



**Det Kongelige Olje og Energidepartement**  
Postboks 8148 Dep  
0033 OSLO

Sandnes, 02.05.2017

Ref.: PGN/689/CD

**SUBJECT: 24th Licencing Round – Hearing – Proposed blocks for announcement**

Dear Sir,

Reference is made to invitation from the Ministry dated 13.03.2017 to give comments to the proposed blocks for announcement in the 24<sup>th</sup> licencing round.

PGNiG Upstream Norway AS (PGNiG UN) considers the numbered licensing rounds as an important element of the Norwegian Continental Shelf licensing system creating a business environment characterized by predictability which encourages continuous development of skills, database and knowledge in the company. The proposed blocks for announcement represent a logical continuation of past licensing and exploration efforts, and contribute significantly to the attractiveness of the Norwegian Continental Shelf.

PGNiG has a long term strategy to secure gas supply to Poland via LNG shipments and pipeline connection. The proposed blocks provide a good opportunity to explore for gas, as well as oil.

The extensions proposed in the Barents Sea are well placed with respect to the ongoing 2017 exploration drilling campaign, where new knowledge can be valuable for defining future exploration potential. This an area where PGNiG UN's Tromsø office is actively exploring. In these areas the seismic coverage is already surprising good for a frontier area, and knowledge within the industry about the sub-surface is extensive and increasing all the time.

Barents Sea blocks that can be considered to represent new or different challenges related to operational standards or preparedness, will be treated in line with requirements stipulated by the authorities and supplemented by PGNiG UN's membership in the BaSEC project. If PGNiG UN are awarded blocks in the vicinity of Bjørnøya, the company will take all necessary steps to keep environmental risks at acceptable levels, especially in relation to migrating seabirds.

PGNiG UN supports all the proposed blocks to be included in the 24th Licensing Round.



Sincerely,  
For PGNiG Upstream Norway AS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marek Woszczyk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Marek Woszczyk  
General Manager