



**KUFPEC NORWAY AS**

A Subsidiary of Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Co. K.S.C.

Olje og Energidepartementet  
v/Olje- og gassavdelingen  
Postboks 8148 Dep  
0033 Oslo  
[postmottak@oed.dep.no](mailto:postmottak@oed.dep.no)

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## **RESPONSE TO HEARING – THE APA2015 AREA AND PROPOSAL OF EXTENSION**

With reference to the letter from the Ministry of Oil and Energy, dated 20.01.2015 and reference number 14/2181, with an invitation to respond to the proposal for APA2015, including extension of the acreage.

Below are KUFPEC Norway AS' (KNAS) comments to the proposal.

As a relative new company on the Norwegian Continental Shelf, and with a long term plan and ambition to grow, it is very important that there is a continuous process of opening new acreage through the established licensing round system.

KNAS is satisfied with the system of Awards in Predefined Areas, where it for APA2015 is proposed extensions of the acreage in the Norwegian Sea and the Barents Sea. KNAS supports the proposal of extension, but recommends that it is considered to include even more blocks, especially in the Barents Sea.

Especially the blocks north towards 73 degree N, and between meridian 19 and 29 degrees E, could be considered included in APA2015. This area has been explored over several years already, and has good data coverage. In this respect, it is natural to consider this as part of the APA-acreage.

By including these areas, it is possible to accelerate the activity, which again can contribute to the discovery of new resources and eventually cost-sharing for any infrastructure required in the area.

Very best regards

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**Nobuo Nishikiori**  
**Country Manager**  
**KUFPEC Norway AS**

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Mailing address  
P.O.Box 207  
N-4001 Stavanger  
Norway

Visiting address:  
Ankerbygget  
Kongsgaardbakken 1  
Stavanger

Phone: +47 51 21 22 20  
Fax : +47 51 21 22 21  
E-mail: [post.norway@KUFPEC.com](mailto:post.norway@KUFPEC.com)  
Reg.no.: NO 946 680 591 VAT