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Serica eyes trio of Bruce wells to kick off new short-cycle drilling campaign

Serica Energy is working towards a new drilling campaign targeting short-cycle projects that it plans to kick off in the second half of next year with a trio of wells in its Bruce field, in blocks 9/9a, 9/8a and 9/9b in the UK Northern North Sea.

The UK-listed operator, in a capital markets presentation yesterday (Tuesday), said the programme could also include wells in recently-acquired Glendronach and Tormore, in west of Shetland blocks 206/4a and 205/5a, along with the single well for the Kyla development, in block 29/2c in the Central North Sea.

Serica said the short-cycle drilling opportunities have the potential to add 30,000 b/d of oil equivalent of additional production that would help support annual average output for the company of more than 50,000 boed “into the next decade”. The projects being targeted host around 34 million boe of reserves and contingent resources, the company said.

The operator said it is currently tendering for a drilling rig initially to work for a firm period of 400 days, with an option for further extensions. It adds that it hopes to formally contract the unit in the third quarter, putting it in position to start drilling early in the second half of next year.

Serica said the firm contract period could allow it to drill the three planned infill wells in Bruce, as well as carry out some decommissioning work and/or drill an additional development well.

The first three wells the operator plans to drill in Bruce are in the southwestern part of the field and are estimated to contain 18.6 million boe of reserves with production potential of more than 10,000 boed. Serica said they will be drilled through the existing Bruce Western Area Development manifold, reducing the need for new equipment to be installed on the seabed.

First production could flow from the new wells within 12-18 months of drilling starting, the company said, adding that detailed well planning is under way and rig location site surveys have been carried out for the programme. *(Continued on page 2)*