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Vágur on Suðuroy wishes to become supply base

When the authorities in the late 90-ies began preparing for a first exploration bidding round, there was a huge interest all over the islands to harbour a supply base for the oil industry. The choice of the oil industry fell upon the village of Rúnavík on the island of Eysturoy and it has remained there ever since and continues to do so. The village of Vágur on the island of Suðuroy now intends to offer itself as a future location for a supply base. The expectations of a commercial oil discovery will place it closest to the island of Suðuroy and this has prompted the Town Council at Vágur to raise the issue of a future oil supply base once again. According to Sosialurin the Town Council for Vágur passed a motion last Monday evening to pursue the issue of creating a supply base in the village. The Town Council will begin by compiling informative information on Vágur and the options of locating a future oil supply base there. The intention is to distribute this information to all the oil companies holding a valid exploration license for Faroe waters, to make sure they are perfectly aware of the possibilities and options at Vágur, in the event a commercial discovery should be made. According to the article in Sosialurin the Town Council members believe that all oil industry associated matters within the 200 mile limit is conducted just south of the island of Suðuroy and therefore Vágur is the nearest port. This will be pointed out, and companies willing to use Vágur will save on their expenditures and save time. Sailing time is shorter and fuel can therefore be saved, this also applies to helicopter services. There are certain advantages to be gained by using Vágur, compared to Rúnavík or any other location further to the north. The Chairman for the Harbour Committee, Mr Poul Magnussen says that Vágur can offer a very good harbour with many services. The port is a deep water port and has a considerable levelled upland

area available. Another council member, Mr Dánjal Bjarkhamar told Sosialurin that the expectations of making a discovery are quite high and therefore it is of decisive importance that Vágur and the island of Suðuroy in general draw attention to themselves. He adds that if we are to discuss a future for the island of Suðuroy an oil industry supply base could represent a saviour for the island. The fishing industry as it now stands presents little hope and therefore it is so very important to offer Vágur as a location for a future supply base.