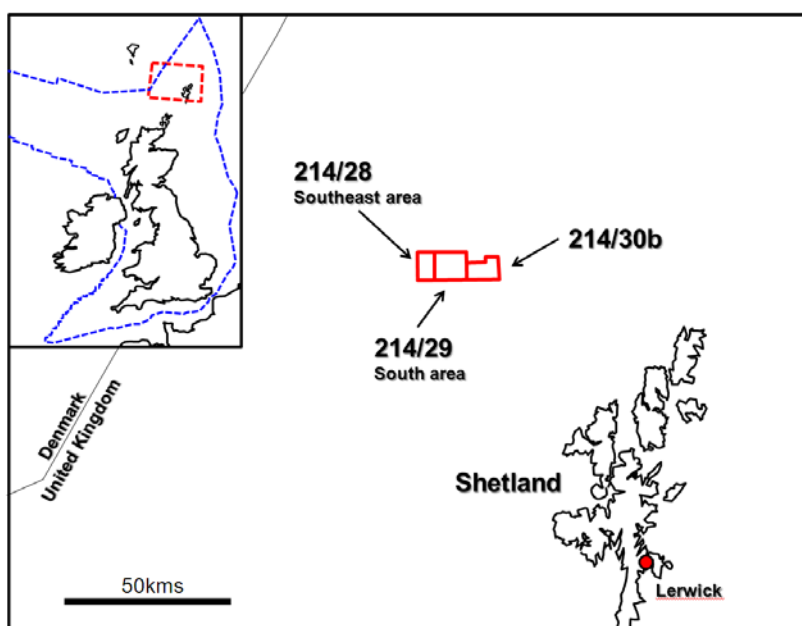


29 October 2012

**INPEX awarded offshore Exploration Blocks in the UK Continental Shelf**  
**(the 27th Seaward Licensing Round, UK)**

INPEX CORPORATION (INPEX) is pleased to announce today that INPEX was successful in the 27th Seaward Licensing Round in UK, and won the three offshore Exploration Blocks in the North Sea jointly with Centrica Resources Limited (Centrica), a subsidiary of Centrica plc, a UK gas and electricity company and Statoil (U.K.) Limited (Statoil), a subsidiary of Statoil ASA, a Norwegian oil company.



Location of Exploration Blocks

The three Exploration Blocks awarded consist of 214/28, 214/29 and 214/30b located offshore approximately 60km northwest of Shetland Island. Centrica will conduct exploration activities as Operator, retaining a 35% participating interest while INPEX holds a 30% participating interest and Statoil holds a 35% participating interest, respectively. Joint ventures plan to carry out seismic work etc. to explore for the new discovery of oil and/or natural gas in the Blocks.



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The offshore area near Shetland Island, where the Blocks INPEX won lie, is the area where not many exploration activities have been conducted, and significant oil and natural gas discovery is expected. The success of this project will enhance INPEX's asset portfolio and add to INPEX's production volumes and reserves along the line with its "Medium- to Long-Term Vision of INPEX" announced in May 2012. INPEX hopes to further conduct exploration and development activities.

<About the Blocks>

Area	Approximately 220km <sup>2</sup>	
Water Depth	300-700m	
Location	Approximately 60km offshore northwest of Shetland Island	
Participating Interest	Centrica	35% (Operator)
	INPEX	30%
	Statoil	35%

<About Centrica>

Name	Centrica plc
Registered Office	Windsor, England
Representative	Sir Roger Carr
History	Founded in 1997 by spinoff from British Gas plc. and privatized
Number of employee	34,600 (Years ended December 2011)
Main business	Oil and gas exploration, production and transportation

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