DRILLING CONTRACTOR · GHANA · DRILLING

Ghana deepwater well Nya Gyidie-1X hits hydrocarbons

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Planet One Oil & Gas has encountered hydrocarbons in its Nya Gyidie-1X exploration well on the Deepwater Cape Three Points Block offshore Ghana, marking the company's first deepwater exploration well result. The hydrocarbons were found in carbonate rock between 3,364 and 3,499 metres measured depth, in 2,289 metres of water approximately 148 kilometres offshore.

The Nya Gyidie-1X result represents a significant milestone for Planet One, which has now demonstrated a working petroleum system in an unconventional carbonate reservoir on this deepwater block. Carbonate reservoirs are less common in West African deepwater settings than the clastic turbidite systems that host the region's major fields, making the find geologically notable and warranting closer technical evaluation of reservoir quality and flow potential.

Ghana's deepwater sector has been anchored by producing assets such as Jubilee and TEN, both developed in clastic reservoirs. The Cape Three Points area has attracted exploration interest over successive licensing rounds, though commerciality at Deepwater Cape Three Points will depend on further appraisal drilling and reservoir characterisation. No resource estimate, flow test results, or appraisal plans have been disclosed at this stage, meaning the find remains an early-stage hydrocarbon encounter rather than a confirmed discovery.

The well's water depth of 2,289 metres places it firmly in the ultradeepwater category, requiring specialist drilling equipment and subsea infrastructure should the block advance toward development. The carbonate interval of 135 metres gross

measured depth between 3,364 and 3,499 metres will need petrophysical analysis and potentially a drill stem test to determine whether commercial flow rates are achievable. These steps, along with the operator's financing position and partner structure, will determine the pace of any follow-on activity.

For Ghana's upstream sector, the result adds a data point to the ongoing evaluation of the country's remaining frontier acreage and may encourage renewed interest in carbonate plays along the transform margin. Regulators and the industry will be watching closely to see whether Planet One moves swiftly to appraise the well or seeks farm-in partners to share the cost of the next phase.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is an early-stage hydrocarbon encounter — no FID, contract, or tender has been announced — so Norwegian service companies should monitor developments and consider relationship-building with Planet One and its technical partners. If appraisal drilling is confirmed, opportunities in drilling services, well logging, and subsea survey work may emerge. Companies with deepwater carbonate expertise or ultradeepwater drilling track records in West Africa are best positioned to engage when the operator seeks technical support.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Ultradeepwater drilling contractors should track any appraisal well announcement on Deepwater Cape Three Points, where 2,289 m water depth demands specialist rigs and well-control expertise.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Subsea and FPSO players should monitor Planet One's appraisal trajectory; a confirmed carbonate discovery at this water depth would require bespoke subsea architecture and potentially a leased FPSO solution.
- **Service:** Well-logging, petrophysical analysis, and reservoir characterisation firms with carbonate expertise are well-placed to engage Planet One as it evaluates the Nya Gyidie-1X interval.
- **Pipeline:** Any future development scenario would require export infrastructure; monitoring farm-in and appraisal milestones will indicate when pipeline and flowline scoping becomes relevant.

Original source: Drilling Contractor →

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