

Uulex



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Greenland Oil Exploration Newsletter

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The pre-licensing round in the Greenland Sea is yet another success for the Greenlandic licensing policy. Currently, the Bureau of Minerals and Petroleum is evaluating applications for exploration and exploitation licenses in the Greenland Sea offshore Northeast Greenland, which were submitted during the pre-licensing round. Following the pre-round is an ordinary licensing round where 15 license blocks in the Greenland Sea are on offer. The blocks vary in size from 1752km² to 3803km². Deadline for submitting an application is October 15th 2013.

Again in 2013 a varied amount of exploration activities have been planned, such as 2D seismic and seabed sampling offshore Southwest and Southeast Greenland, 2D seismic offshore Northeast Greenland and site survey in the Baffin Bay as a preparation for future exploration drilling.

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Front page picture: View towards the South side of the Nuussuaq peninsula, West Greenland with exposures of Cretaceous and Paleocene sedimentary rocks overlain by plateau basalts. Photo: Signe Ulfeldt Hede.

Upcoming ordinary licensing round in the Greenland Sea – 15 blocks available

On December 1st 2011 the Bureau of Minerals and Petroleum announced the opening of the Greenland Sea area licensing round following the Letter of Invitation from April 2011.

The Greenland Sea licensing round consists of two successive rounds. The first round, a pre-round for the KANUMAS consortium members, had its application deadline on December 15th 2012. Eleven blocks were up for bidding in this round. The BMP received applications from 3 bidding groups and a comprehensive assessment and negotiation process is currently taking place.

The 15 license blocks illustrated in Figure 1 are up for bidding in the ordinary licensing round. The blocks range in size from 1752km² to 3803km².

The application deadline for the ordinary licensing round is **October 15th 2013**.

The ordinary licensing round in brief – who can apply?

The ordinary licensing round is open to all interested parties, including non-KANUMAS consortium members. Any company and group of companies may participate without limitations in the ordinary round. A company or group of companies applying for an exploration and exploitation license in the Greenland Sea area shall, however, be or include a pre-qualified operator.

Pre-qualification

A company aiming to be the operator under a license applied for in the Greenland Sea area should have submitted a pre-qualification application no later than **July 1st 2013**.

However, if an operator had already been pre-qualified for the Greenland Sea area during the pre-licensing round, the operator do not need to pre-qualify again for the ordinary licensing round. In this case the operator would have been asked to submit updated information included in the application.

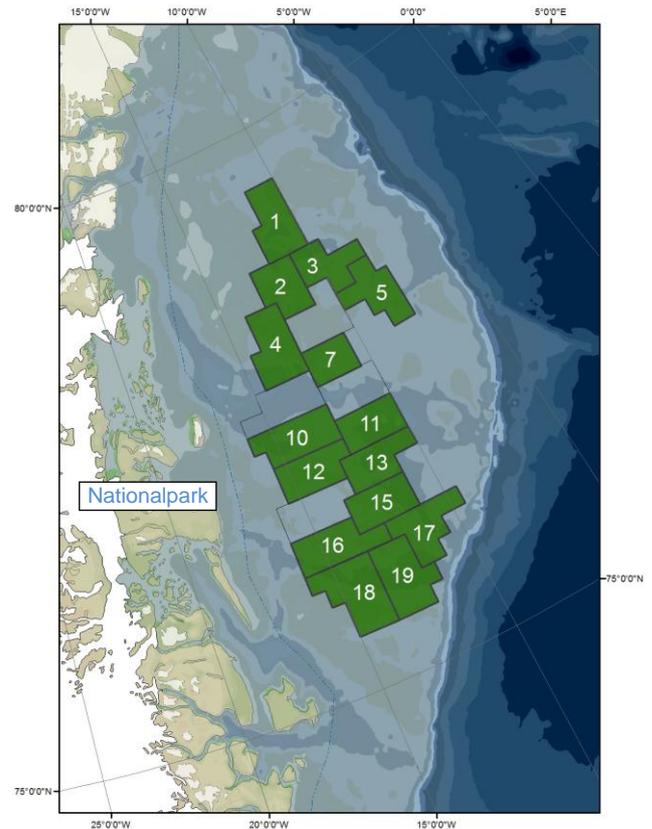


Fig. 1. The 15 license blocks offered in the Greenland Sea ordinary licensing round.

Pre-qualification is a non-binding registration and assessment covering the entire licensing area. An application for pre-qualification does not include an obligation to forward a license application afterwards in the ordinary licensing round.

The purpose of pre-qualifying operators is to document at an early stage:

- That a subsequent operator can carry out activities in accordance with good international practice, as established for hydrocarbon activities carried out under similar conditions,
- That the HSE-organization of the operator is in line with recognized international standards, and
- That the collective license group has the necessary financial capability to carry out exploration and exploitation in the license block(s) applied for.

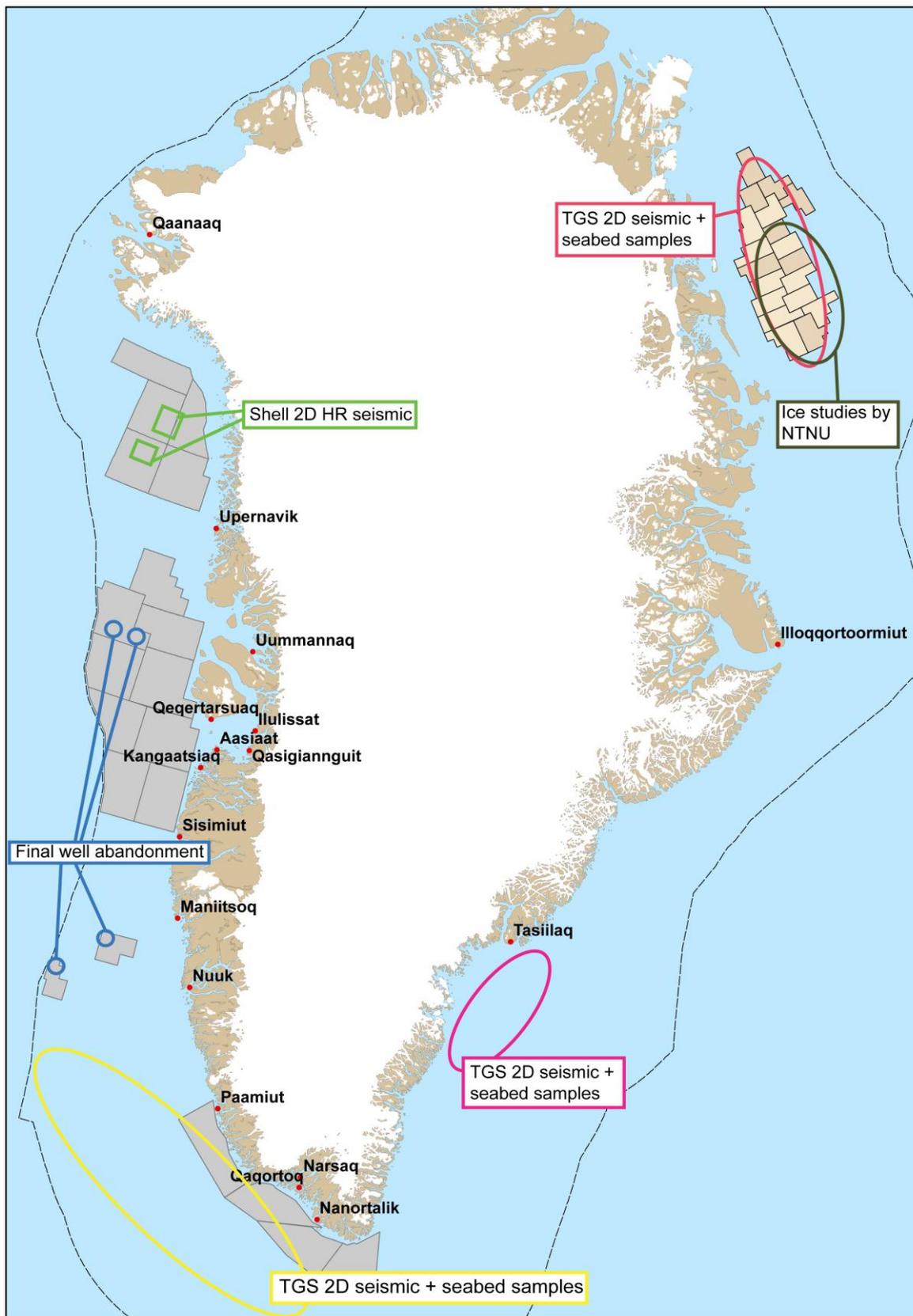


Fig. 2. Exploration activities planned for 2013. Active exclusive hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation licenses are shown as well.

Exploration activities 2013

This year, exploration activities are planned for offshore Northeast Greenland, Southwest Greenland and in the Baffin Bay area. Currently, EIA's concerning these activities are in the middle of a hearing process and none of the activities have yet been approved by the Greenland Government.

Site survey in Baffin Bay

Shell plans to undertake up to 12 site surveys during the summer season of 2013 as preparation for future exploration drilling and shallow coring in license blocks 5 and 8 in Baffin Bay. The 2013 site survey includes:

- 2DHR (High Resolution) at up to 12 survey sites. The area to be covered by 2DHR seismic activities is up to 80km².
- EBS (Environmental Baseline Survey).
- Service of metocean buoys deployed in 2011 and serviced in 2012.
- Deployment and recovery of Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) buoys.

The site survey is proposed to be undertaken in the period between July 15th and October 15th 2013.

2D marine seismic survey and seabed sampling offshore Northeast Greenland

TGS-NOPEC plans to undertake a 2D seismic survey and seabed sampling in the western Greenland Sea off Northeast Greenland between August 15th and October 15th. Up to 5000km of lines will be surveyed. The seabed survey will collect up to 100 gravity cores and 20 dredge samples.

2D marine seismic and seabed sampling offshore Southwest Greenland

TGS-NOPEC plans to undertake a 2D seismic survey and seabed sampling in the sea off Southwest Greenland between July and October 15th. Up to 5000km of lines will be surveyed.

The seabed survey will collect up to 100 gravity cores and 20 dredge samples.

2D marine seismic and seabed sampling offshore Southeast Greenland

TGS-NOPEC plans to undertake a 2D seismic survey in the western Greenland Sea off Southeast Greenland between July and October 15th 2013. Up to 5000km will be surveyed.

The seabed survey will collect up to 100 gravity cores and 20 dredge samples.

The views, opinions and evaluations taken or quoted from external sources are not necessarily those of the publisher (Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources).

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