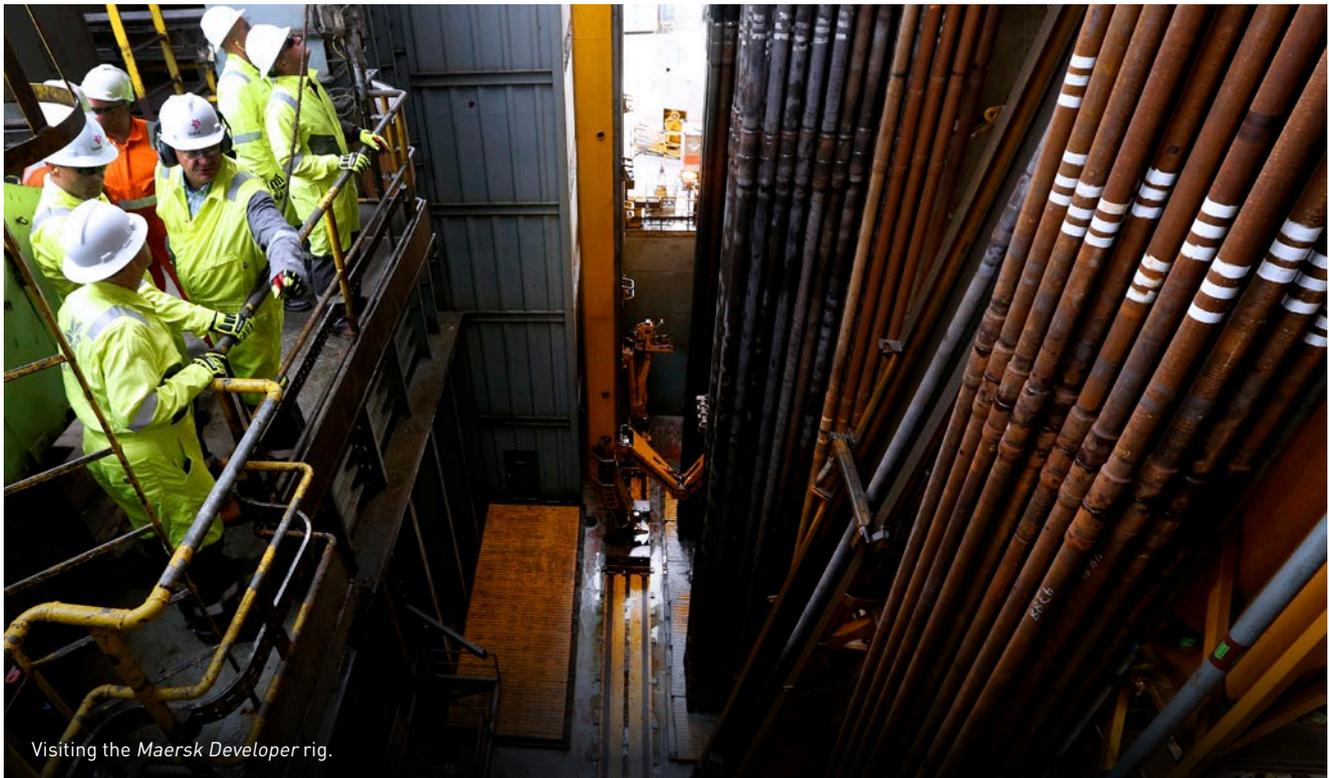
Preliminary conclusions are that drilling operations which involve discharging drill cuttings cause local effects, such as reduced oxygen levels and a smaller number of faunal species. However, the scale is limited to the immediate vicinity of the discharges (less than 300 metres) and their impact is greatest in the first three years after their release. The area where visual effects can be seen is within 100-200 metres for new wells. Older wells show such impacts at a distance of only 10-30 metres, which indicates a rapid re-establishment of normal fauna.

VISUAL INSPECTIONS

Visual inspections are carried out before planned exploration drilling can begin in areas which may contain organisms regarded as particularly vulnerable to drilling discharges, on the basis of an assessment of serious or irreversible harm in line with the precautionary principle. This could apply, for example, to areas with extensive sponge communities and/or coral reefs. The industry has developed guidelines for such surveys where deepwater corals are present. These will be further developed and

² Bakke et al, 2013. "Environmental impacts of produced water and drilling waste discharges from the Norwegian offshore petroleum industry". *Marine Environmental Research*, vol 92, pp 154-169.

³ Bakke et al, 2012. *Langtidsvirkninger av utslipp til sjø fra petroleumsvirksomheten. Resultater fra ti års forskning*. Report from the Research Council of Norway (ISBN 978-82-12-03027).



Visiting the Maersk Developer rig.

updated to apply to seabed habits during 2018. The goal of such guidelines is to avoid physical damage to coral reefs, sponge communities and the like. The Institute of Marine Research has concluded that no harm to coral reefs from petroleum activities has ever been demonstrated. This work is now being extended to cover sponge communities and various sponge species.

Regulations issued by the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries apply to fishing. These specify that:

- the possibility of a collision with a vulnerable habitat – in other words, corals or sponges on the seabed – must be calculated for each fishing operation
- if more than 60 kilograms of living corals or 800 kilograms of living sponges are brought up, the vessel must report this to the fisheries directorate and move at least two nautical miles before fishing can resume

- no catches of corals or sponges have been reported since the notice from the director of fisheries established regulations for fishing with bottom-towed gear in July 2011.

DNV GL presented results from the 2016 visual investigations in the Barents Sea to the 2017 Environmental Monitoring Forum. These involved mapping 10 locations in the Barents Sea from Blåmann in the south-west to Korp fjell in the far north-east. Remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) were deployed and drop cameras used over a stretch of 25 kilometres in all. The depth varied from 246 to 454 metres. Sponge coverage was broken down on a scale of four intervals from less than one per cent (none to single sponges) to more than 10 (high coverage). Sponges occur on both soft and hard (stony) seabeds. Korp fjell to the north-east was identified as a new biotope compared with earlier surveys,

with gravel and carbonate crusts in some areas. The fauna also differed from areas observed earlier, probably because of the cold Arctic water (average over 10 years of -1.58°C) compared with fields in the south-east (average over 10 years of 8.51°C).

An empirical modelling has also been produced by DNV GL in order to be able to identify typical sponge areas in four by four kilometre squares, based on various data sources (Gebco, Met.no/IMR, Hav 5 and Sintef).

Trawl-door tracks were also registered with the aid of ROVs. They were identified in four of 10 areas investigated, with a frequency of 0.2-0.6 per 100 metres.

5.2 ENVIRONMENTAL RISK AND THE PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE

Historical data from the NCS show that no acute discharges have occurred during 50 years of oil and gas operations which caused significant environmental harm – whether from offshore activities, associated transport or related land-based plants.

Choosing the right action to reduce environmental risk calls for good knowledge of which environmental components could be exposed and their vulnerability to the relevant stress (incident). That involves knowing when the environmental resources are at their most vulnerable, when they are present and which activity poses the highest environmental risk. A priority for the oil and gas industry has therefore been to contribute to learning more about the actual potential for damage, and to develop methods to communicate this in a way which provides a satisfactory picture of uncertainties and the uncertainty range. Examples of such activities are seabird mapping (Seapop and Seatrack), researching effects on fish and other resources in the water column (including Symbioses) and research on and development of models for predicting the presence of seabirds and marine mammals (including ERA Acute and Marambs).

SYMBIOSES – IMPACT OF ACUTE OIL SPILLS ON FISH STOCKS

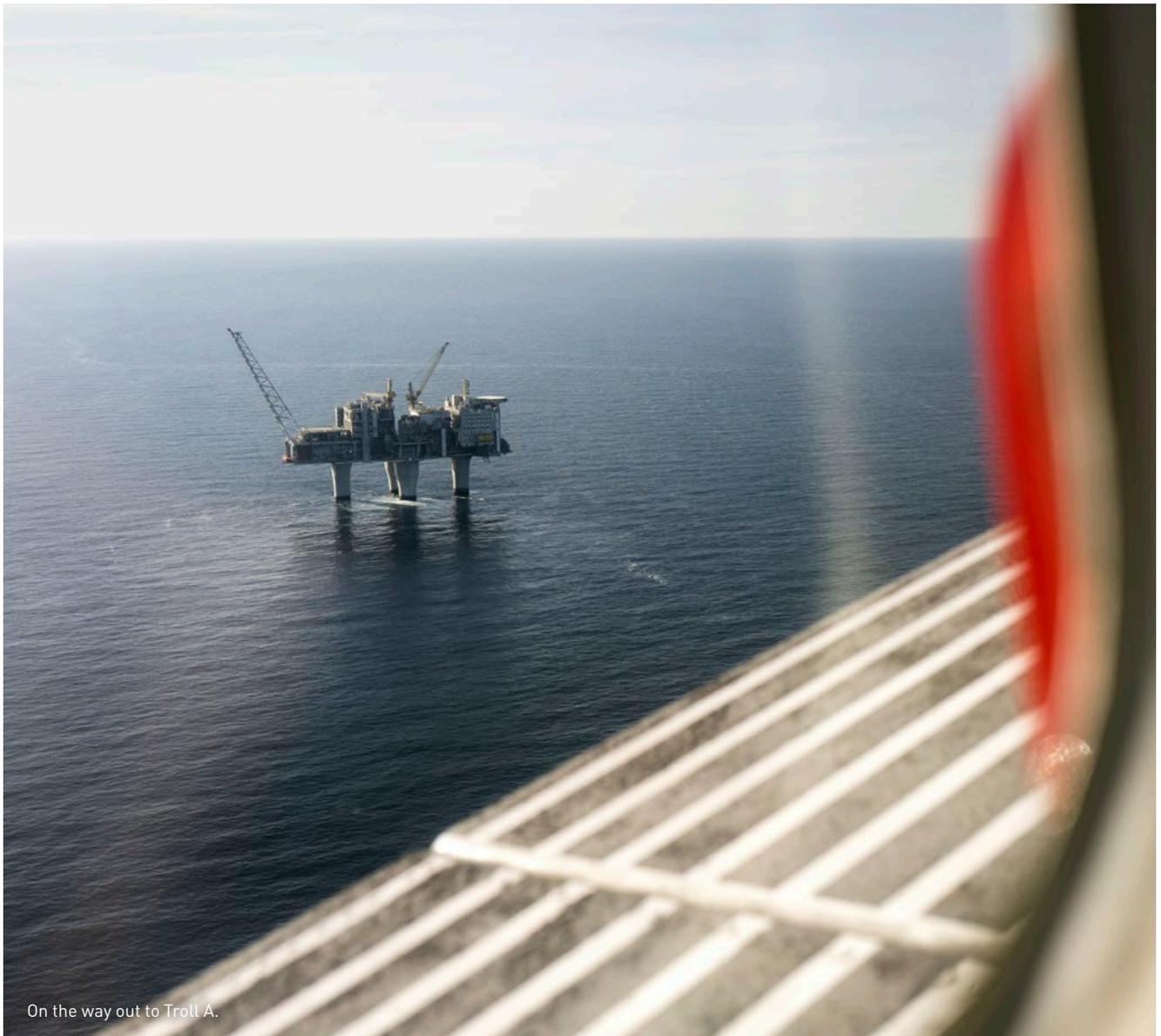
The seas off Norway are among the world's most productive, with big fish stocks which lay the basis for important commercial fisheries. As well as a focus on preventing discharges, a priority for the industry is to acquire a good understanding of their possible effects. The waters off Lofoten and Vesterålen are a special case in this context, as important spawning grounds for several large fish populations. Several years ago,

Equinor therefore took the initiative to launch the major Symbioses research project to secure valuable information on the possible effects of a big acute oil spill on cod stocks in the area. Uncertainty about this issue has been one of the most important and fundamental areas of conflict over coexistence between the fishing and petroleum industries in Lofoten-Vesterålen. Involvement of the leading research communities in Norway (including Akvaplan-Niva, the Institute of Marine Research and Sintef) and internationally (such as Imares and Cowi) ensures that the project has been conducted on an independent basis and with a high level of scientific integrity. The Research Council of Norway has also supported it through the Petromax and Demo2000 programmes. One goal has been to clarify the risk as a function of probability and consequence.

Symbioses is a tool which integrates recognised models for ecosystems (fish, fish eggs and larvae as well as plankton) and oil-spill dispersal. The models for fish eggs, larvae and adult cod are used as the basis for Norwegian fisheries management when calculating permissible catches under fish quotas. Symbioses simulates an oil spill in time and space, estimates the losses of an annual cod cohort and the consequent effect on fish stocks over time in the same way that the Institute of Marine Research calculates permissible quota catches and the subsequent effect on stocks. This has contributed to under-

standing the potential effects of major spills in the worst imaginable area at the height of the spawning season (the worst imaginable time). Results show that the consequences are smaller than previously assumed. Such an extensive scientific study of this ecosystem has never been done before.

The findings indicate that the population of spawning cod would be little affected even with the worst conceivable spill at the worst imaginable time. Thirty-eight different combinations (scenarios) for spill rate, depth and duration as well as oil type were produced. These were simulated for all four threshold levels – a total of 152 oil spill simulations with both sea-surface and seabed blowouts. Most spill scenarios yield a loss of eggs and larvae which reduces the adult population by less than three per cent. A worst-case incident involving the discharge of 4 500 cubic metres per day over 90 days (just over 400 000 cubic metres in total) leads to a 12 per cent reduction in adult biomass and shows no effect on the population's reproductive ability. Such a spill would be the third largest ever from an offshore oil field. By comparison, about 25-30 per cent of the adult population is fished every year under quotas (figures from the Institute of Marine Research for 2016). These results show that the consequences of a major oil spill could also be limited. Historical data about accidental spills on the NCS indicate that the probability is very low (blowout



On the way out to Troll A.

probability of less than 10^{-4}). Even though the risk is extremely small, however, plans must be laid to deal with such a spill and ensure that irreparable damage cannot be caused to the environment. Risk is generally defined as a potential or possibility for undesirable incidents and the behaviour of such incidents. This can be expressed as risk = consequence x probability.

Norwegian Oil and Gas believes that results from the Symbiosis project itself, as well as the fact that new and sub-

stantial research is under way on this issue, support the view that an impact assessment should now be carried out for the whole area to clarify how concerns over fisheries, natural diversity and spin-offs can be reconciled with oil activity. Follow-up activities are now planned to address possible effects on other fish species, including commercial varieties such as haddock, herring and capelin.

PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH

The precautionary approach is often adopted in consultation processes to

argue against opening new areas for oil operations or applications for exploration and production permits. It relates to both operational and unintentional incidents.

Where environmental management is concerned, the precautionary principle applies when scientific documentation is inadequate, deficient or uncertain,





and relevant scientific assessments indicate grounds for concern that substantial harmful effects for the environment could occur which would conflict with necessary or politically determined levels of protection. Action must not be delayed until certain knowledge has been acquired.

In Norwegian environmental policy, the principle is described in such documents as the White Paper on environmental policy for sustainable development.⁴ Section 9 of the Nature Diversity Act gives legal force to the principle. The preamble to the Act⁵ emphasises that indications of *significant or irreversible harm* should exist before the principle is utilised as the basis for decisions.

Uncertainty often arises over whether environmental harm will be caused by an activity, and in the event how great it would be. The precautionary principle should not be applied “for safety’s sake” when general or hypothetical uncertainty exists. Indications (findings or observations) must exist which provide the basis for a genuine risk assessment. Lack of information is not in itself sufficient for applying the precautionary principle in assessing whether to permit an activity or intervention.

A precautionary approach is appropriate at a decision-making level in order to ensure that account is taken of uncertainties in an objective, fact-based and scientifically supported decision basis.

It is inappropriate to involve the principle in the underlying scientific basis and present it to decision-makers as an enhanced potential for damage, an extension to the uncertainty range or an increase in specified uncertainty. The role of science and scientific institutions is to produce the best factual understanding and the most accurate possible estimates, which also highlight the actual uncertainty range and the uncertainty indicated by the material.

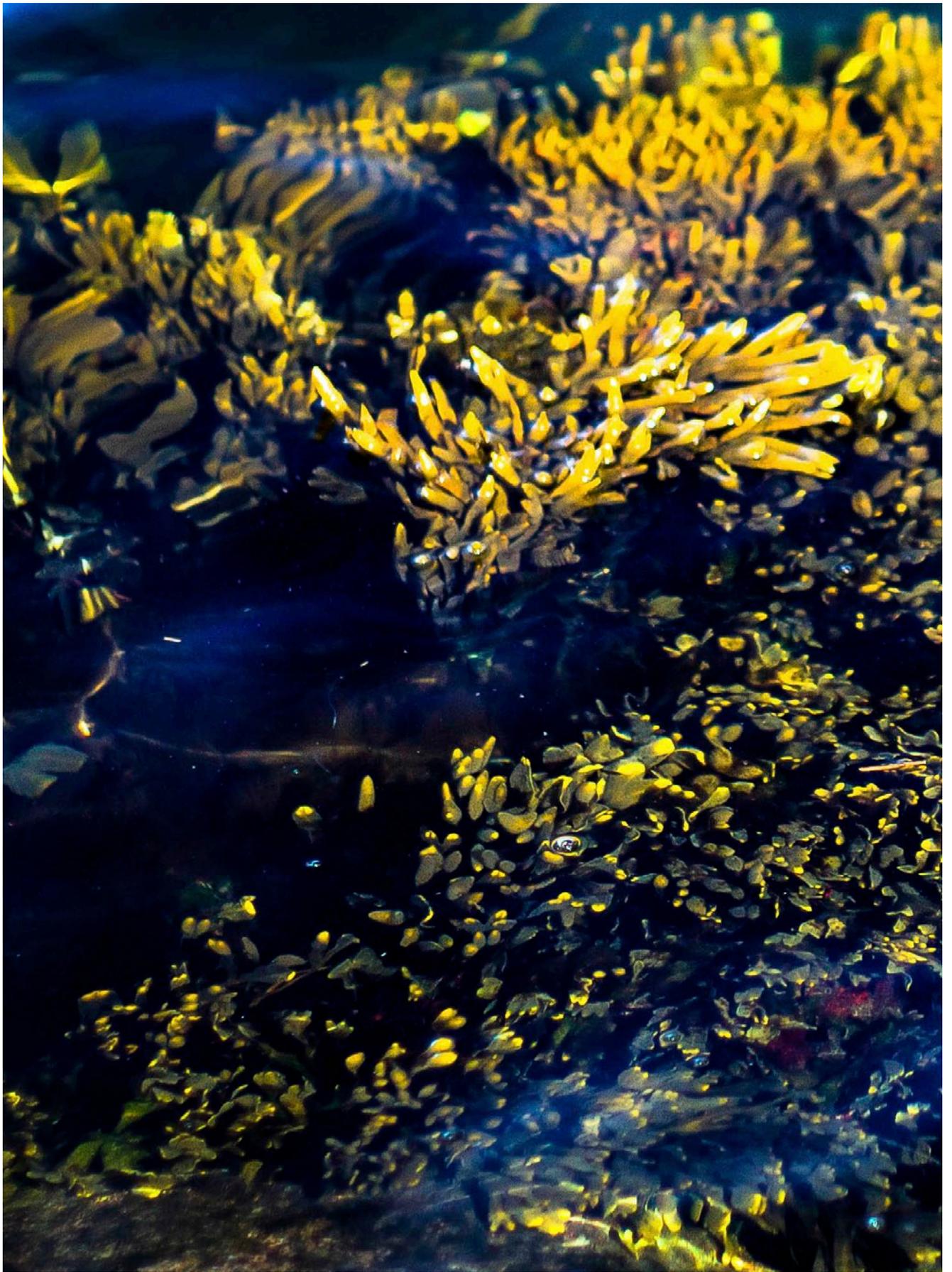
The precautionary principle does not mean the risk should be equal to zero. In administrative areas where it is well entrenched in decision processes, these decisions are also based on an acceptance of risk and the precautionary approach is viewed in relation to cost/benefit assessments.

Helping to increase understanding of actual damage potentials has been a priority for the petroleum industry, along with developing methods for communicating this in a way which provides a full picture of uncertainties and their range. The Symbioses model system offers a good picture of this.

A precautionary approach is appropriate at a decision-making level. It is inappropriate to involve the principle in the underlying scientific basis and present it to decision-makers as an enhanced potential for damage, an extension to the uncertainty range or an increase in specified uncertainty.

⁴ Report no 58 to the Storting (1996-97).

⁵ Proposition no 52 to the Odelsting (2008-09), p 103.



6

EMISSIONS TO THE AIR

BOTH PRODUCTION AND EXPLORATION INCREASED IN 2017 COMPARED WITH THE YEAR BEFORE, BUT EMISSIONS TO THE AIR NEVERTHELESS FELL. THIS REPRESENTED A DECLINE IN EMISSIONS PER UNIT PRODUCED FOR THE FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW.



6.1 EMISSION SOURCES

Emissions to the air from the oil and gas industry consist primarily of exhaust gases containing CO₂, NO_x, SO_x, CH₄ and nmVOC from different types of combustion equipment. In most cases, emissions to the air are calculated from the amount of fuel gas and diesel oil used on the facility. The emission factors are based on measurements from suppliers, standard figures provided by the industry itself, or field-specific measurements and calculations.

The main sources of emissions to the air from oil and gas activities are:

- fuel gas exhaust from gas turbines, engines and boilers
- diesel exhaust from gas turbines, engines and boilers
- gas flaring
- combustion of oil and gas in connection with well testing and well maintenance.

Other sources of hydrocarbon gas (CH₄ and nmVOC) emissions are:

- gas venting, minor leaks and fugitive emissions
- evaporation of hydrocarbon gases from offshore storage and loading of crude oil.

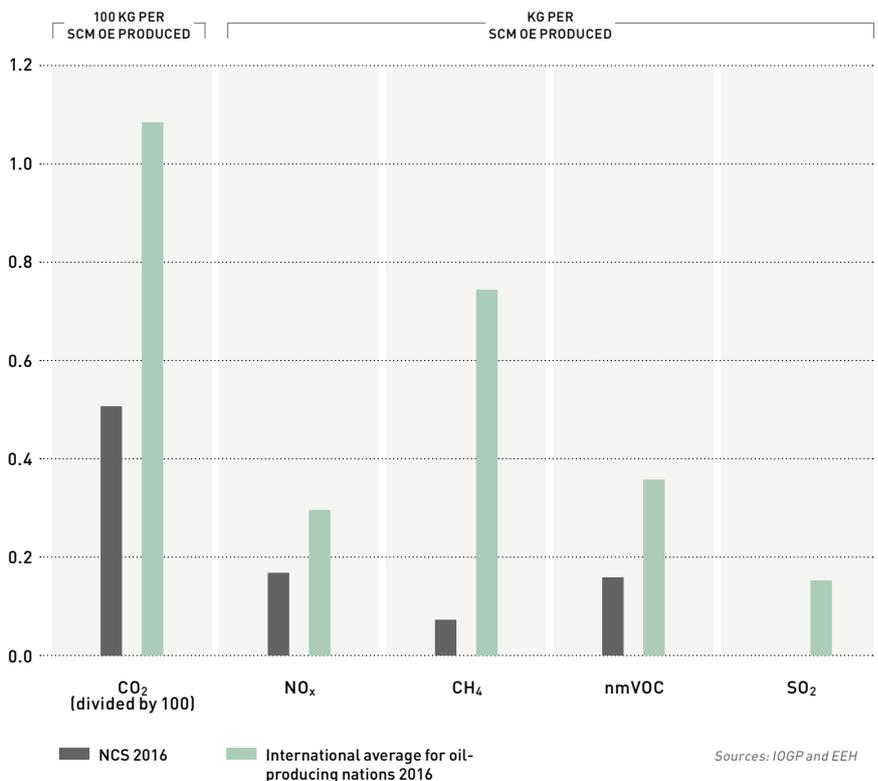
Power generation using natural gas and diesel oil as fuel is the main source of CO₂ and NO_x emissions. Their levels depend mainly on energy consumption by the facilities and the energy efficiency of power generation. Gas flaring is the second largest source of these emission types. It only takes place to a limited extent, pursuant to the provisions of the Petroleum Act, but is permitted for safety reasons during operation and in connection with certain operational problems.

The most important sources for CH₄ are fugitive emissions and cold venting. Principal nmVOC sources are offshore storage and loading of crude oil. Emissions of nmVOC occur when gas from tanks gets vented to the air as crude oil displaces it.

SO_x emissions derive primarily from the combustion of sulphur-containing hydrocarbons. Since Norwegian gas is generally low in sulphur, diesel oil is the principal source of such emissions on the NCS. Low-sulphur diesel oil is accordingly used.

Figure 20 presents emissions to the air on the NCS compared with international averages, specified per scm oe produced in 100 kilograms for CO₂ and in kilograms for the other substances. All figures are from 2016 because international figures for 2017 are not available in May 2018.

FIGURE 20 EMISSIONS TO THE AIR ON THE NCS COMPARED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL AVERAGE



6.2 EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES

Global warming is one of the very greatest challenges of the age. Extensive reductions in anthropogenic GHG emissions are therefore essential.

The UN climate summit in Paris (COP21) adopted ambitious climate goals. This agreement came into force on 4 November 2016, 30 days after it has been ratified by 55 states representing at least 55 per cent of global GHG emissions.

Each country's nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are regarded as its official climate plans. A status report is to be prepared every five years to assess these goals, when it will only be possible to maintain or increase the national ambitions.

The overall goal of the climate convention is to stabilise GHG concentrations in the atmosphere at a level where the most serious anthropogenic climate

changes can be avoided. While the aim of keeping the average rise in global temperatures below 2°C still applies, COP21 also adopted an ambition of trying to limit this increase to 1.5°C. In addition, the summit resolved that anthropogenic GHG emissions should not be higher in 2050-2100 than can be absorbed by nature and by CCS. These positions will provide the framework for the low-emission society of the future.

A commitment to reduce GHG emissions in 2030 by at least 40 per cent compared with 1990 has been made by the EU. The most important instrument for meeting this target is the EU's emission trading system (ETS). Roughly half of Norway's GHG emissions are subject to the ETS,

including those from the petroleum sector. Emission allowances will be cut step-by-step towards a reduction target for 2030 of 43 per cent compared with 2005 in the sectors subject to the ETS.

Norway has adopted emission-reduction targets which correspond with those of the EU, and the government is working now to secure a bilateral agreement with the EU on joint fulfilment of their climate commitments by 2030.

6.2.1 CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE

CCS is crucial for achieving the ambitions set by the Paris agreement. Studies show that meeting the climate goals will be far more expensive without it. No other known possibility for significantly reducing emissions is currently available to such process industries as cement and steel. The Norwegian government's ambition is to realise a full-scale CCS facility by 2022.

Conceptual studies have been conducted for three possible plants – Norcem's cement factory in Brevik, Yara's ammonia plant in Porsgrunn and the Fortum Oslo Varme

waste heat recovery facility. Equinor, Shell and Total are completing such studies for CO₂ transport to and storage beneath the NCS.

The government created uncertainty in the autumn of 2017 by failing to appropriate adequate funds in its budget for the front-end engineering and design (Feed) phase following the conceptual CCS studies. Instead, it referred to further assessments in the revised national budget in the spring of 2018.

In early 2018, Oslo Economics and Atkins presented a report on quality assurance for the demonstration of full-scale carbon capture, transport and storage. This report concluded that all the projects should receive funding for the next study phase in order to have a sufficiently good decision base for investment. Assuming that the Norwegian project will be one of a kind, that CO₂ prices remain low and the world thereby fails to achieve its climate goals, and that the commitment provides no industrial gains, it concluded that the

GHG EMISSIONS FROM THE NCS

A number of sources report figures for emissions to the air from Norwegian oil and gas production. However, both reported figures and development trends can vary considerably between the various sources from year to year. This reflects a number of factors, but by far the most important is different definitions of which activities are covered by the Norwegian oil and gas industry.

- The Norwegian Oil and Gas environmental report, published annually in early June, contains total emission figures from the industry. Deciding which emissions to include is based on the definitions in the Petroleum Tax Act. These cover all exploration and production activities on the NCS, including emissions related to pipeline transport of oil and gas even if these may occur at land-based plants such as Kårstø and Kollsnes. All activities at Melkøya are also included. Information is taken from the EEH database, which has been developed to simplify reporting of emission figures and the submission of annual emission reports from the operators to the government.
- SSB publishes preliminary figures for the whole industry in May, and emissions broken down by various sources in oil and gas production during December. These figures are reported to the UN under the climate and long-range transport conventions. They vary from the amounts reported via the EEH to the NEA by including more of the land-based activities, such as the gas processing plant at Kårstø. SSB's emission figures will therefore normally be higher than corresponding data based on the EEH, while figures from the various sources will generally be comparable. Figures from SSB also form the basis for the Miljøstatus.no website.
- The NEA has its own database for Norwegian emissions (norskeutslipp.no), which is open to the general public and contains figures from all sources in the country – including oil and gas production. Generally speaking, these are the same amounts found in the EEH. However, the top-level category of “offshore petroleum operation” excludes land-based facilities and exploration. Totals for the industry will therefore be lower than those presented in the environmental report and by SSB.

In addition come emission figures from activities on the NCS subject to the ETS and from that part of Norwegian oil and gas production liable to CO₂ tax. These categories are defined differently both from each other and in relation to the three sources described above, and their figures will therefore vary not only in total but also from different sources.

project would not be socio-economically profitable.

In cooperation with the Zero and Bellona environmental organisations, the industry – represented by the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO), the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO), Norwegian Oil and Gas and the Federation of Norwegian Industries – has made it clear that the commitment to CCS in Norway has a big industrial potential.

A report from Sintef in the spring of 2018 on industrial opportunities and employment from CCS in Norway quantified how a commitment here could create and strengthen the competitiveness of jobs. It also estimated the potential value creation for Norway up to 2050.

In this report, Sintef points to value creation opportunities for the Norwegian process industry, hydrogen production from natural gas with carbon storage on the NCS, export opportunities for CCS

technology and services, storage of CO₂ from industrial sources in Europe, and Norwegian shipyards and shipowners from transporting CO₂ by sea, as well as the jobs created by building the actual full-scale project planned in Norway.

Industry regards a Norwegian CCS commitment as an investment in infrastructure for future production in a low-emission society. As the first of its kind, however, implementation will depend on government-industry collaboration.

6.2.2 THE KONKRAFT 2020 GOAL AND GREATER ATTENTION TO ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND EFFICIENCY

In KonKraft report no 5 on *The petroleum industry and climate issues*, the petroleum sector set itself the target of implementing measures to cut GHG emissions by 800 000 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent annually by 2013, with 2007 as the base year. This goal was increased in 2011 to one million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent, with 2020 set as the new year for reaching the target.

A review of measures implemented by all operators was completed by Norwegian Oil and Gas during 2017 in relation to KonKraft's 2020 goal. This status review showed that the companies had already exceeded the target by 31 December 2016.

An important reason why the KonKraft goal has been met three years early is the

increased attention paid in recent years to energy management through mapping, efficiency enhancement measures, knowledge-sharing between operators via seminars and workshops, and the development of tools and calculation methods.

6.2.3 ROADMAP FOR THE NCS

A roadmap for the NCS drawn up by the petroleum industry in 2016 set specific goals and ambitions for further cuts in emissions from oil and gas production. It was compiled by Norwegian Oil and Gas and the Federation of Norwegian Industries through KonKraft, a collaboration arena for these two organisations as well as the Norwegian Shipowners Association and the L.O.

The Norwegian petroleum sector set the following overall climate and commercial goals for 2030:

“Maintain safe and profitable production at the present level, and implement CO₂ reduction measures from 2020 which correspond cumulatively to 2.5 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per annum by 2030.”

The ambition for GHG includes CO₂ emission cuts related to electricity and heat supply on oil installations, to short-lived climate forcers such as CH₄, and to drilling operations from mobile rigs, as well as enhanced energy efficiency at field and area level. In addition, oil companies, suppliers and ship/rig owners will help to reduce emissions from the maritime part of the sector. The goal is that maritime operations on the NCS will be conducted with low- or zero-emission technologies in the offshore fleet by 2030.

Where 2050 is concerned, the industry has the following ambition:

“Maintain its position as Norway's most important value creator and increase the average recovery factor to at least 60 per cent. The NCS will remain the world leader

for low CO₂ emissions, and the sector will develop and adopt technology and solutions which substantially reduce average CO₂ emissions per unit produced compared with the 2030 level.”

An action plan forms part of the roadmap. In following this up, the petroleum industry will study the potential for further emission reductions which specify how the companies are to pursue the necessary technology developments as well as efforts to identify and implement measures for reducing GHG emissions.

Since the industry has already met the KonKraft 2020 goal, reporting has begun on measures aimed at achieving the 2030 target.

6.3 GHG EMISSIONS

FROM NORWEGIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM OPERATIONS

Norway's oil and gas industry is in the global premier division for recovery factors. This means that more fields are mature and that producing their oil and gas is energy-intensive. Nevertheless, emissions per unit produced on the NCS are among the lowest in the world.

Figure 21 shows that total GHG emissions from the NCS and land-based facilities subject to the Petroleum Tax Act came to 13.6 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent in 2017. That compares with 13.8 million the year before. The main reason why overall emissions have declined for two years in a row is a significant reduction in offshore flaring and lower emissions from engines. Methane emissions fell further in 2017 because of the transition to more realistic emission factors (see section 6.6). At the same time, total petroleum output rose because of increased gas exports to the rest of Europe. Specific emissions of CO₂ per unit produced (CO₂ intensity) therefore also declined.

Petroleum production in Norway leads the world for low GHG emissions. On average, these are less than half the global average per unit produced. The sector is subject to a number of instruments in this respect, including the CO₂ tax, the ETS, the NO_x tax/fund, flaring restrictions in production licences, emission permits with energy management requirements, the obligation to use the BAT and the duty to assess and implement power from shore with new developments. These regulatory tools have produced and will continue to produce measures on the NCS.

Improved recovery measures will normally increase energy consumption per barrel produced. The fact that low emissions

per unit produced have been maintained on the NCS while the recovery factor has risen substantially therefore represents a considerable achievement.

The result is a Norwegian oil and gas industry in the premier division for energy-efficient production and low CO₂ emissions per unit produced (see figure 22). At the same time, certain other oil-producing countries are increasingly able to point to clear environmental improvements by instituting production patterns similar to those on the NCS, such as reduced flaring. This is very positive. Less flaring both cuts CO₂ emissions and boosts energy supplies for more people, since the gas will be exploited rather than flared.

FIGURE 21 EMISSIONS OF CO₂ EQUIVALENT ON THE NCS (MILL TONNES)





Every company in Norway reports all its emissions pursuant to the applicable regulations. This is not the case in many other petroleum-producing countries. In the Middle East, for example, emission figures were reported for only 20 per cent of production in 2014.

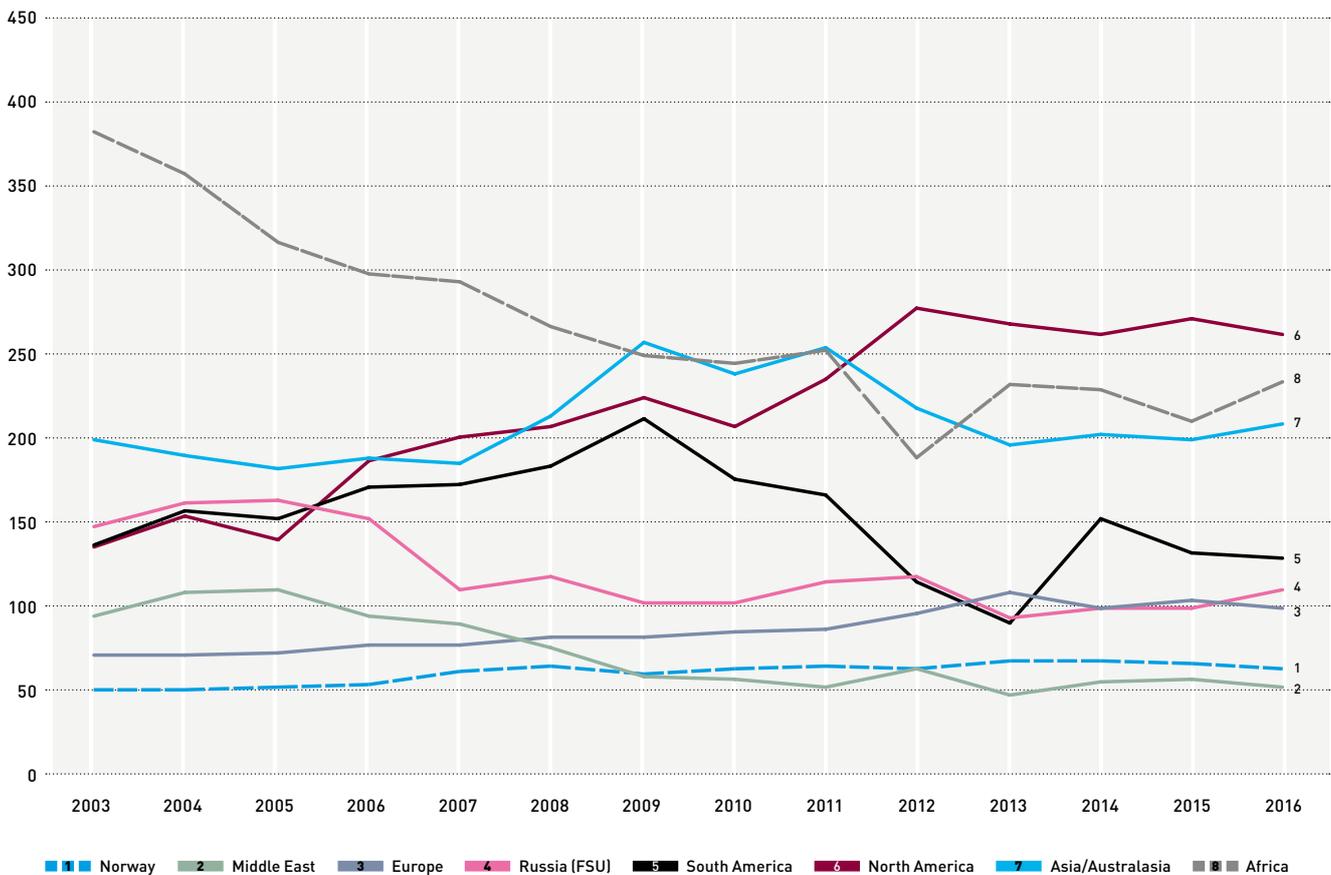
The data in figure 22 are taken from the annual report issued by the International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (IOGP), which presents the figures at regional rather than national level.

Norwegian Oil and Gas commissioned Rystad Energy in 2016 to provide a more detailed benchmarking of world oil production and associated emissions. This consultancy has a database covering global oil and gas output at field level, and has also developed a methodology for assessing emissions from each field which incorporates not only production but also refining and oil/gas consumption. On that basis, Rystad compared the 20 largest producer countries responsible for 83 per cent of world oil and gas output.

The results show that the most significant factor for emissions is the type of hydrocarbons in the reservoir. Technology and management also play a part, along with the extent of flaring and power from shore as well as the maturity of the continental shelf. Rystad's comparison shows that the NCS is the best performer overall, with the lowest total emissions per unit produced when the whole chain from production and refining to consumption (by combustion) of oil and gas is taken into account.

FIGURE 22 GHG EMISSIONS PER UNIT PRODUCED IN VARIOUS PETROLEUM PROVINCES 2003-16 (KG OF CO₂ EQUIVALENT PER TONNE OF OE PRODUCED)

Sources: IOGP and EEH



While certain other countries benefit from large fields which are relatively simple to produce, as in Middle East, Norway has organised itself with large platforms serving several fields. This provides economies of scale and thereby reduces emissions. In addition, the country possesses a number of fields in global terms with power from shore and little flaring. Rystad's results show that, in terms of individual countries, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have slightly lower emissions per unit

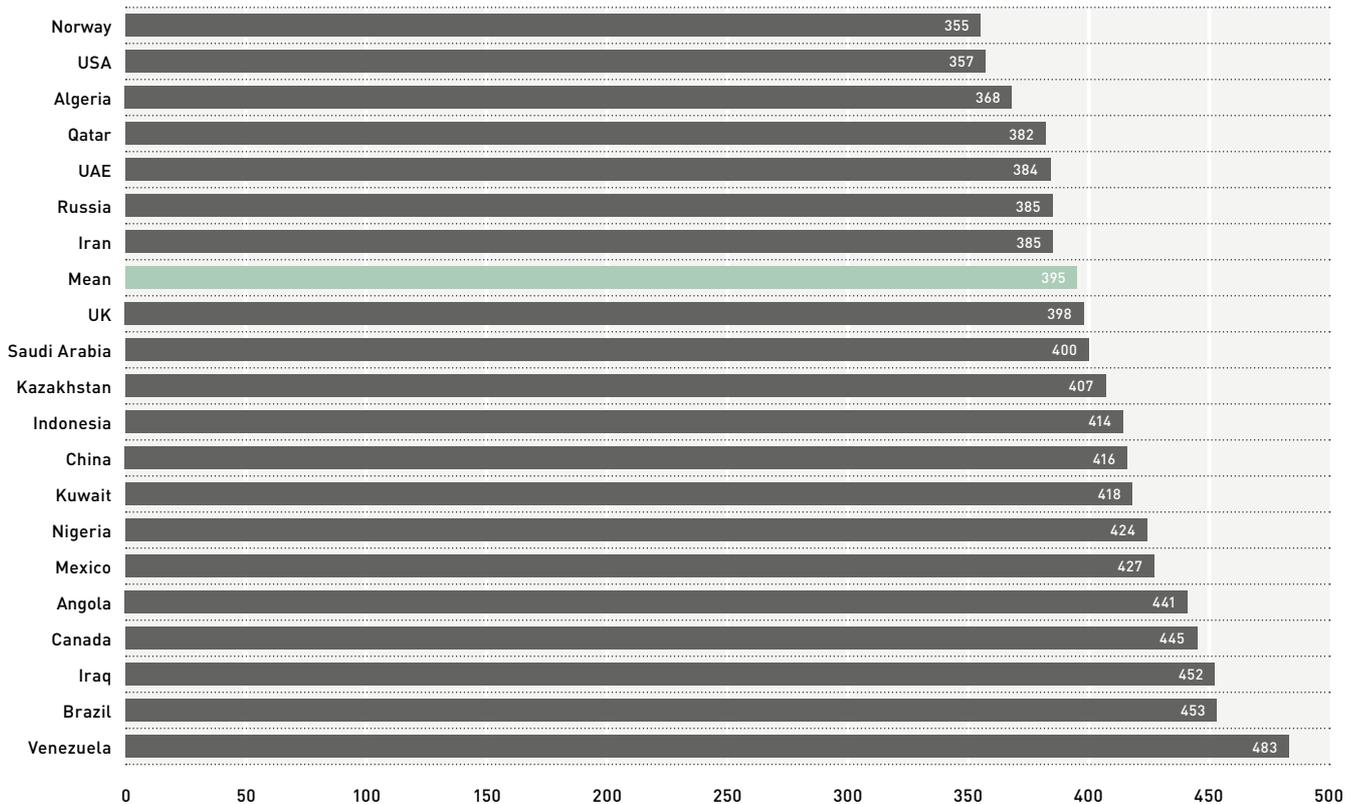
produced than the NCS, but that higher emissions per unit produced in the Middle East as a region are more than 60 per cent above the Norway level – in part because of much flaring in Iraq and Iran.

Rystad's comparison confirms that CO₂ intensity on the NCS is half the world average. CH₄ emissions from production and transport are not covered by the investigation, but other known studies indicate that they would also have shown that Norway occupies an advantageous position.

The most significant factor for emissions is the type of hydrocarbons in the reservoir. Others are technology, management, the extent of flaring and power from shore as well as the maturity of the continental shelf.

23 CO₂ EMISSIONS ACROSS THE VALUE CHAIN FOR THE TOP 20 OIL/GAS PRODUCERS (KG OF CO₂ PER BARREL OF OE)

Source: Rystad Energy



6.4 DIRECT CO₂ EMISSIONS

Total direct CO₂ emissions from operations on the NCS and land-based facilities subject to the Petroleum Tax Act amounted to 13.19 million tonnes in 2017, compared with 13.34 million the year before (figure 24).

The main reason for the decline in the total amount of CO₂ released directly was reduced emissions from existing fields on the NCS following a significant drop in flaring and lower emissions from engines. At the same time, overall output from the NCS rose as a result of increased gas exports to the rest of Europe. Specific CO₂ emission per unit produced (CO₂ intensity) on the NCS therefore also declined.

Norway's oil and gas industry released 13.19 million tonnes of CO₂ in 2017.

Figure 25 presents the development of CO₂ emissions and the volume of gas flared in 2000-2017. A marked decline occurred from 2016 after a period with relatively stable quantities of flared gas.

Figure 26 shows the development of direct and indirect CO₂ emissions

per volume of hydrocarbons delivered in 1990-2017. Specific CO₂ emissions in 2017 were 49.8 kilograms per scm oe produced.

That represents an improvement compared with the three previous years. This is positive and in line with the industry's ambition of keeping CO₂ emissions per unit produced at a low level.

FIGURE 24 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIRECT CO₂ EMISSIONS (MILL TONNES) AND BREAKDOWN BY SOURCE IN 2017 (PER CENT)

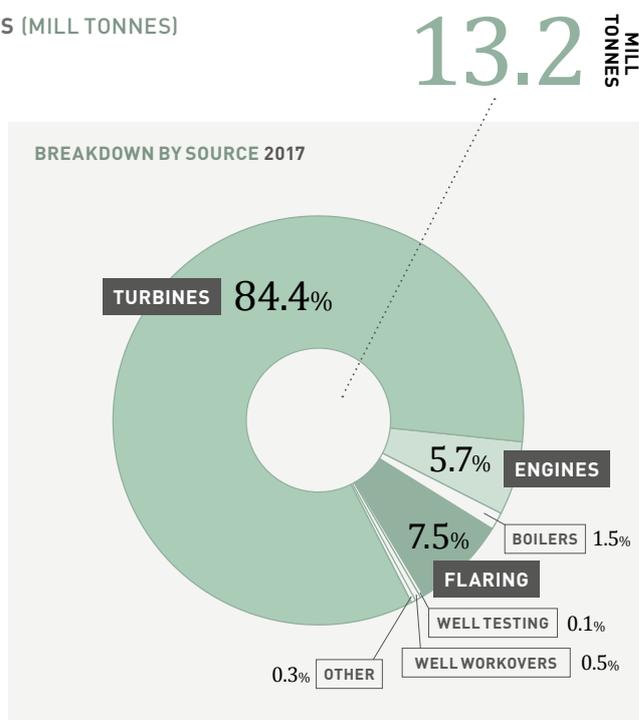
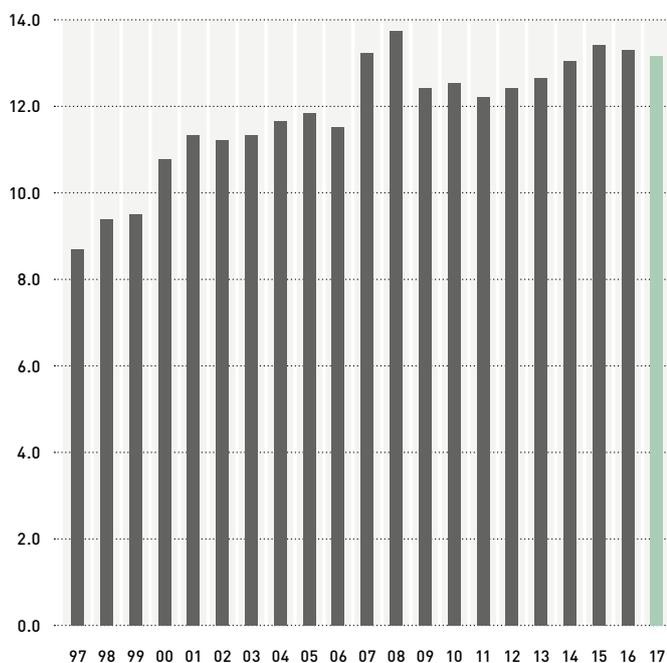


FIGURE 25 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF FLARE GAS CONSUMPTION (SCM) AND ASSOCIATED CALCULATED CO₂ EMISSIONS (TONNES)

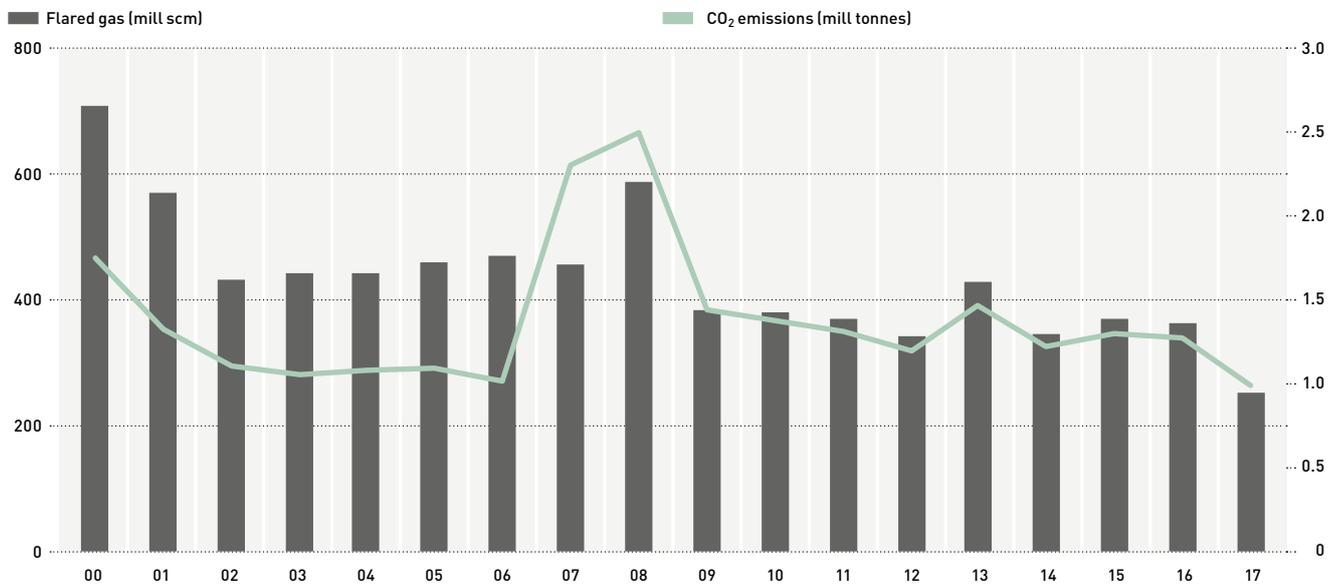
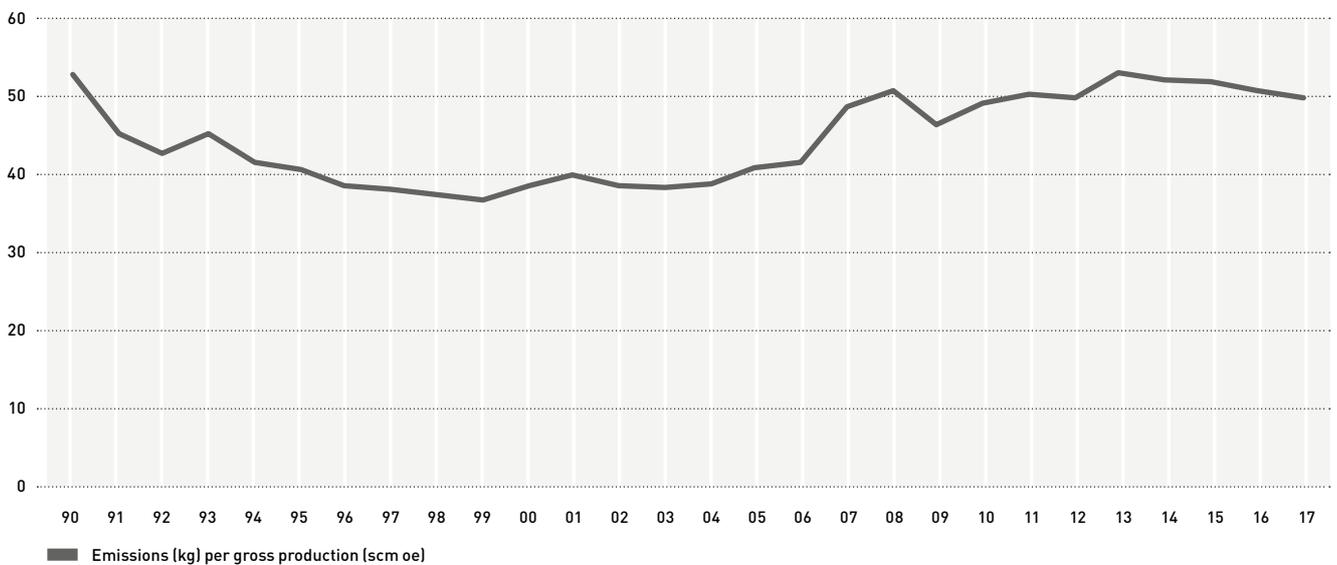


FIGURE 26 SPECIFIC CO₂ EMISSIONS (KG/SCM OE)



6.5 SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE FORCERS

Short-lived climate forcers comprise particles and gases which survive briefly in the atmosphere but have a negative effect on the climate and human health. Success in reducing these emissions will therefore achieve both climate and health benefits.

CH₄ and nmVOC released from cold venting and fugitive emissions are the most important sources in the petroleum industry. The increased attention paid to these emissions has generated a need to update and acquire further knowledge of the various sources for direct CH₄ and nmVOC emissions.

The quantity of short-lived climate forcers released from production on the NCS is already low by international standards. Results from a joint project with the NEA showed that the emission factors previously used on the NCS were conservative, and that the actual amounts emitted are therefore lower than earlier assumed.

6.5.1 CH₄ EMISSIONS ASSOCIATED WITH GAS EXPORTS TO EUROPE

The natural gas exported to continental Europe and the UK for use by households, industry and gas-fired power stations consists largely of CH₄.

Since CO₂ emissions per unit of electricity generated from gas-fired power stations are only half of those released from coal-fired generating plant, switching from the latter to the former will be a good climate measure. This requires that methane emissions from production, the gas pipeline system and distribution to consumers are less than three per cent of the distributed volume.

Earlier studies of emissions from the EU's 2.2 million kilometres of gas pipeline, including the transmission and

distribution networks, have shown that overall CH₄ emissions for the whole gas value chain from the NCS are around 0.6 per cent. An Equinor study put the proportion even lower, at roughly 0.3 per cent. The reason is that the earlier studies utilised an excessively high leak rate for seabed pipelines on the NCS, which are fully welded and have much lower leakage than land lines.

Efforts to avoid leaks have long been given priority on the NCS for both safety and environmental reasons. As a result, emissions related to upstream gas production from the NCS are only about 0.1 per cent of the volume produced.



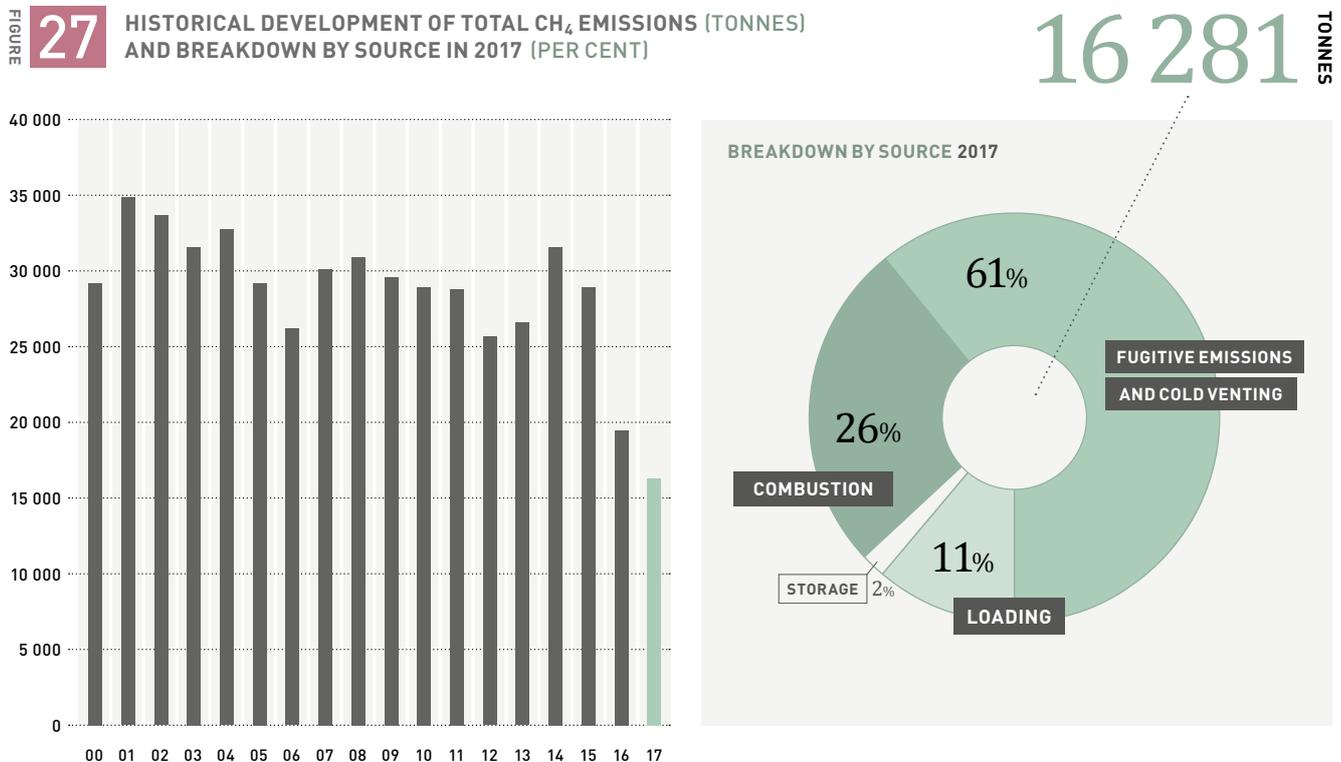
6.6 EMISSIONS OF CH₄



Figure 27 presents CH₄ emissions from operations on the NCS and a breakdown of these by source in 2017, when a total of 16 281 tonnes was released – down by more than 40 per cent from 2015. This reflects, as mentioned above, the revision of emission factors carried out

after the CH₄/nmVOC project with the NEA. Guidelines for reporting have been changed from the 2017 reporting year. However, Equinor also applied the new factors for the 2016 reporting year.

Cold venting and fugitive emissions from flanges, valves and various types of process equipment represent the most important operational sources of CH₄ from the offshore oil and gas sector.



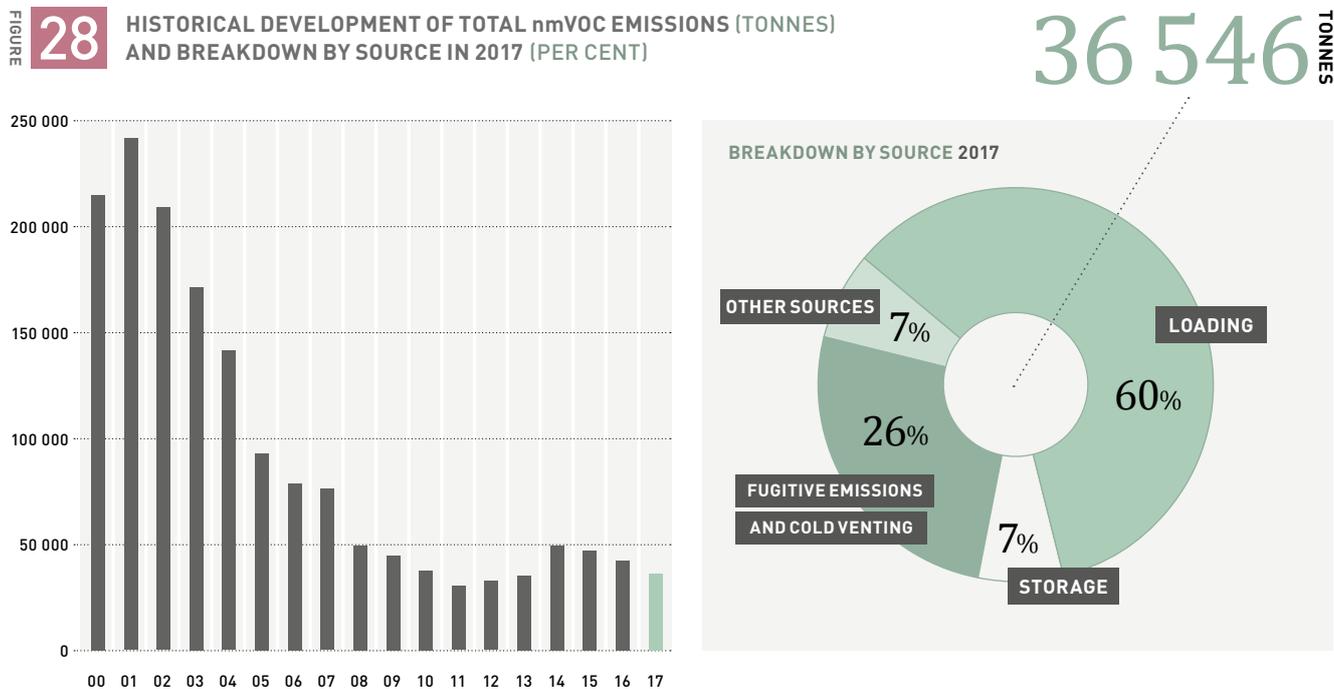
6.7 EMISSIONS OF NMVOC

Overall nmVOC emissions have been cut significantly since 2001. These substantial reductions reflect investment in new facilities for removing and recovering oil vapour on storage ships and shuttle tankers.

The total quantity of nmVOC emitted from the NCS declined from 42 503 tonnes in 2016 to 36 546 tonnes.

This reduction primarily reflected the joint project with the NEA described in section 6.6.

NmVOC emissions have shown a declining trend throughout the period since 2001.



6.8 THE NO_x AGREEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

The environmental agreement on NO_x regulates the commitments made to the government by Norway's industry associations on reducing their overall NO_x emissions. Norway has already met its NO_x commitments for 2020 under the Gothenburg Protocol. Efforts to reduce emissions through the NO_x fund have been crucial for this result.

The business fund for NO_x supports enterprises which implement measures to reduce their NO_x emissions. Payments are made when the measure has been implemented and documented.

A new NO_x agreement for 2018-25 was approved by the Efta Surveillance Authority (ESA) in February 2018, and is regarded as a stronger instrument for emission reductions than earlier environmental agreements. The commitment it imposes is an emission ceiling which reduces over

time. Possible increases in activity in sectors covered by the agreement must be offset by further reductions.

Norway has already met its NO_x commitments for 2020 under the Gothenburg Protocol. Efforts to reduce emissions through the NO_x fund have been crucial for this result.



The Heimdal platform in the North Sea.

6.9 EMISSIONS OF NO_x

Petroleum industry operations emitted a total of 42 900 tonnes of NO_x in 2017, down from 44 717 tonnes the year before. Part of the decline reflected lower emissions from diesel engines following the implementation of emission-reducing measures on mobile units which have received support through the NO_x fund.

Figure 29 presents NO_x emissions from operations on the NCS and how these broke down by source in 2017.

Specific NO_x emissions for the year totalled 0.17 kilograms per scm oe delivered, down from 2016 (see figure 30). The primary reason for this fall was a decline in consumption of diesel oil as fuel following emission reductions on mobile rigs.

The biggest source of NO_x emissions from petroleum activities is gas combustion in turbines on offshore installations.

FIGURE 30 NO_x EMISSIONS PER VOLUME OF HYDROCARBONS DELIVERED 1997-2017 (KG/SCM OE)

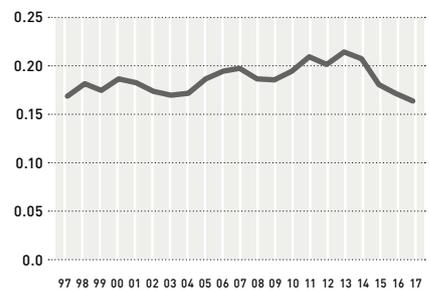
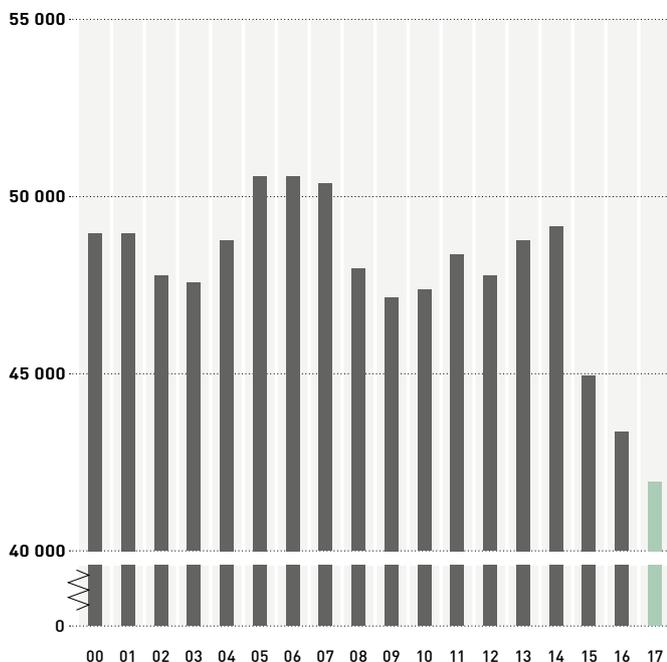
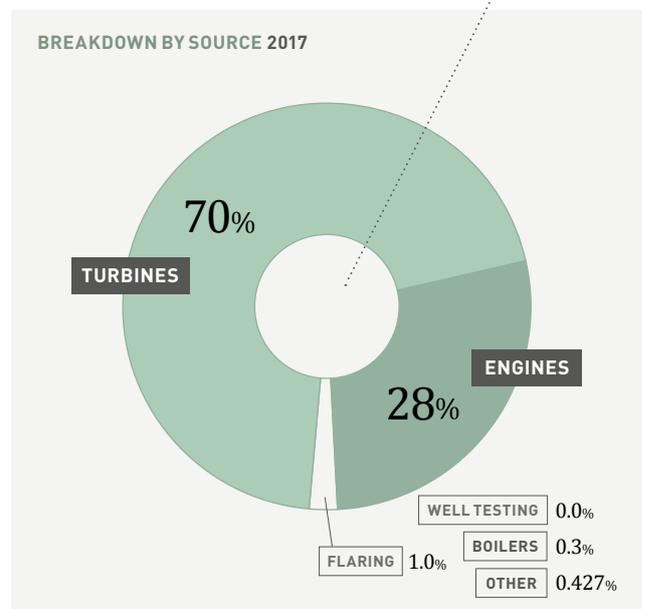


FIGURE 29 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF TOTAL NO_x EMISSIONS (TONNES) AND BREAKDOWN BY SOURCE IN 2017 (PER CENT)



42 900 TONNES

BREAKDOWN BY SOURCE 2017



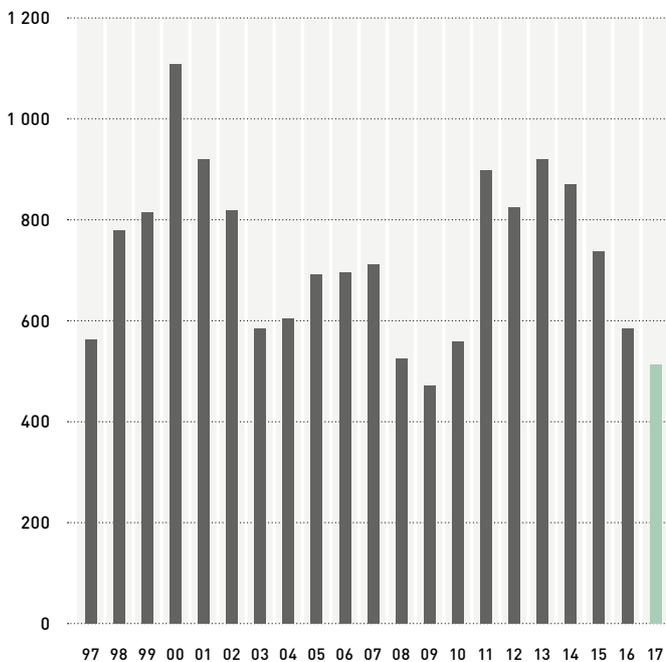
6.10 EMISSIONS OF SO_x



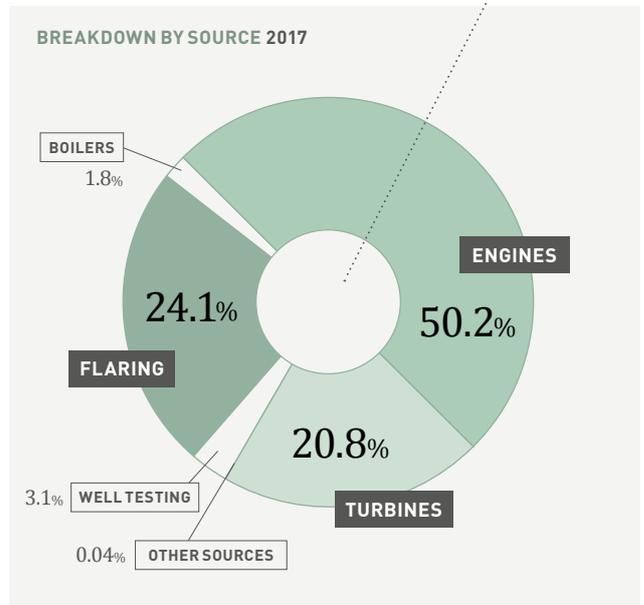
Figure 31 shows SO_x emissions from operations on the NCS and their breakdown by source in 2017. Total emissions in 2017 came to 515 tonnes, down from

584 tonnes the year before. This decline primarily reflected reduced consumption of diesel oil.

31 HISTORICAL EMISSIONS OF SO_x FROM THE NCS (TONNES) AND BREAKDOWN BY SOURCE IN 2017 (PER CENT)



515.4 TONNES



7

WASTE

THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IS NORWAY'S BIGGEST WASTE GENERATOR. IT PLACES GREAT EMPHASIS ON PRUDENT WASTE MANAGEMENT. GENERALLY SPEAKING, WASTE IS DIVIDED INTO HAZARDOUS AND NON-HAZARDOUS CATEGORIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE REGULATIONS. IT MUST BE DECLARED PURSUANT TO NATIONAL REGULATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES.



The principal goals of the operators are to generate a minimum of waste and to establish systems for recycling as much of it as possible. Norwegian Oil and Gas has developed its own guidelines for waste management in the offshore sector. These are used in the declaration and further treatment of the waste. All waste is sent ashore in accordance with the industry's guidelines.

NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE

Non-hazardous waste totalled just over 21 000 tonnes in 2017, down by almost 10 per cent from the year before. The biggest change was reduced quantities of metal sent ashore.

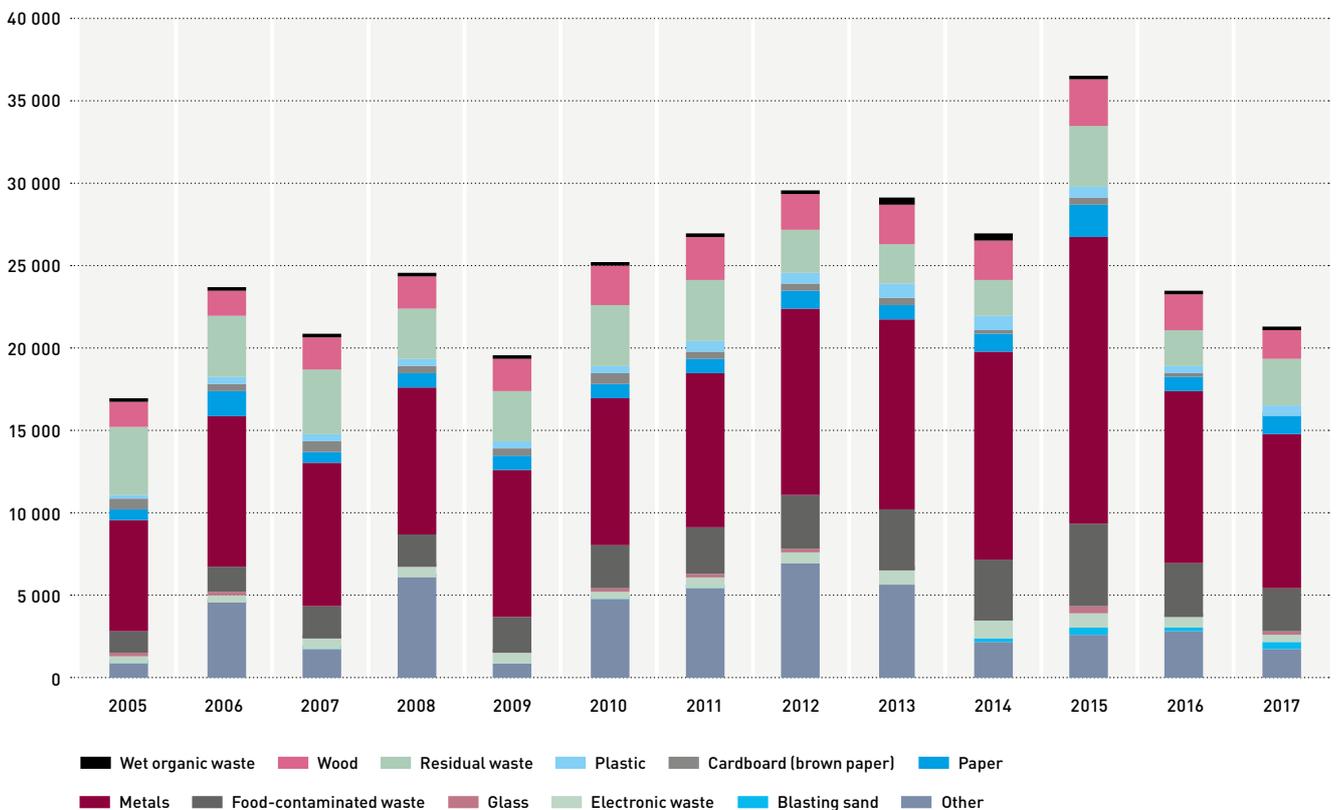
HAZARDOUS WASTE

Just under 345 000 tonnes of hazardous waste were delivered for treatment on land in 2017, a marked reduction from just under 530 000 tonnes the year before.

The fraction with the biggest fall was drilling waste. Cuttings contaminated with oil-based fluid declined from 118 000 tonnes in 2016 to just under 88 000 tonnes. The quantity of oily water from drilling operations was also reduced.



FIGURE 32 BREAKDOWN OF NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE FROM THE OFFSHORE INDUSTRY BY VARIOUS CATEGORIES IN 2017 (TONNES)





Growth in the quantity of oily waste since 2009 largely reflected earlier injection. Problems with leaks from injection wells were discovered on several fields up to 2009, and such injection ceased in 2009-10. Oily waste was sent ashore for treatment instead. Management of cuttings on these installations was designed for slurrification in order to make injection easier. This process involves crushing the cuttings and adding water, and it is not unusual for the volume of cuttings to expand

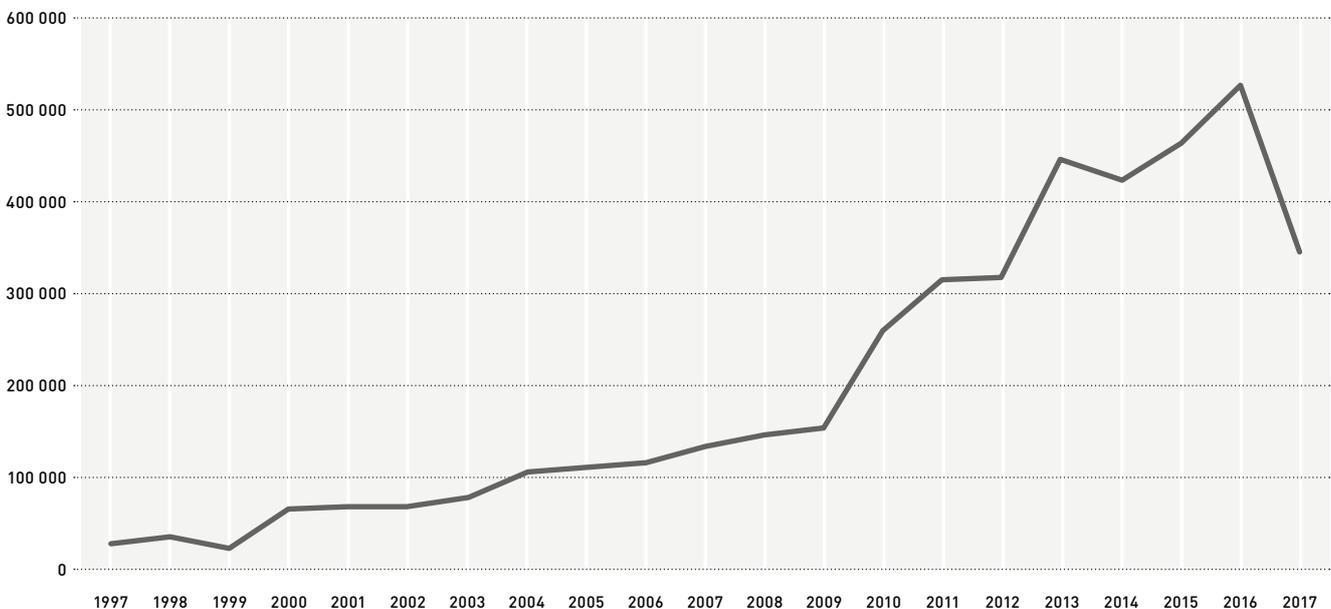
between four- and 10-fold as a result. That practice continued, with cuttings sent ashore as slurry. The result was a marked increase in the quantity of drilling waste from certain fields.

Injection provides substantial environmental benefits and can be cost-efficient compared with final treatment on land. Drilling of new injection wells means that the quantity of injected oily waste is again rising slightly (see section 4.1). Work to reduce slurrification and thereby cut the

quantity of waste is under way on those installations and fields where injection will not be resumed.

In cooperation with the NEA, Norwegian Oil and Gas introduced new codes in 2014 for hazardous waste from the industry. This move was intended to ensure good handling of waste streams with correct declaration of their content. However, the change makes it difficult to compare the various waste types with earlier statistics. A number of the categories

FIGURE 33 HAZARDOUS WASTE SENT ASHORE FROM THE OFFSHORE INDUSTRY IN 2017 (TONNES)



have been split into several sub-types, while others have been merged.

LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE

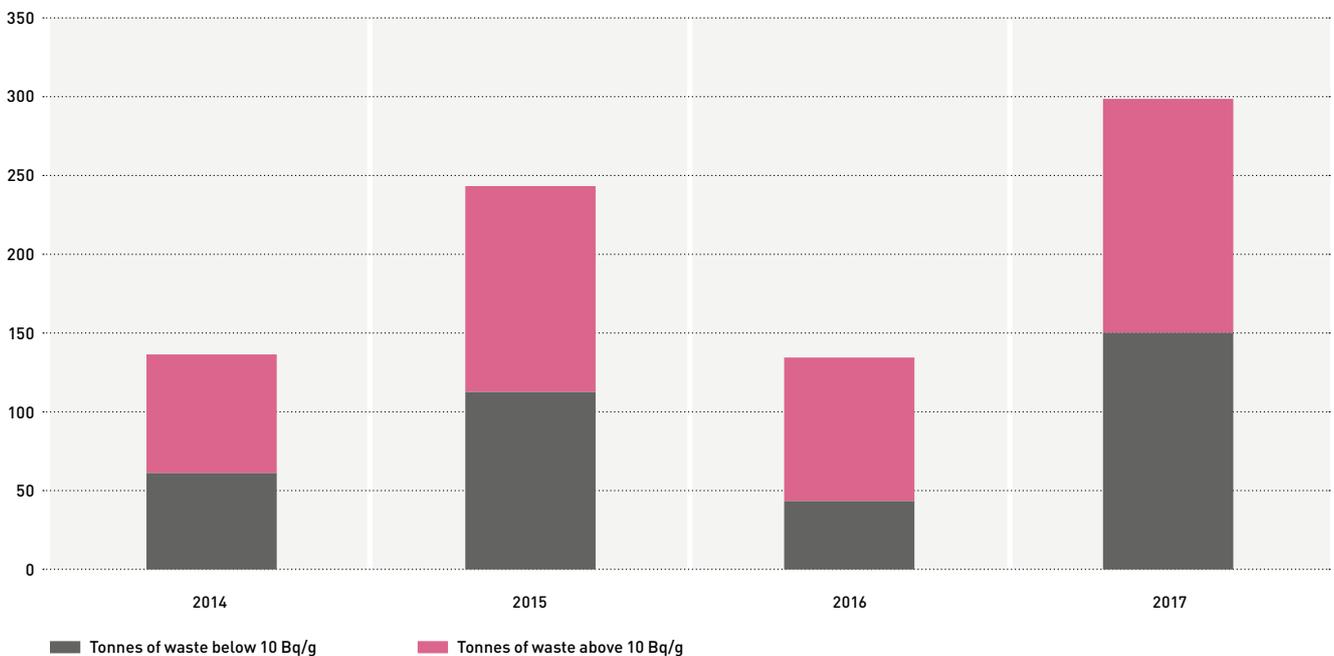
Rocks beneath the seabed contain varying amounts of radium and other radioactive isotopes. These naturally occurring radioactive substances accompany oil, gas and – primarily – water to the surface during production. On some fields, sludge cleaned from oil-water separators can contain varying levels of measurable radioactivity.

The concentration of these substances is measured through analyses of water and sludge by accredited laboratories. Such waste is divided into and declared in three categories – no enhanced concentrations, radioactivity below 10 becquerels per gram and radioactivity above 10 Bq/g. Both of the radioactive categories are treated in accordance with regulations issued by the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority. Waste with the highest activity is sent to a special landfill site in Gulen.

Figure 34 presents the quantity of waste in tonnes delivered for final disposal in the two categories. The amount with activity below 10 Bq/g varies considerably because of changing reception capacity.

Just over 300 tonnes of low-level radioactive waste were dealt with in 2017.

FIGURE 34 LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DELIVERED FOR FINAL DISPOSAL (TONNES)



8

SEISMIC SURVEYS

MARINE SEISMIC SURVEYING IS THE MOST IMPORTANT TOOL AVAILABLE FOR MAPPING POSSIBLE OIL AND GAS DEPOSITS BENEATH THE SEABED.



Seismic surveys are also used to follow developments in the reservoirs, so that the maximum amount of oil and gas can be recovered from producing fields. In addition, they are important for assessing the properties of possible reservoirs before drilling wildcats to ensure that the most appropriate technology is used for this work. That reduces the risk related to operations in this phase.

Seismic surveys are conducted by transmitting sound waves beneath the seabed, which reflect back from the different strata and are picked up by hydrophones. These signals can be used to form a picture of the sub-surface. The sound waves are generated by releasing compressed air at a pressure of roughly 200 bar, and differ significantly from those created with the aid of explosives. They therefore do not cause comparable injuries to fish.

Pressure changes generated in water are measured in Pascals, but acoustic strength is more usually expressed in decibels (dB), a logarithmic way of expressing the ratio between the measured pressure and a reference value. Since the latter differs between air and water, acoustic pressure cannot be compared directly in terms of the dB value. Close to the sound source, the pressure can reach about 220-200 dB. That would correspond to roughly 160-140 dB in air, where the reference value is different, and be comparable to the acoustic pressure from a hunting rifle. The acoustic pressure from the propeller of a large ship has been measured at 190-200 dB.

Sound can occur either as continuous signals – from ship’s propellers and offshore wind turbines, for example – or as pulses. Signals used in seismic surveys today are short pulses repeated every eight to 10 seconds during operations, and can be classified as pulsating sound on the basis of their character and effect on marine life.

Research to identify possible damage to marine organisms from seismic surveys has been conducted both in Norway and internationally. Harmful effects on individual fish have almost exclusively been identified at early life stages, such as egg, larva and fry. While the impact on adults in the immediate vicinity of the acoustic source is confined by and large to temporary hearing loss, young fish less than five metres away have been killed. No harm has been found beyond that distance. The conclusion is that seismic sound waves will not have any negative significance for fish populations, even in the most intense breeding period.

The conclusion is that seismic sound waves will not have any negative significance for fish populations, even in the most intense breeding period.

9

TABLES



HISTORICAL PRODUCTION DATA FOR THE NCS – SALEABLE

(MILL SCM, EXCEPT GAS: BN SCM)

Year	Oil	Gas	NGL	Condensate	Oil equivalent
2008	122.66	100.11	16.94	3.92	243.64
2009	114.94	104.26	16.96	4.44	240.60
2010	104.39	107.00	15.55	4.17	231.11
2011	97.46	101.27	16.31	4.58	219.62
2012	89.20	114.72	17.80	4.57	226.29
2013	84.94	108.75	17.72	3.99	215.39
2014	87.75	108.82	18.95	2.91	218.44
2015	90.85	117.12	19.60	2.47	230.04
2016	93.96	116.65	20.18	1.93	232.73
2017	92.15	124.16	20.39	1.71	238.42

VOLUME OF GAS INJECTED AND CONSUMED (SCM)

Year	Water	Gas	Gross fuel gas	Gross flare gas
2008	197 868 634	34 127 615 683	3 838 474 433	588 743 054
2009	166 939 471	33 429 627 740	3 765 463 281	384 917 773
2010	153 851 370	29 408 435 484	3 697 531 369	380 399 245
2011	134 912 328	26 838 327 689	3 567 088 643	371 340 687
2012	130 556 861	26 370 349 599	3 650 843 648	342 420 089
2013	119 829 977	29 345 848 869	3 557 334 571	431 543 601
2014	133 767 527	34 724 594 140	3 827 771 821	345 026 015
2015	143 329 249	35 323 271 891	4 047 965 041	372 726 858
2016	140 628 485	35 534 557 532	3 985 715 778	365 768 248
2017	147 091 676	30 938 793 047	4 127 007 536	254 166 656

DRILLING WITH OIL-BASED FLUIDS (TONNES)

Year	Base fluids Consumption	Base fluids Discharged	Base fluids Injected	Base fluids Transported to land	Base fluids Lost to formation
2008	185 891	0	51 819	50 888	51 165
2009	219 217	0	45 728	71 157	53 745
2010	147 447	0	27 438	55 220	64 789
2011	118 305	0	14 954	55 895	47 456
2012	117 308	0	18 356	56 238	42 713
2013	147 487	0	38 527	60 690	48 270
2014	128 187	0	26 789	60 019	41 378
2015	171 386	47	29 209	70 217	71 912
2016	162 460	0	29 490	72 097	60 873
2017	127 693	0	23 290	55 310	49 094

DRILLING WITH SYNTHETIC FLUIDS (TONNES)

Year	Base fluids Consumption	Base fluids Discharged	Base fluids Injected	Base fluids Transported to land	Base fluids Lost to formation
2008	968	0	0	630	338
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0	0
2011	2 888	0	0	1 126	1 762
2012	0	0	0	0	0
2013	1 444	0	0	601	843
2014	816	0	395	0	421
2015	0	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0	0

DRILLING WITH WATER-BASED FLUIDS (TONNES)

Year	Base fluids Consumption	Base fluids Discharged	Base fluids Injected	Base fluids Transported to land	Base fluids Lost to formation
2007	270 999	203 487	27 243	9 938	17 515
2008	274 337	175 292	33 151	20 590	26 471
2009	412 719	280 013	20 320	24 600	31 268
2010	290 684	231 378	12 162	15 341	31 802
2011	316 379	228 222	30 302	21 888	35 967
2012	331 820	238 652	25 371	26 272	41 525
2013	387 426	295 668	18 545	23 277	49 936
2014	388 739	280 276	21 051	31 497	55 915
2015	328 851	219 158	33 209	20 978	55 506
2016	314 729	194 618	25 120	18 467	76 523
2017	275 906	178 126	11 774	11 822	74 185

TABLE

06

**DISPOSAL OF CUTTINGS FROM DRILLING WITH OIL-BASED FLUIDS.
CALCULATED FIGURES (TONNES)**

Year	Base cuttings exported to other fields	Base cuttings Discharged to sea	Base cuttings Volume injected	Base cuttings Transported to land	Total amount cuttings/ mud generated
2008	0	0	49 108	24 854	73 562
2009	424	0	47 640	38 316	86 386
2010	0	0	26 938	81 188	108 126
2011	0	0	19 699	68 190	87 810
2012	0	0	23 409	65 689	89 098
2013	0	0	37 896	53 232	91 128
2014	0	0	22 253	55 061	77 314
2015	0	2 460	36 189	71 299	109 949
2016	0	0	33 249	84 492	117 741
2017	0	0	33 866	63 210	97 076

TABLE

07

**DISPOSAL OF CUTTINGS FROM DRILLING WITH WATER-BASED FLUIDS.
CALCULATED FIGURES (TONNES)**

Year	Base cuttings Exported to other fields	Base cuttings Discharged to sea	Base cuttings Volume injected	Base cuttings Transported to land	Total cuttings/ mud generated
2008	651	73 639	2 717	2 501	79 283
2009	0	129 674	1 624	104	131 683
2010	0	207 655	664	9 896	218 216
2011	0	195 062	5 741	10 885	211 666
2012	0	171 842	1 169	3 774	176 785
2013	0	123 005	50	2 210	125 265
2014	0	113 840	24	525	114 389
2015	1 239	99 424	0	2 405	103 068
2016	0	105 070	0	1 334	106 403
2017	0	90 831	305	131	91 266

TABLES

SELECTED GROUPS OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS DISCHARGED IN PRODUCED WATER (KG)

Substance	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
BTEX	1 803 998	1 902 925	1 818 173	1 675 059	1 855 037	1 922 626	1 909 696	2 268 533	2 221 241	2 106 254
Phenols	544 857	508 365	487 429	492 449	523 242	505 708	653 851	633 705	575 592	581 212
Oil in water	947 549	1 156 501	1 200 078	1 235 608	1 325 326	1 712 316	1 560 328	1 645 533	1 600 312	1 734 866
Organic acids	31 263 700	27 204 909	24 752 275	22 251 835	22 144 558	53 789 394	31 592 634	30 415 062	28 437 629	27 409 773
PAH compounds	129 468	153 177	142 408	157 778	168 160	157 896	169 764	131 426	125 702	128 849
Heavy metals	8 838 787	7 814 585	7 905 978	8 611 126	8 424 293	7 979 933	9 063 413	9 845 943	8 705 495	9 673 937

BTX COMPOUNDS DISCHARGED IN PRODUCED WATER (KG)

Substance	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Benzene	862 411	868 175	832 031	771 333	848 713	867 970	973 116	1 021 530	1 038 496	995 399
Ethylbenzene	34 675	46 135	41 758	37 913	43 761	45 992	53 131	52 764	51 915	49 749
Toluene	672 398	722 851	700 550	655 169	710 617	736 238	725 968	828 299	805 875	756 232
Xylene	234 513	265 764	243 835	210 644	251 946	272 427	157 481	365 941	324 955	304 874

HEAVY METALS DISCHARGED IN PRODUCED WATER (KG)

Substance	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Arsenic	614	483	895	656	604	622	645	746	642	708
Barium	7 762 350	7 008 907	7 071 530	7 639 584	7 554 262	7 321 592	8 219 090	9 061 675	8 007 224	8 988 989
Lead	386	290	239	428	309	70	191	84	91	115
Iron	1 058 121	797 369	825 822	959 698	863 198	653 691	833 664	780 463	695 635	680 518
Cadmium	41	28	22	32	18	7	11	5	6	10
Copper	102	102	89	162	143	109	249	128	155	176
Chrome	213	154	225	221	131	107	124	99	183	173
Mercury	11	9	9	15	13	8	8	9	8	9
Nickel	299	142	200	223	198	119	128	1 210	116	126
Zinc	16 651	7 100	6 948	10 108	5 418	3 608	9 303	1 523	1 436	3 113

PHENOLS

DISCHARGED IN PRODUCED WATER (KG)

Stoff	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
C1-Alkylphenols	207 855	203 376	199 007	186 923	190 276	182 387	266 814	242 415	232 258	222 264
C2-Alkylphenols	87 634	80 707	83 860	82 207	70 392	74 647	89 033	98 818	82 488	75 041
C3-Alkylphenols	29 137	26 108	27 350	29 194	39 995	40 560	43 232	43 471	35 436	32 448
C4-Alkylphenols	10 451	11 624	8 707	11 195	11 315	9 470	9 393	10 482	9 218	7 429
C5-Alkylphenols	2 022	1 325	1 551	3 165	4 577	3 742	3 453	3 455	2 694	1 996
C6-Alkylphenols	84	78	125	81	52	40	46	66	55	39
C7-Alkylphenols	61	22	55	61	53	96	120	88	62	63
C8-Alkylphenols	39	20	71	45	11	7	15	16	10	12
C9-Alkylphenols	13	64	44	31	8	4	50	7	7	9

ORGANIC ACIDS

DISCHARGED IN PRODUCED WATER (KG)

Substance	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Butyric acid	714 602	627 237	519 296	453 964	456 609	552 567	343 341	506 640	438 843	440 411
Acetic acid	26 381 307	22 509 255	20 693 558	19 028 018	19 045 328	48 550 063	28 083 291	26 327 349	24 676 259	23 728 815
Formic acid	314 221	563 669	493 913	450 016	341 274	1 294 782	517 012	495 495	408 644	353 922
Naphthenic acid	250 405	264 051	179 185	99 691	96 547	126 423	124 885	16 343	11 341	23 511
Valeric acid	341 590	338 214	241 354	159 998	165 674	175 702	167 286	176 567	163 812	175 891
Propionic acid	3 261 575	2 902 484	2 624 969	2 060 148	2 039 125	3 089 857	2 356 819	2 892 668	2 738 730	2 687 222

PAH COMPOUNDS
 DISCHARGED IN PRODUCED WATER (KG)

Compound	EPA PAH 16	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Acenaphthene	Yes	164	198	196	225	217	418	350	203	188	204
Acenaphthylene	Yes	174	93	83	94	93	127	158	381	196	132
Anthracene	Yes	60	10	7	9	8	36	49	75	46	45
Benzo[a]anthracene	Yes	18	9	8	8	9	15	23	16	13	15
Benzo[a]pyrene	Yes	5	4	3	3	3	7	13	4	4	5
Benzo[b]fluoranthene	Yes	16	9	9	10	10	8	14	16	14	16
Benzo[g,h,i]perylene	Yes	7	6	6	6	6	6	5	8	6	8
Benzo[k]fluoranthene	Yes	4	2	1	1	1	10	5	11	2	4
C1-dibenzothiophene	No	761	667	601	716	808	1 082	1 097	734	671	758
C1-Phenanthrene	No	1 589	2 438	2 222	2 873	2 957	2 860	3 086	2 767	2 424	2 521
C1-naphthalene	No	44 155	47 410	45 000	49 202	54 446	32 299	41 387	31 553	31 588	31 975
C2-dibenzothiophene	No	634	939	878	1 160	1 217	1 470	1 612	1 262	1 124	1 396
C2-Phenanthrene	No	1 976	2 706	2 598	3 747	3 748	4 040	4 247	3 668	3 389	4 081
C2-naphthalene	No	19 636	24 669	21 880	26 936	27 707	31 184	27 602	18 388	18 816	17 645
C3-dibenzothiophene	No	92	20	22	27	26	4 845	6 822	825	691	855
C3-Phenanthrene	No	306	662	694	1 157	1 111	1 604	1 743	1 557	1 351	1 361
C3-naphthalene	No	11 614	21 719	17 219	22 363	23 230	26 265	22 525	13 253	14 131	16 557
Dibenz[a,h]anthracene	Yes	4	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	3
Dibenzothiophene	No	394	435	407	465	518	492	517	465	411	453
Phenanthrene	Yes	1 565	1 712	1 576	1 775	1 781	1 674	2 008	1 981	1 815	1 959
Fluoranthene	Yes	28	25	27	45	37	35	43	52	43	44
Fluorene	Yes	1 166	1 175	1 126	1 384	1 327	1 473	1 599	1 696	1 404	1 384
Indeno[1,2,3-c,d]pyrene	Yes	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	17	1	4
Chrysene	Yes	61	42	30	41	38	77	122	97	74	83
Naphthalene	Yes	44 963	48 175	47 770	45 492	48 816	47 806	54 669	52 338	47 242	47 291
Pyrene	Yes	74	49	43	34	41	60	64	57	55	52

**DISCHARGE AND CONSUMPTION OF CHEMICALS
BY NEA COLOUR CATEGORY (TONNES)**

NEA colour category		2008	2009	2010*	2011	2012**	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Green	Consumption	351 815	382 892	374 541	351 387	368 849	451 433	420 988	409 276	388 767	327 461
	Discharge	116 614	158 201	127 249	138 019	147 773	153 671	152 255	142 807	138 882	123 859
Yellow	Consumption	95 348	91 886	103 061	80 141	82 881	100 990	95 101	104 137	110 981	99 694
	Discharge	12 957	14 649	11 727	12 305	13 533	14 019	14 546	14 418	14 232	14 756
Red	Consumption	4 323	3 206	2 894	1 842	2 088	3 004	3 172	3 464	3 047	2 817
	Discharge	15	21	16	8	8	8	14	67	103	96
Black	Consumption	60	16	1 259	1 140	746	531	691	401	609	355
	Discharge	2.5	1.2	1.4	0.6	2.4	6.7	13.3	6.6	3.6	4.7

* Use of hydraulic oils was included for all fields from 2010. These substances had not been tested at the time and were therefore registered as black.

** Some fields reported discharges of fire-extinguishing foam before this became mandatory from 2012. Reporting of these discharges covers all fields with effect from 2014.

Water type	2008	2009	2010	2011
OTHER				
Discharges of dispersed oil (tonnes)				
Discharges of water (cu.m)				
Total water volume (cu.m)				
Water injected (cu.m)				
DRAINAGE				
Discharges of dispersed oil (tonnes)	10	6	8	8
Discharges of water (cu.m)	953 964	917 986	727 811	867 531
Total water volume (cu.m)	993 156	1 099 819	763 736	891 951
Water injected (cu.m)	36 298	184 247	19 875	16 740
DISPLACEMENT				
Discharges of dispersed oil (tonnes)	58	55	47	51
Discharges of water (cu.m)	35 781 227	31 567 044	31 953 823	27 025 783
Total water volume (cu.m)	35 781 227	31 567 050	31 953 823	27 025 783
Water injected (cu.m)	0	0	0	0
PRODUCED				
Discharges of dispersed oil (tonnes)	1 569	1 487	1 443	1 478
Discharges of water (cu.m)	149 241 700	134 770 215	130 842 793	128 550 571
Total water volume (cu.m)	173 375 110	158 559 726	157 890 256	160 758 982
Water injected (cu.m)	30 379 135	29 547 450	33 217 136	31 095 328
JETTING				
Discharges of dispersed oil (tonnes)	13	24	65	53

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4 414	25 506	49 276	26 249	8 768	19 508
	4 414	27 101	49 871	40 073	9 293	20 837
	0	2 267 368	267	12 298	463	1 330
	8	8	11	8	8	8
	953 596	954 377	984 216	1 014 435	1 015 018	972 128
	979 802	991 618	1 065 755	1 124 895	1 100 171	1 108 276
	18 831	33 566	86 527	102 389	78 131	135 450
	58	56	43	40	38	32
	31 491 555	32 227 733	33 230 953	33 830 308	30 510 835	28 714 703
	31 491 555	32 227 733	33 230 953	33 830 308	30 510 835	28 714 703
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1 535	1 541	1 761	1 819	1 698	1 621
	130 909 973	127 833 805	141 006 271	148 181 942	138 101 839	134 202 747
	162 958 696	161 188 862	176 840 378	186 681 015	178 111 199	173 109 836
	32 756 572	37 292 502	39 360 701	42 479 952	43 421 496	40 942 535
	43	37	43	59	61	61

TOTAL CONSUMPTION, DISCHARGE AND INJECTION OF CHEMICALS
BY APPLICATION (TONNES)

Application		2008	2009	2010	2011
A - DRILLING AND WELL CHEMICALS	Consumed	365 902	399 053	409 337	357 665
	Injected	88 506	65 682	44 204	37 685
	Discharged	93 190	135 589	104 966	111 839
B - PRODUCTION CHEMICALS	Consumed	31 278	27 720	26 816	28 564
	Injected	4 046	4 499	4 403	4 598
	Discharged	17 208	17 021	16 001	17 272
C - INJECTION CHEMICALS	Consumed	15 517	12 997	11 487	9 830
	Injected	1 486	1 485	1 367	1 492
	Discharged	235	200	188	212
D - PIPELINE CHEMICALS	Consumed	3 385	2 973	2 477	4 609
	Injected	0	146	599	936
	Discharged	516	917	1 308	3 245
E - GAS TREATMENT CHEMICALS	Consumed	22 257	21 381	17 905	21 061
	Injected	1 502	1 634	1 406	1 628
	Discharged	13 124	11 849	9 698	11 097
F - AUXILIARY CHEMICALS	Consumed	7 135	7 886	8 091	8 073
	Injected	810	501	420	377
	Discharged	4 031	4 795	4 244	4 489
G - CHEMICALS ADDED TO THE EXPORT FLOW	Consumed	5 443	5 085	5 094	4 665
	Injected	0	0	0	0
	Discharged	439	1 664	1 847	1 483
H - CHEMICALS FROM OTHER PRODUCTION LOCATIONS	Consumed	614	475	536	0
	Injected	210	25	117	114
	Discharged	847	753	753	692
K - RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT	Consumed	15	12	14	6
	Injected	0	0	0	0
	Discharged	0	9	5	2

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	373 746	470 793	429 087	425 201	411 370	331 094
	36 627	59 664	54 161	62 018	58 125	40 535
	113 521	119 005	117 402	107 797	104 873	89 500
	29 018	31 815	31 802	32 953	37 325	40 034
	4 082	4 867	4 020	4 973	8 880	8 339
	19 577	21 968	21 852	20 365	20 801	23 119
	9 155	9 340	10 011	10 451	9 686	8 885
	2 945	1 115	1 334	8 076	7 717	6 895
	176	1 173	1 356	1 040	518	474
	7 138	3 490	7 161	6 610	6 092	5 088
	494	917	1 282	1 558	575	329
	4 153	2 361	3 217	4 015	3 099	1 581
	22 563	25 535	26 342	25 123	23 429	19 999
	4 133	668	5 390	5 330	3 541	2 010
	16 079	16 133	16 697	17 302	17 169	16 045
	7 671	9 095	9 407	9 645	8 767	9 561
	190	394	334	589	1 920	1 534
	4 903	5 451	5 236	4 223	4 383	5 354
	5 269	5 875	6 121	7 281	6 728	15 664
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1 951	615	383	1 781	1 585	1 529
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	150	100	895	2 690	1 618	983
	952	986	677	773	792	1 112
	4	16	25	14	7	2
	0	0	2	5	6	0
	3	12	9	4	1	1

17 CONSUMPTION AND DISCHARGE OF CHEMICALS BY ENVIRONMENTAL PROPERTIES (KG)

NEA category description	NEA colour category	Category		2008	2009	2010	
Substances on the Plonor list	Green	201	Consumption	259 361	287 182	286 277	
			Discharge	76 539	109 905	90 612	
Water	Green	200	Consumption	92 454	95 710	88 264	
			Discharge	40 075	48 296	36 638	
Other chemicals	Yellow	100	Consumption	95 348	91 886	103 061	
			Discharge	12 957	14 649	11 727	
Biodegradability < 20%	Red	8	Consumption	3 141	2 145	2 387	
			Discharge	11	16	14	
Two out of three categories: biodegradability < 60%, log Pow ≥ 3, EC ₅₀ or LC ₅₀ ≤ 10 mg/l	Red	6	Consumption	1 182	1 061	507	
			Discharge	5	5	2	
Inorganic and EC ₅₀ or LC ₅₀ ≤ 1 mg/l	Red	7	Consumption		0	0	
			Discharge		0	0	
Biodegradability < 20% and toxicity EC ₅₀ or LC ₅₀ ≤ 10 mg/l	Black	4	Consumption	1	1	21	
			Discharge	0	0	0	
Biodegradability < 20% and log Pow ≥ 5	Black	3	Consumption	1	1	1 238	
			Discharge	1	1	1	
Hormone-disrupting substances	Black	1	Consumption	20	14	0	
			Discharge	1	0	0	
List of priority chemicals included in result target 1 (priority list), White Paper no 25 (2002-2003)	Black	2	Consumption	0	0	0	
			Discharge	0	0	0	
Substances thought to be, or which are, hazardous to genes or reproduction	Black	1.1	Consumption	38			
			Discharge	0			



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	273 274	282 848	347 659	322 308	311 326	284 080	236 999
	99 503	104 496	114 955	107 671	93 929	89 952	79 231
	78 114	86 001	103 774	98 679	97 414	104 162	89 061
	38 515	43 277	38 716	44 584	48 735	48 775	44 007
	80 141	68 454	83 779	77 067	85 617	88 471	84 066
	12 305	7 575	8 088	8 803	8 904	9 152	9 184
	1 493	1 287	1 664	1 821	2 004	1 871	1 996
	6	4	4	5	8	17	17
	349	801	1 340	1 351	1 411	1 040	719
	2	4	3	9	16	11	16
	0	0	0	0	50	135	102
	0	0	0	0	44	75	63
	12	11	5	14	4	2	1
	0	1	0	4	3	2	1
	1 128	694	476	631	322	517	320
	0	0	3	4	4	2	3
	0	0	0	0	0		
	0	0	0	0	0		
		0	0				
		0	0				
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

17 CONSUMPTION AND DISCHARGE OF CHEMICALS BY ENVIRONMENTAL PROPERTIES (KG)

NEA category description	NEA colour category	Category		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Reach annex IV	Green	204	Consumption				261	227	224
			Discharge				137	132	85
Reach annex V	Green	205	Consumption				275	298	1 176
			Discharge				6	24	536
Yellow in sub-category 1. Expected to biodegrade fully	Yellow	101	Consumption	7 336	8 124	7 755	6 902	6 800	6 612
			Discharge	3 709	3 843	3 673	3 257	3 199	3 169
Yellow in sub-category 2. Expected to biodegrade to environmentally non-hazardous substances	Yellow	102	Consumption	4 989	7 472	5 403	5 346	10 291	5 259
			Discharge	1 768	1 714	1 702	1 507	1 533	2 084
Yellow in sub-category 3. Expected to biodegrade to substances which could be environmentally hazardous	Yellow	103	Consumption	1	6	1	1	0	0
			Discharge	0	1	0	1	0	0
Calcium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, hydrochloric acid, sulphuric acid, nitric acid and phosphoric acid	Yellow	104	Consumption					5 419	3 756
			Discharge					347	318
Chemicals exempted from ecotoxicological testing. Include Reach annexes IV and V	Yellow	99	Consumption	2 100	1 609	4 876	6 272		
			Discharge	482	373	368	749		
Polymers which are exempted from test requirements and not tested	Red	9	Consumption					1	
			Discharge					0	
Additive packages which are exempted from test requirements and not tested	Black	0.1	Consumption					6	8
			Discharge					0	0
Test data lacking	Black	0	Consumption	40	50	46	74	84	27
			Discharge	1	4	5	0	0	1

DISCHARGE OF CONTAMINANTS IN CHEMICALS
(TONNES)

Substance	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Arsenic	0.19	0.20	0.15	0.18	0.51	0.48	0.23	0.21	0.28	0.24
Lead	1.51	2.52	1.47	1.48	3.51	3.86	2.80	2.44	3.29	2.78
Cadmium	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.02	0.03	0.08
Copper	2.22	3.88	3.13	1.67	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chrome	0.55	0.81	0.73	0.77	0.88	1.01	0.85	0.61	0.59	0.39
Mercury	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Organohalogens	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00

ACUTE DISCHARGES TO THE SEA

Discharge type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
CHEMICALS										
Number, volume < 0.05 cu.m	37	59	64	58	60	65	134	82	83	57
Number, volume 0.05-1 cu.m	69	61	62	65	57	62	68	49	55	54
Number, volume > 1 cu.m	30	42	32	28	39	31	36	42	25	29
Volume < 0.05 cu.m (cu.m)	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.6	0.9	0.5
Volume 0.05-1 cu.m (cu.m)	19.6	22.9	20.0	24.5	16.5	17.9	21.2	15.6	17.9	15.5
Volume > 1 cu.m (cu.m)	347.0	13 028.6	6 244.9	175.6	388.3	1 267.2	736.8	1 562.0	313.5	898.7
Total number	136	162	158	151	156	158	238	173	163	140
Total volume (cu.m)	366.9	13 052.1	6 265.5	200.7	405.5	1 285.7	759.2	1 578.2	332.3	914.6
OIL										
Number, volume < 0.05 cu.m	130	106	109	102	103	94	36	24	30	28
Number, volume 0.05-1 cu.m	34	37	24	29	24	19	15	17	6	15
Number, volume > 1 cu.m	9	4	7	2	4	6	8	6	3	3
Volume < 0.05 cu.m (cu.m)	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Volume 0.05-1 cu.m (cu.m)	7.9	9.3	4.9	8.8	6.5	5.6	4.3	6.0	1.4	5.0
Volume > 1 cu.m (cu.m)	185.8	104.0	105.0	15.0	9.3	40.8	157.7	33.8	15.1	7.1
Total number	173	147	140	133	131	119	59	47	39	46
Total volume (cu.m)	194.7	113.9	110.5	24.3	16.5	47.1	162.3	40.0	16.7	12.2

Year	Emissions CO ₂ (tonnes)	Emissions NO _x (tonnes)	Emissions CH ₄ (tonnes)	Emissions nmVOC (tonnes)	Emissions SO _x (tonnes)	Emissions PCB (g)	Emissions PAH (g)	Emissions dioxins (mg)	Consumed fuel gas (scm)	Consumed diesel oil (tonnes)	Consumed oil (tonnes)	Discharges to the sea, fall-out from well tests (tonnes)
2008	13 776 426	50 870	30 923	50 444	526	1.3	47	61	5 361 668 937	279 529	7 517	1.4
2009	12 444 220	49 804	29 627	45 503	473	1.8	62	80	4 824 405 725	312 627	6 920	1.0
2010	12 581 242	50 048	28 966	38 201	557	1.7	94	78	4 800 873 166	316 645	25 039	2.8
2011	12 283 631	51 475	28 937	31 068	899	1.7	1 593	79	4 725 836 624	377 017	10 105	3.4
2012	12 448 717	50 648	25 658	33 036	825	2.3	168	84	4 797 865 506	394 669	10 891	3.4
2013	12 722 253	52 057	26 688	35 253	921	0.9	47	40	4 702 505 527	436 831	4 827	1.4
2014	13 096 391	52 375	31 601	49 755	868	2.4	132	110	5 031 178 493	424 027	11 313	5.5
2015	13 484 751	46 789	29 050	47 344	736	1.1	58	49	5 291 070 354	356 844	4 854	2.4
2016	13 348 063	44 719	19 471	42 503	584	0.9	49	32	5 281 158 770	335 339	4 081	2.0
2017	13 190 854	42 900	16 372	36 543	516	1.4	78	66	5 233 277 326	285 885	6 480	2.5

Source	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
OTHER SOURCES										
Emissions nmVOC	809	685	1 363	1 137	49	24	32	36	6	0,5
Emissions CH ₄	581	537	1 635	2 559	185	90	122	134	10	0,5
Emissions SO _x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0,1
Emissions NO _x	0	151	63	15	0	2	2	1	2	5,9
Emissions CO ₂	106 978	91 028	113 691	100 019	62 058	35 031	44 910	42 228	12 539	7 412
WELL WORKOVERS										
Emissions nmVOC									5	11
Emissions CH ₄									2	3
Emissions SO _x									0	0
Emissions NO _x									85	177
Emissions CO ₂									29 084	61 259
WELL TESTING										
Emissions nmVOC	13	20	85	30	25	18	38	16	10	11
Emissions CH ₄	1	3	8	3	9	0	5	0	1	0
Emissions SO _x	4	12	47	60	13	21	19	5	0	16
Emissions NO _x	69	160	470	168	146	32	98	40	50	18
Emissions CO ₂	23 197	46 011	152 940	55 619	59 745	18 481	52 586	20 027	17 478	11 942
FLARING										
Emissions nmVOC	236	92	73	76	75	126	75	23	55	133
Emissions CH ₄	827	321	263	278	267	264	238	90	200	325
Emissions SO _x	3	3	3	224	215	200	201	172	169	124
Emissions NO _x	979	607	606	589	556	650	553	574	572	431
Emissions CO ₂	2 514 504	1 438 349	1 379 989	1 319 289	1 199 815	1 471 010	1 217 906	1 306 594	1 278 434	994 659
BOILERS										
Emissions nmVOC	11	17	21	37	33	21	26	38	36	23
Emissions CH ₄	79	22	37	32	31	30	19	59	48	18
Emissions SO _x	10	26	12	23	27	16	26	20	14	9
Emissions NO _x	250	78	95	194	155	170	176	206	169	118
Emissions CO ₂	196 580	152 171	156 106	152 706	242 413	235 646	235 658	230 476	218 121	201 634
ENGINES										
Emissions nmVOC	1 072	1 217	1 283	1 554	1 502	1 713	1 721	1 415	1 318	1 187
Emissions CH ₄	30	19	16	14	15	16	15	18	6	0
Emissions SO _x	402	320	387	488	415	494	486	411	287	259
Emissions NO _x	14 982	16 302	16 822	19 980	19 703	21 546	21 065	14 419	13 240	12 064
Emissions CO ₂	778 988	823 882	856 490	1 025 526	998 860	1 132 633	1 138 908	955 720	853 505	753 240
TURBINES										
Emissions nmVOC	898	883	890	867	883	864	933	990	982	1 013
Emissions CH ₄	3 418	3 354	3 692	3 563	3 653	3 538	3 874	4 118	3 744	3 866
Emissions SO _x	106	112	108	105	156	190	136	129	114	107
Emissions NO _x	34 590	32 506	31 993	30 528	30 088	29 658	30 480	31 549	30 601	30 085
Emissions CO ₂	10 156 180	9 892 780	9 922 026	9 630 473	9 885 826	9 829 452	10 406 423	10 929 706	10 938 903	11 160 707

TABLE

22 EMISSIONS OF CH₄ AND nmVOC FROM FUGITIVE SOURCES AND COLD VENTING (TONNES)

Year	nmVOC emissions	CH ₄ emissions
2008	9 114	19 023
2009	9 161	18 483
2010	7 186	18 068
2011	8 254	19 181
2012	10 083	18 267
2013	9 184	19 854
2014	13 553	24 922
2015	13 354	22 475
2016	10 224	13 137
2017	9 176	9 838

TABLE

23 COMBUSTED HYDROCARBONS IN WELL TESTS

Year	Combusted diesel (tonnes)	Combusted gas (cu.m)	Combusted oil (tonnes)
2008	0	4 609 552	3 864
2009	14	11 509 318	6 302
2010	48	31 426 218	24 989
2011	88	11 266 462	8 555
2012	0	8 560 987	10 891
2013	27	1 173 525	4 827
2014	21	4 804 194	11 007
2015	28	1 796 427	4 854
2016	15	3 313 607	2 694
2017	28	435 717	3 402

TABLES

TABLE

24 EMISSIONS OF CH₄ AND nmVOC FROM STORAGE AND LOADING (TONNES)

Type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
STORAGE										
Emissions nmVOC	3 578	6 397	4 655	4 041	2 978	7 160	5 170	3 724	3 244	2 706
Emissions CH ₄	332	998	1 107	596	337	1 114	703	355	321	352
LOADING										
Emissions nmVOC	34 714	27 032	22 646	15 072	17 409	16 144	28 205	27 747	26 623	21 985
Emissions CH ₄	6 631	5 890	4 141	2 711	2 894	1 783	1 703	1 801	2 002	1 879

SEPARATED WASTE BY SOURCE TRANSPORTED TO LAND
(TONNES)

Type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Other	6 094	951	4 747	5 425	7 043	5 700	2 279	2 570	2 766	1 701
Blasting sand	3	0	1	3	0	0	161	482	296	537
EE waste	631	530	590	773	692	775	986	725	645	478
Glass	86	98	94	115	115	104	114	116	118	97
Food-contaminated waste	2 042	2 198	2 622	2 781	3 390	3 694	3 667	3 550	3 085	2 685
Metals	8 856	8 945	9 059	9 432	11 180	11 538	12 637	12 680	10 480	9 460
Paper	810	828	926	980	1 100	1 005	1 119	1 127	983	906
Cardboard (brown paper)	442	414	440	483	457	465	326	215	127	130
Plastic	427	490	597	635	676	736	748	671	600	658
Residual waste	3 211	3 079	3 718	3 750	2 586	2 503	2 183	2 176	2 155	2 701
Wood	1 916	1 855	2 385	2 604	2 338	2 441	2 461	2 432	2 044	1 809
Wet organic waste	143	120	107	89	115	270	361	213	214	263

HAZARDOUS WASTE TRANSPORTED TO LAND
(TONNES)

Norog category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Other waste	2	0	5	7	12	28	90	95	107	122
Batteries	99	79	73	143	111	140	200	126	109	116
Blasting sand	148	238	146	454	479	465	684	710	742	421
Drilling-related waste	143 326	148 719	257 968	303 500	311 541	386 309	360 142	394 412	461 522	294 063
Well-related waste						14 626	7 781	6 747	3 154	2 696
Spent catalysts				2				10		
Chemicals	73	101	89	162	152	1 003	3 086	2 199	1 671	3 599
Fluorescent tubes	26	23	26	28	27	35	33	29	33	33
Solvents	245	89	39	777	273	457	699	307	9 382	803
Paint, all types					0	80	108	236	197	190
Oily waste	2 544	2 447	2 031	6 810	2 288	6 438	8 499	8 855	18 610	11 964
Process-related waste						72	517	558	417	479
Cement							11	22	32	38
Spray cans	18	18	19	20	20	22	25	19	18	16
Tank washing waste	395	1 834	378	3 870	2 314	37 598	41 747	35 549	32 241	31 113

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TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CH₄	Methane
CO₂	Carbon dioxide
GHG	Greenhouse gas
NGL	Natural gas liquids
nmVOC	Non-methane volatile organic compounds
NO_x	Nitrogen oxides
SO_x	Sulphur oxides
SO₂	Sulphur dioxide
b/d	Barrels per day
oe	Oil equivalent
scm	Standard cubic metres
BAT	Best available techniques
EEH	Epim Environment Hub
ETS	EU emission trading system
EIF	Environmental impact factor
HSE	Health, safety and the environment

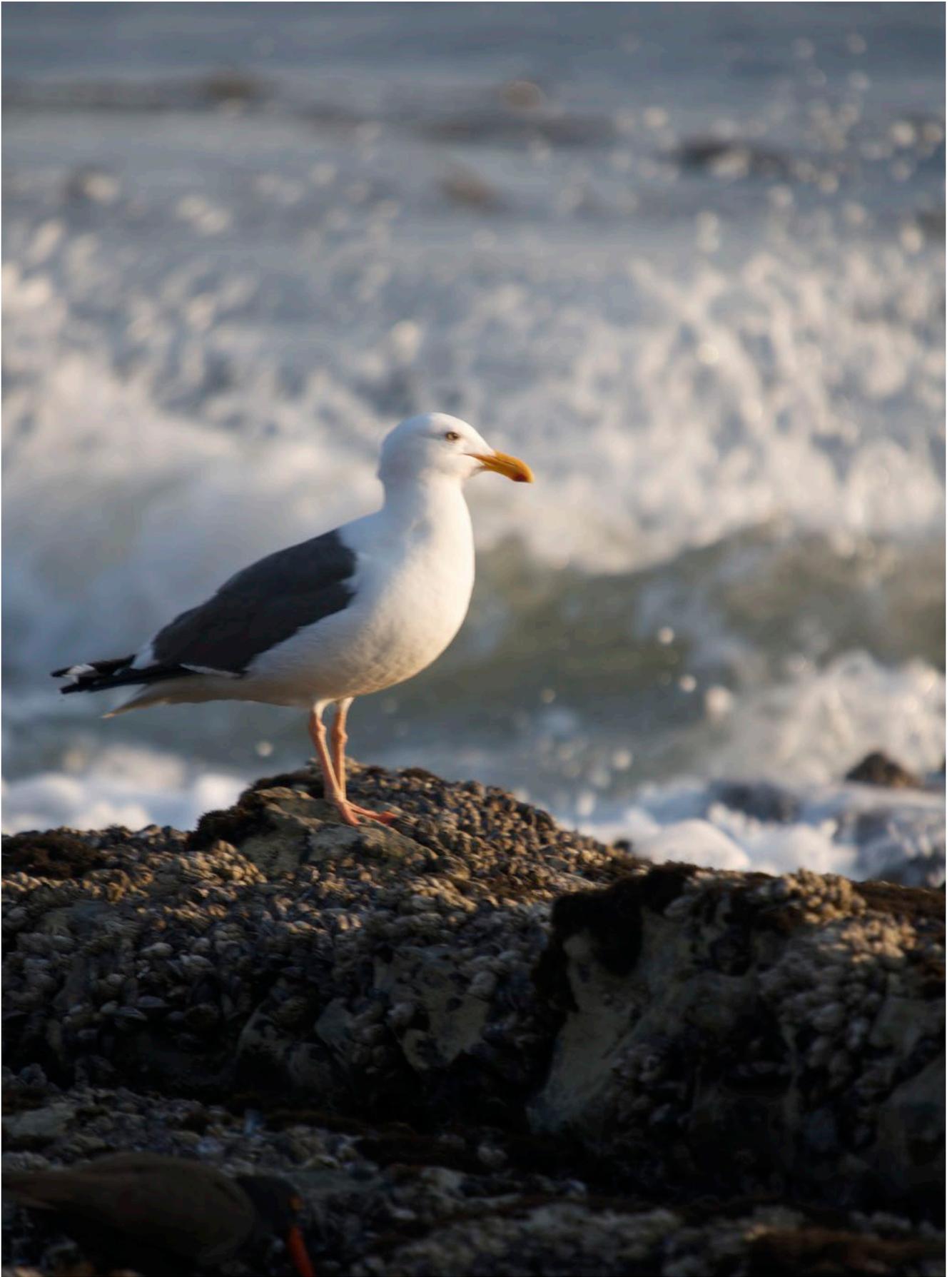
IOGP	International Association of Oil & Gas Producers
NCS	Norwegian continental shelf
NEA	Norwegian Environment Agency
NPD	Norwegian Petroleum Directorate
SSB	Statistics Norway

Ospar
Oslo-Paris convention for the protection of the marine environment of the north-east Atlantic. Fifteen countries with coasts on or rivers emptying into these waters are signatories.

Plonor
“Pose little or no risk to the marine environment”, a list from Ospar of chemical compounds considered to have little or no impact on the marine environment if discharged.

Conversion factors
based on the energy content in hydrocarbons. Calculated in accordance with definitions from the NPD:

Oil 1 cu.m = 1 scm oe
Oil 1 barrel = 0.159 scm
Condensate 1 tonne = 1.3 scm oe
Gas 1 000 scm = 1 scm oe
NGL 1 tonne = 1.9 scm oe



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