

Det Kongelig olje –og energidepartement Postboks 8148 Dep 0033 Oslo Att.: Bjørnar Gilje/Anbjørn Norenes

Stavanger, 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

Your ref:

Our ref: JRP

## TFO 2015 - Høring - TFO-området og forslag til utvidelse

We refer to your letter of 20<sup>th</sup> January regarding potential expansion of the areas included in the process for Awards in Pre-defined Areas.

The results of exploration drilling since the establishment of the annual APA process have demonstrated the importance of this regular access to opportunities in mature areas of the NCS. Significant value has been created for Norway. It is important for the industry to have a predictable and transparent process of acreage access.

Explora Petroleum fully supports the process of annually reviewing the areas to be included in the APA process, and we are positive to the specific proposals to include the blocks mentioned in your letter of 20<sup>th</sup> January in the APA process for 2015.

Yours sincerely for Explora Petroleum AS

John Rae Pickard Chief Executive Officer