

KEY DATA 2009

Natural gas and oil resources

The natural gas resources as at 1 January 2010 are estimated at 1390 billion Sm³. 1036 billion Sm³ of these resources reside in the Groningen accumulation, 170 billion Sm³ in the other onshore accumulations and 184 billion Sm³ on the Continental Shelf.

Oil resources add up to 50.0 million Sm³, 37.1 million Sm³ of which are located in the onshore territory and 12.2 million Sm³ on the Continental Shelf.

Licences for hydrocarbons

In 2009 for the onshore territory two exploration licences have been applied for. The exploration licence Andel IV lapsed / was relinquished. Five onshore production licences were awarded: Schagen, Noord-Brabant, Engelen, Peel en Oost-IJssel. Two new production licences have been applied for. One licence was restricted and subsequently awarded. For the Continental Shelf, three exploration licences were applied for and six have been awarded, two extended, five were split, one has been restricted and nine lapsed/ were relinquished. Furthermore, six production licences have been submitted and two were extended. For details see chapters 3 and 4 and annexes 1 and 2.

Wells

A total of 52 one wells have been drilled for oil and gas. That is 24 more than in 2008. In 2009 nine exploration wells have been drilled. From these wells, five struck gas and four were dry. This results in a technical success ratio of 56%.

The remaining wells included six appraisal wells and thirty seven production wells (Territory and Continental Shelf) including seven injection wells and two observation wells. The strong increase in the number of production and injection wells is mainly due to the (re-) development activities at the Schoonebeek oil field. For details see chapter 7 and annex 2.

Gas production

In 2009, total production from Dutch gas fields was 73.7 billion Sm³, 50.3 billion Sm³ from onshore gas fields and 23.4 Sm³ from the offshore gas fields. From the total production 34.0 billion Sm³ was accounted for by the small fields and 39.7 billion Sm³ by the Groningen gas field. The overall production in 2009 was 7.8% lower than in 2008. For details see chapter 9.

Oil production

In 2009, a total of 1.56 million Sm³ of oil was produced in the Netherlands, which is 25.8% less than in 2008. The onshore accumulations produced 0.26 million Sm³, which is almost equal to 2008. Production from offshore oil fields decreased to 1.30 million Sm³ which is 29.6% than in 2008. The average oil production over 2009 was about 4273.2 Sm³ per day. For details see chapter 9.

Gas storage

In 2009 one storage licence was awarded and one submitted. The storage licence application, Q1-Helm, has been withdrawn. Four underground gas storage licences (UGS) are in force. Overall almost 2.7 billion Sm³ have been injected in UGS facilities while discharge was just over 2.7 Sm³. For details see chapter 10.

Coal

No changes in licences for have occurred in 2009. There are five production licences in force. For details see chapter 11.

Rock salt

In 2009 one new exploration licence has been submitted. Furthermore, one production licence has been split. As at 1 January 2010 11 production licences are in force. The production of rock salt in 2010 was 6.0 million tons. For details see chapter 12.

Geothermal energy

Like in 2008, many exploration licences (eighteen) have been submitted. Thirty-two exploration licences have been awarded and one was split. One production licence has been awarded (Heerlen). For details see chapter 13.