## Norskolje&gass

P&A and the environment



### The whole P&A picture

Environmental risk assessment and handling of old drilling fluids from P&A-operations.... as governed by the discharge permit



- The closer to the source the P&A fluids are handled the less;
- chemicals you use
- the less waste you generate
- the less energy you consume
- More and more cleaning technologies are available offshore, no longer only available onshore
- Different exposure scenario and requirements offshore vs. onshore
- > Hence, we need to take the whole value chain into consideration......



## Chemical composition

- The drilling fluids composition reflects functional requirements, hence you can't drop certain types of chemicals
- There has been some, but few, evolvement of the chemicals used within some of the functional groups of chemicals in the drilling fluid :
  - e.g. base fluid of oil based mud
- The inherit environmental risk of the chemicals used in the mud has changed little over time, however the problem today is chemicals (of water-based) classified as red and black and not allowed discharged due to:
  - First and foremost a lack of documentation and eco-test results of the chemicals in the old drilling fluids circulated out of the well
  - In some minority of cases the old drilling fluid is Performatrol (microplastic) or contain other problematic polymers

Water-based drilling fluid

		HOCN	Euro eti ere	~
Function	Chemical	F	Function	
Basefluid	Water	Green	Basellulu	1
Viscosifier	Polymer (xanthan		Viscosifier	(
	gum	Cusan	Fluid-stab.	]
	guilij	Green	Filter-loss	(
pH reg.	Soda Ash	Green	reg.	1
Filter loss	Polymer			]
reg.	(starch)	Green	Emulsion	]
Shale stab.	KCl salt		stab.	
		Green	Emulsified	(
Shale stab.	glycol	Yellow	water solutn	
Weight	Barite		Weight	]
material		Green	material	
LCM	Graphite /CaCO3	Green	LCM	(

#### **Oil-based drilling fluid**

unction	Chemical	HOCNF
asefluid	Mineral / parafin oil	Yellow
iscosifier	Organoclay	Yellow/Red
luid-stab.	Emulsifier	Yellow
ilter-loss eg.	Organophilic matr./ Polymer-bas.	Yellow/Red
mulsion tab.	Lime	Green
mulsified vater solutn	CaCl2 brine	Green
Veight naterial	Barite	Green
СМ	Graphite/ CaCO3	Green

Different fields – Different history– Different cases



### **Chemical classification**

When chemicals of the old drilling fluid don't have a valid HOCNF available in NEMS, the chemicals are classified as follow:

- 1. The chemical is classified correctly using the OSPAR 2015 standard
- 2. Technical documentation and SDS is also used to estimate the OSPAR environmental class
- 3. Drilling fluid contractor's senior personnel are contacted for assistance in estimating the OSPAR environmental class
- 4. CAS number or chemical description of comparable chemical products are used as sources of chemical information of the products
- 5. The water content of the product is estimated to decrease the uncertainty in chemical environmental classification
- 6. Every chemical is classified environmentally black until documentation proves otherwise



# Controlled discharge after setting P&A plug

Ekofisk: Excess cmt and cmt interface routed to sea after setting cross sectional P&A plug

- Background:
  - In our drilling programs we typically set required cmt x 3 (or more). We avoid returns to the degree possible by hiding interface mix behind pipe
  - COP use the P/W/C technique for P&A
  - We have maximized cmt volume (100 bbl) which gives us required cmt x 2,85 and we have optimized parameters for cmt displacement.
  - Optimized parameters + maximized volume + optimized slurry = maximized QUALITY
  - The maximized QUALITY has a side effect: 65 bbl cmt returns + interphase
- Result:
  - Have selected to maximize quality
  - Have selected to controlled discharge excess cmt and cmt/mud interface



# Routing to sea as a controlled event in a emergency situation

Heidrun, 2011: The first discharge of old drilling fluid to sea due to toxic  $H_2S$  gas values above threshold values in AML

- Background:
  - The plan was to send the old drilling fluid onshore as waste as it contained chemicals classified environmentally as red and black
  - When the old drilling fluid contained  $H_2S$  values above threshold values in AML, the fluid was routed to sea as an emergency preparedness in order to protect personnel

Then...

- Later, whenever the risk of having to discharge old drilling fluids due to the presence of toxic gas was identified, the discharge was applied for prior to each single P&A operation as a precaution
- Heidrun received restrictions: No discharge of red and black chemicals was permitted in the period of 15th March 1st July due to fish larvae present in the area
- Result:
  - By implementing new and improved operational routines the need for discharging red and black chemicals to the sea was eliminated



# Re-use and discharge of old drilling fluids

Troll: Old drilling fluids, re-use of slots and drilling of horizontal, multi-lateral wells (side steps)

- Background:
  - 2011: Large volumes of old drilling fluids circulated out from the wells during P&Aoperations were frequently sent ashore as they contained chemicals environmentally classified as red chemicals and the permit did not allow discharge of these volumes to sea.
  - Simultaneously, large volumes of killing fluids/new chemicals were bought in and used in the P&A operations
- Result:
  - Applied and got discharge permit to re-use old drilling fluids and slop as kill fluids to the P&A-operations on Troll and to discharge until 80 kg chemicals environmentally classified as red chemicals annually
  - 2015: The re-use of old drilling fluids and slop as kill fluids have reduced the use of new chemicals and the amount of waste generated with approx. 600 ton, while reducing the need for transporting waste onshore by 1200 tons.



## «From cradle to grave»

How changed conditions influence the design of fluids and the management throughout the field's life span

### Planning of a well and a field

- Location
  - > Formation; requirements to and selection of drilling fluids
  - > Choice of development solution; possibility of (cleaning), re-use, discharge, storage, injection and transport
  - > Biology; vulnerable resources present?

### **Drilling and field development**

- Extended lifespan? Different reservoir or depleted reservoir?
  - > Changes in reservoir and formation parameters
  - > Changed requirements to and selection of drilling fluids
  - > Changed possibility of (cleaning), re-use, discharge, storage, injection and transport

### Estimated P&A- Norwegian Continental Shelf: 2019 – 2025 October 2018



Company	Estimated	Estimated number	Estimated number of	Contact person
	number of P&A	of Slot Recovery	Sub Sea P&A	
	<b>2019 → 2025</b>	2019 <del>→</del> 2025	<b>2019 → 2025</b>	
AkerBP	14	30	2 subsea P&A	Egil Thorstensen
ConocoPhillips	+/- 50	+/-20		Ann Elin Mikalsen
Eni Norge	2	0	2 subsea P&A	Jan Terje Svendsen
Equinor	173	70/year		Steinar Strøm
Neptune Energy	0	1		Mehryar Nasseri
<b>Faroe Petroleum</b>	3-5	0	subsea P&A	Dan Sturdee
Lundin Norway	4	2	4 subsea P&A	Jakob Mo
Norske Shell	9	1	subsea P&A, LWI	Kjetil Skjeldestad
Repsol Norge	35	1		Øystein Østerhus
Total Norge	1-2	0	Subsea P&A	Johan Kverneland
Spirit Energy	0	0-1		Atle Knudsen
Wintershall	+/-6	+/-20		Mark van Aerssen
<b>Point Resources</b>	0	11	Subsea P&A	Sigve Krohn Næsheim

#### Key technical challenges:

Subsea P&A, Platform P&A, Dual casing strings across P&A zone, Slot recovery, Rigless P&A, Verification of cement / formation outside casing, Removal of tubing / casing, Challenge to set 50m plugs, Tubing access/collapse, verification methods, corroded tubulars, cross-department. Through tubing PWC, Logging through two strings, Deformed casing/tubing

#### **Technical needs**:

Dual string cross sectional plugging, Cutting/milling in large casing, Pull tubing, Logging challenges, PWC, Reliable and efficient barrier verification methods, Dual casing bond logging, Alternative plugging solutions, Rigless P&A