

# North Sea Reporter

News & Analysis – keeping you informed

13 May 2026

Issue 881

[www.klenergypublishing.com](http://www.klenergypublishing.com)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Loyd Jr extended to 2030	3
Aker BP projects on track	12
Neo Next+ bid for Deltic	20
Baltica 2 foundation start	22

## CONTENTS

News	2
Rig market	3
Construction	8
Contracts	9
Business report	11
Production	11
Drilling	14
Med/Africa briefing	17
Oil price	19
Technology	20
Companies	20
Safety	21
Environment	21
Renewables	22
People	24
Conferences	24

## Harbour acquires 45% stake in Fotla after farm-in deal with Ithaca Energy

Harbour Energy has farmed in to take a 45% interest in the Ithaca Energy-operated Fotla oil and gas development, in block 22/1b in the UK Central North Sea, which is planned to be developed as a subsea tieback to the Harbour-operated Britannia platform in block 16/26a.

UK-listed Harbour, in a trading statement last Thursday (7 May), said it had agreed the farm-in and added that a final investment decision (FID) on the planned two-well tieback development of Fotla is targeted by the end of this year.

Ithaca, which until now has held a 100% interest in Fotla licence P.2373, did not comment on the statement from Harbour. However, when Ithaca reported final results for 2025 in mid-March it said that Fotla was being matured towards an FID after receiving North Sea Transition Authority approval for its development concept.

Ithaca submitted a formal environmental statement (ES) to the UK authorities on the Fotla development last December, outlining a scheme that is projected to include two horizontal subsea production wells connected to a three-slot subsea manifold and tied back to Britannia via a new 14-km production pipeline (*NSR 863/1*).

Output from Fotla will be processed on Britannia through existing topsides facilities currently handling output from the Alder field that will be adapted and upgraded for the new development, according to the Ithaca ES.

Drilling of the new development's two wells, which will be undertaken by a semi-submersible, is currently expected to take place in 2027. First production could then flow in the fourth quarter of 2027 leading on to a field life of around 15 years.

The ES says that high-case estimates suggest Fotla production could peak in 2028 at around 10,000 b/d of oil and close to 50 MMcfd of gas. (*Continued on page 2*)