

Our date Our reference
2003-04-23 KVEA

Your date

1 of 1

Administrative officer
Kari Veastad, +47 51 99 96 79

Your reference



Statoil ASA

Securities and Exchange Commission
Attn.: Mr. Paul Dudek
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20549
USA



03022254

SUPPL

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Dear Sir,

STATOIL ASA - INFORMATION FURNISHED PURSUANT TO RULE 12g3-2(b) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 - EXEMPTION NUMBER 82-3444

Please find enclosed all information required by Rule 12g3-2(b) and issued by Statoil ASA during the period January 1 – March 31, 2003 (ref. Exemption Number 82-3444)

Yours faithfully,
Statoil ASA

Kari Veastad
Compliance Officer
kvea@statoil.com

PROCESSED

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THOMSON
FINANCIAL

Enclosure
(Press releases and report - Annual report 2002)

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(USD/boe,
last 12
months)

3.1 2.9 4% **3.1** 2.9 4%

* Solely for the convenience of the reader, financial data for the fourth quarter and the year 2002 have been translated into US dollars at the rate of NOK 6.94 to USD 1.00, the Federal Reserve noon buying rate in the City of New York on December 31, 2002. Financial data for the fourth quarter and the year 2001 has been translated into US dollars at the rate of NOK 8.97 to USD 1.00 the Federal Reserve noon buying rate of December 31, 2001.

Earnings per share for the fourth quarter, adjusted for special items, came to NOK 2.34 as against NOK 1.43 in the same period of 2001. For the year as a whole, earnings per share, adjusted for special items, was NOK 7.72 compared with NOK 7.32 in 2001.

A dividend of NOK 2.90 per share has been proposed for 2002, which represents a direct return of 5.4 per cent in relation to a share price of NOK 53.50 (on Tuesday 11 February 2003).

Net income for the fourth quarter was strengthened by comparison with the same period of 2001 through increased production, higher oil prices and currency gains. During the quarter, the LL652 field in Venezuela was written down by NOK 0.6 billion after tax.

The 2002 result also includes a one-off gain of NOK 0.7 billion after tax on the sale of the upstream business in Denmark. In addition, income for 2002 incorporates a significant increase in net financial items. This mainly reflects an unrealised currency gain on group debt. Tax costs for 2002 amounted to NOK 34.3 billion, which corresponds to a taxation rate of 66.9 per cent and is thereby rather lower than in 2001.

Statoil's oil and gas production in 2002 averaged 1 074 000 barrels of oil equivalent (boe) per day, which represents a seven per cent increase from the daily 2001 average of 1 007 000 boe. Oil and gas output in the fourth quarter averaged 1 170 000 boe, which again represents a seven per cent rise from the same period of the year before. The start-up of Girassol off Angola and Sincor in Venezuela meant that the group's international production rose by 28 per cent from 2001 to 2002. On the NCS, the further five per cent increase in output reflected good regularity and high gas sales. Production costs declined from NOK 26.4 per barrel in 2001 to NOK 24.2 per barrel in 2002, reflecting both reduced costs and increased volume.

Twenty-eight wildcat and appraisal wells were drilled in 2002, with discoveries being made in 21 of these. Finding and development costs showed positive progress, and are now USD 6.2 per barrel.

Statoil increased its reserve replacement rate to 98 per cent in 2002, which compares with 89 per cent the year before. Remaining proven reserves at 31 December 2002 totalled 4 267 million boe down from 4 277 million a year earlier. Over the past three years, the average reserve replacement rate has been 78 per cent.

Statoil became operator for all the fields in the Tampen area of the NCS on 1 January 2003, when it took over from Norsk Hydro on Visund, Snorre, Tordis and Vigdis. Sigyn came on stream in December 2002.

Snøhvit in the Barents Sea is under development, and Statoil has concluded an agreement with El Paso which secures access to the American gas market through Maryland's Cove Point terminal. The estimated cost of Snøhvit was raised by NOK 5.8 billion in the autumn of 2002, corresponding to a 15 per cent increase from the figure in the plan for development and operation. All of Statoil's other projects are within budget.

Two new international operatorships have been secured. The group gained a foothold in Iran with offshore responsibility for phases six-eight of the South Pars development, taking over in December 2002. In February 2003, Statoil obtained the operatorship for block 4 in Venezuela's Plataforma Deltana project.

The group's gas sales rose by 34 per cent from 14.7 billion standard cubic metres (scm) in 2001 to 19.6 billion in 2002. Statoil sold 6.2 billion scm in the fourth quarter as against 4.7 billion in the same period of the year before. These high sales figures reflect an increase in the portfolio of long-term contracts and the fact that customers took advantage of the flexibility built into their agreements. Statoil has resolved to expand annual capacity in the gas treatment complex at Kårstø north of Stavanger by 13.5 million scm per day to accommodate deliveries from Kristin and Mikkel, two of the group's projects on the NCS. The group made further advances in the UK gas market during 2002 by concluding a long-term sales contract with British Gas and by acquiring development rights for a natural gas store in eastern England.

Statoil has sold its wholly-owned shipping company Navion ASA to Teekay Shipping Corporation. The net sales price is about USD 800 million, and the transaction is due to be finalised in the

second quarter of 2003. Results for the downstream business weakened in 2002 by comparison with the year before, mainly as a result of narrower refining margins, lower shipping rates and a sharp strengthening of the NOK against the USD.

The number of recordable injuries per million working hours fell from 6.7 in 2001 to 6.0 in 2002, and serious incidents per million working hours also showed a decline.

"We have initiated extensive measures to improve safety," notes Mr Fjell.

Total emissions of carbon dioxide by the group were reduced from 9.2 million tonnes to 8.9 million, despite the record level of production. Statoil published its first sustainability report in 2002, outlining its targets for and work on health, safety, the environment, social responsibility and financial performance. The group was also included in the Dow Jones sustainability index during 2002.

Further information from

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Background

Statoil ASA is a major integrated oil and gas company, headquartered in Stavanger, Norway. The company is the leading producer and marketer of oil and gas from Norwegian fields. Statoil is one of the world's largest net sellers of crude oil and a major supplier of gas to Europe. Currently, the company is active in approximately twenty-five countries world-wide and has assets in attractive petroleum provinces. Statoil is a retail brand in Scandinavia, the Baltics, Poland and Ireland.

(1) In the fourth quarter of 2002 the only special item in the result is the writing down of the LL652 field in Venezuela by NOK 0.8 billion. This write-down affects the fourth-quarter after-tax result negatively by NOK 0.6 billion. The full-year result for 2002 has in addition a special item of NOK 1.0 billion before tax and NOK 0.7 billion after tax. This is the gain on the sale of the Siri field off Denmark. In 2001, special items totalled NOK 2.3 billion before tax and NOK 2.1 billion after tax.

Financial statements and review - fourth quarter 2002

MD&A

Presentation set

PDF-version

Webcast with CEO Olav Fjell

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