



Transfer of Krafla operatorship from Equinor to Aker BP

Equinor and Aker BP have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for transfer of the Krafla operatorship from Equinor to Aker BP, making Aker BP the operator of all discoveries in the NOAKA area - Krafla, Fulla and North of Alvheim.

Equinor and Aker BP are operators of one field development project each in the area and have agreed that one operator will be the best solution for further development of the area. Equinor is presently the operator of Krafla in the north and Aker BP is the operator of NOA Fulla in the south. One operator will have a good basis for efficient project execution and for safe and efficient operation of the fields, creating stronger synergies between the two developments and fewer interfaces.

"The current agreement is the result of an excellent collaboration during the past years, built on mutual trust and a common ambition of achieving lasting improvements and efficient operation on the Norwegian continental shelf (NCS). The best solution for the future is that Aker BP takes over the operatorship for project execution and operation of Krafla, based on the concept developed by Equinor," says Geir Tungesvik, Equinor's executive vice president for Projects, Drilling & Procurement.

Moving forward, Equinor will ensure transfer of expertise and experience relating to the Krafla concept to Aker BP and the collaboration will continue in the development phase.

"Aker BP and Equinor have had an excellent collaboration during the past years on the NOAKA development. We are proud of being able to take over the Krafla operatorship, to ensure efficient project execution and operation of the whole area on behalf of the licences," says Karl Johnny Hersvik, chief executive officer of Aker BP.

The MoU states that the licence owners of the relevant licences will apply to the ministry for change of operator. A transfer of operatorship will be carried out when the investment decision has been approved by the licence and the plan for development and operation (PDO) has been submitted to the authorities.

Equinor will still be a major licence partner in the area and will retain its existing share of 50 per cent in Krafla and 40 per cent in the Fulla licence. The companies will jointly submit the PDOs for NOA Fulla and Krafla as planned by the end of the year.

With investments in the order of USD 10 billion the area development is one of the next big NCS developments. A high percentage of the contracts will be awarded to Norwegian suppliers, creating strong ripple effects throughout the country.

Facts on NOAKA

- The NOAKA area is between Oseberg and Alvheim in the North Sea.
- The area consists of the Krafla, Fulla and north of Alvheim discoveries.
- Equinor is the operator of Krafla in the north, Aker BP for NOA Fulla in the south. LOTOS Exploration and Production is also a licence partner in the area.
- The distribution of shares in the area is as follows:
 - Krafla: Equinor 50 %, Aker BP 50 %
 - Fulla: Aker BP 47,7 %, Equinor 40 %, LOTOS 12,3 %
 - NOA: Aker BP 87,7 %, LOTOS 12,3 %

- Total recoverable resources in the NOAKA area are estimated at around 600 million barrels of oil equivalent. Preliminary calculation of planned investments is USD 10 billion.
- Aker BP and Equinor have a common ambition of developing the NOAKA area with low emissions and a high degree of digital and future-oriented solutions, both in the project and operations phases.
- The concept covers a production, drilling and living quarter platform on NOA that periodically will have little or no staff. The Frøy field is being redeveloped with a normally unmanned wellhead platform to be tied back to NOA. An unmanned production platform on Krafla will be tied back to NOA for processing of oil and produced water.
- The concept also covers an extensive development on the seabed, including a total of nine subsea templates in the area.
- Plans call for an area development with power supply from shore.
- Production start is scheduled for 2027.

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About Aker BP:

Aker BP is an independent E&P company with exploration, development and production activities on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. Aker BP is the operator of Alvheim, Ivar Aasen, Skarv, Valhall, Hod, Ula and Tambar. The company is also a partner in the Johan Sverdrup field. Aker BP is headquartered at Fornebu, Norway, and is listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange under the ticker 'AKRBP'. More about Aker BP at www.akerbp.com.