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26 - 06 - 2012

## Faroe oil companies drilling on both sides of the border

The international oil industry is monitoring the Atlantic margin area very closely the area between Shetland and the Faroes these days, where two very exciting wells are being drilled. One is in UK territory and the other is in Faroe territory. What is quite special about these two wells is that there is Faroe participation in both wells. At the same time as Statoil is the operator for the Brugdan 2 exploration well drilling in Faroe territory, BP is drilling a deep water well just east of the UK/Faroe border. This well, the North Uist prospect, is the first well to be drilled by this British oil company since the Macondo disaster in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. While the Cosl Pioneer has been drilling for Statoil for about five days, the Stena Carron drilling vessel has been drilling for BP for 2-3 months. Although the wells being drilled are in different geographical locations, it is quite clear that they will provide a multitude of new information on this large vast area. Unfortunately the quality of the map accompanying the original article is so poor it cannot be reproduced for this article. It is very interesting to note the interest, which two of the world's largest oil companies, BP and ExxonMobil, are taking in the Atlantic Margin area, or for the subsoil surrounding us in the Faroes. BP is the operator for several producing oilfields west of Shetland together with another oil giant, Shell. That the company is now drilling a new exploration well closer than ever to the UK/Faroe border, at the same time as it is investing billions in the development of existing oilfields, tells its own story and that is that the area west of Shetland has been reckoned as an area, which is still held in very high esteem. If we look at the Faroe drilling operation, where Statoil together with ExxonMobil and Atlantic Petroleum are prepared to invest one billion, it tells us that there has to be a huge interest for these two wells. It is also very interesting to note that both the Faroe oil companies