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Slide Risk Assessment in the Ormen Lange Field Development Area

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Location Map showing the Storegga Submarine Slide on the Mid-Norway Margin









Main Issues

- Is this area still prone to submarine slides?
- How were slides triggered in this area?
- Is there still a possibility for new slides in the area, which can threaten the Ormen Lange installations?
- Can the ormen Lange activities alone or in combination with natural causes, trigger a new submarine slide with 3rd party consequences?



Risk Analysis Framework (NORSOK Standard Z-013)





Risk Analysis Planning



Extent of Potential Influence Areas





RAC (1st Party)

- Conventional RAC applied by operators in the North Sea area
 - Risk to personnel
 GIR < 10⁻³ fat/yr
 - Risk to environment

Duration of environmental damage to be insignificant compared to the expected time between such damages



RAC (3rd Party Risk)

- Normally not an issue for offshore activities
- Known formats
 - Risk to most exposed person
 - Society risk

not suited



RAC Chosen Criterion, 3rd Party

Risk is intolerable if the frequency of a slide with "significant damage potential" generated by OL activities exceeds 10⁻⁷ per year.

Significant damage potential:

A tsunami wave must be generated Vertical run-up must exceed 1.5 m in representative coastal areas



HAZID: Storegga Slide



















Risk under Present Conditions



HAZID: Present Situation with Ormen Lange





Consequence Model

V _{limit} ² V _{limit} ¹					
Small	Medium	Major			
Consequences:	Consequences:	Consequences:			
Local, e.g. pipelines	Global threat for the Ormen Lange field development area	* Tsunami * Onshore consequences * Effect on offshore installations			



Type of Slides





Calculation of Frequencies - Main Steps





Risk Estimation





Risk Summary



Slide consequence class	Description of slide	Risk results (frequency per year)		Comments
		1st party or environment	3rd party	
Major: Slide generates tsunami that causes damage along the coast. (3rd party, 1st party risk and environmental risk)	Large regional slides related to the glacial/ interglacial cycles. (Volume range 100 - 3000 km ³)	Not relevant	Not relevant	The prehistoric Storegga slide removed all soft sediments
	Slides from the back walls of the Storegga slide scar; retrogressive process		< 4·10 ⁻⁸	Only natural causes (extremely strong earthquakes). No project generated risk



Risk Summary



Slide consequence class	e consequence class Description of slide		sults ber year)	Comments
		1st party or environment	3rd party	
Medium: Global threat to field installations 1st party risk and environmental risk	Slides from the back walls of the Storegga slide scar; retrogressive process	< 2·10 ⁻⁸	No risk	Far below Ormen Lange risk acceptance criteria



Risk Summary





Slide consequence class	Description of slide	Risk results (frequency per year)		Comments
		1st party or environ-ment	3rd party	
Small: Local threat to pipe-lines and umbilicals 1st party risk and environmental risk	Slide from back wall shallow slip surface	10 ⁻⁵	No risk	Far below Ormen Lange risk acceptance criteria
	Surficial slide in back wall	< 2·10 ⁻²	No risk	Risk is acceptable, but detailed evalua-tions of technical solutions are ongoing
	Clay drape failures (in steep areas)	To be eva-luated	No risk	



Summary

- General risk analysis framework can be applied
- Ormen Lange field development activities have negligible effects on stability (deep failure) and will not trigger Tsunami-generating slides
- The annual probability of a slide with run out to the field development area is almost zero and negligible compared with RAC
- Shallow slide events and surficial slides can threaten pipelines, but the risk is acceptable



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