

# North Sea Reporter

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## Okea presses on with Bestla as eye on early-2027 start-up target continues

Okea is pressing ahead with work on its 24-million-barrel Bestla tieback development, in block 31/7 (PL740) in the Norwegian North Sea, where it continues to target production start-up early next year.

The Oslo-listed independent, in a first-quarter report published today (29 April), said subsea and topsides installation activities have started after drilling of the two Bestla production wells was completed in the fourth quarter of last year.

The operator said the pull-in of the Bestla flowlines to the Okea-operated Brage platform, in block 31/4, through which its production will be exported was completed this month and piping is currently being deployed to connect the flowlines to Bestla itself.

The company also reported that preparations have been completed ahead of the critical workscope that is planned to take place during a scheduled maintenance campaign on Brage next month.

Okea operates Bestla with a 35.28% interest and expects its share of production to reach a net 10,000 b/d of oil equivalent plateau rate within a year of start-up.

Meantime, Okea said work is also progressing on its Draugen power-from-shore project in block 6407/9, in PL093 in the Norwegian Sea, where offshore construction work is continuing apace, with project completion targeted in 2028.

Closer by, Okea confirmed that its production was 34,888 boed in the first quarter of this year, up from 30,848 boed in the final three months of last year. The company said the increase was mainly thanks to the start-up of Talisker East well 31/4-A15D in Brage in January, while output was also higher from both Draugen and Equinor-operated Statfjord, in 33/12, because of high production efficiency.

Okea is maintaining its forecast for production this year in a 31,000-35,000 boed range, climbing to 37,000-41,000 boed next year. *(Continued on page 2)*