

OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY · GABON · DRILLING

BW Energy Confirms 8-9 Million Barrel Recovery from Gabon Dussafu Appraisal Wells

Saga deep read · 16 October 2026 · Score 82

BW Energy has announced a commercial oil discovery from appraisal drilling on the Dussafu field offshore Gabon, with an estimated combined gross recovery of approximately 8-9 million barrels. The result confirms the presence of commercial hydrocarbon volumes and marks a meaningful step forward in delineating the field's producible resource base.

Appraisal drilling — as opposed to exploration — is designed to define the extent and quality of a known accumulation, meaning BW Energy is now in a position to move toward development planning with greater resource certainty. An 8-9 million barrel gross recovery figure, while modest by frontier exploration standards, is a commercially relevant outcome for a field already under active development, where incremental barrels can be tied back to existing infrastructure at comparatively low marginal cost.

Dussafu is an offshore block in Gabon where BW Energy serves as operator. The company has been building out production capacity at the field over recent years, and appraisal success of this nature supports the case for further capital allocation, whether through additional wells, expanded subsea infrastructure, or enhanced facilities. The confirmed volumes also strengthen BW Energy's reserve base, which has implications for financing, equity valuation, and partner negotiations.

Gabon remains one of the more stable and commercially accessible hydrocarbon jurisdictions in Sub-Saharan Africa. Its regulatory framework has historically been

accommodating to international operators, and the presence of established offshore infrastructure reduces development lead times compared to greenfield positions elsewhere on the continent. For Norwegian service companies tracking West African activity, Dussafu represents an active, operator-led program with a defined development trajectory rather than a speculative exploration play.

The next steps for BW Energy will likely involve translating the appraisal results into a development plan, including decisions on well count, production facilities, and subsea tie-back architecture. The timing and scope of any subsequent drilling or infrastructure campaign will be key indicators for service company engagement. Norwegian firms with established West Africa operations or existing relationships with BW Energy are best positioned to engage early in the procurement cycle.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies should monitor BW Energy's follow-on development decisions at Dussafu, as confirmed commercial volumes typically trigger procurement processes for drilling services, subsea equipment, and production infrastructure. Firms with existing West Africa capacity or prior Gabon exposure should engage BW Energy's project and supply chain teams proactively. The modest but commercial recovery size suggests incremental development tied to existing assets — a profile that favours cost-competitive, experienced operators over large-scale greenfield specialists.



YOUR SAGA CONTACT

Geir Tellefsen

Partner, Market Entry & Local Representation

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Appraisal success increases the probability of further development wells at Dussafu — drilling contractors should position for upcoming well campaign tenders.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Incremental barrels from appraisal results are likely candidates for subsea tie-back to existing Dussafu infrastructure, creating demand for umbilicals, flowlines, and connection hardware.
- **Service:** Well services companies offering completion, perforation, and production optimisation should engage BW Energy ahead of any development well programme.
- **Pipeline:** Expanding production volumes at Dussafu may require additional infield pipeline capacity — monitor BW Energy's development plan for scope definition.

[Original source: Offshore Technology →](#)

Saga Advisory

Partner contact: geir@saga-advisory.com · General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN