



OLJE- OG ENERGI-DEPARTEMENTET

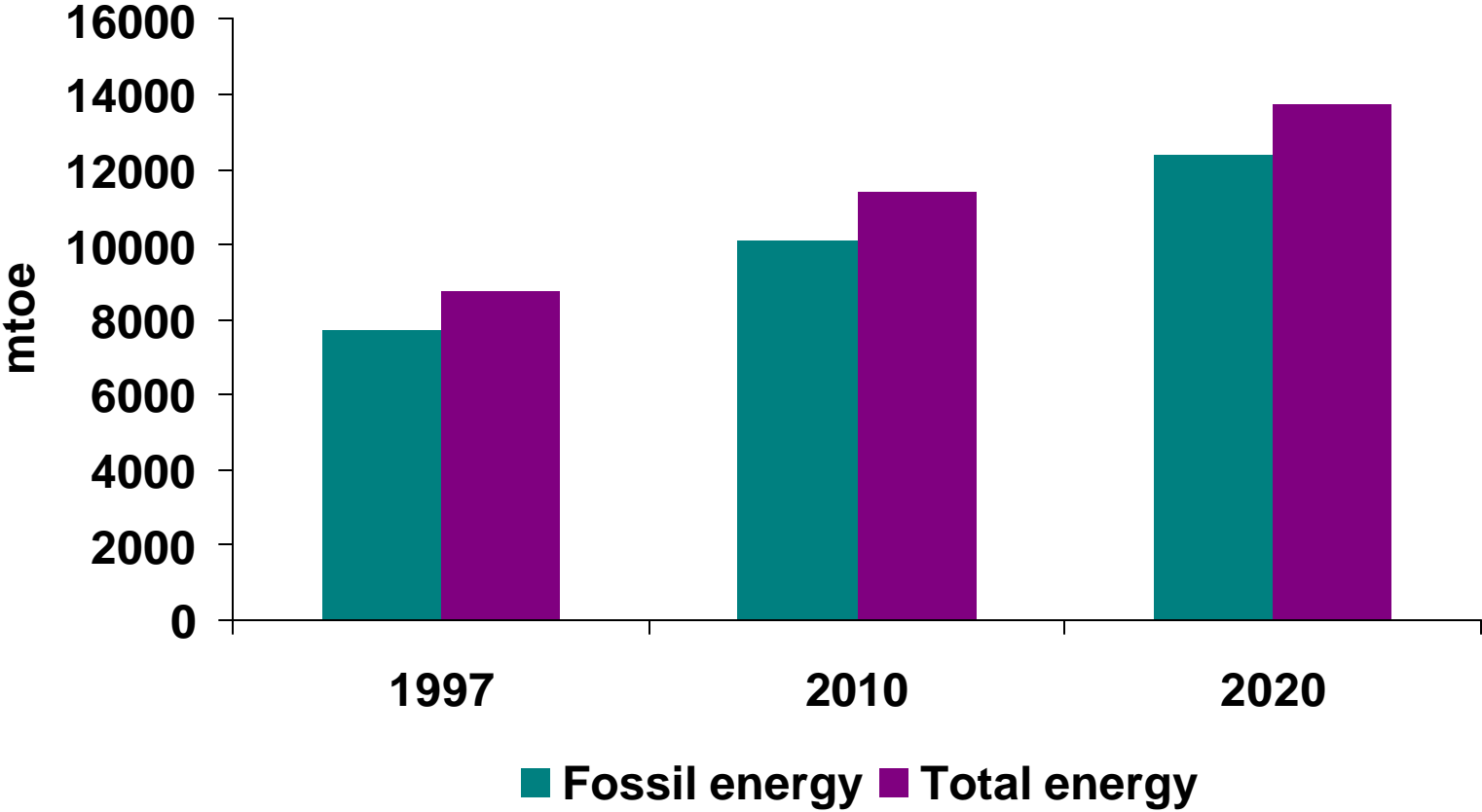
*Ministry of Petroleum and Energy*

# North Sea Sailing Seminar "Protecting the riches of the sea"

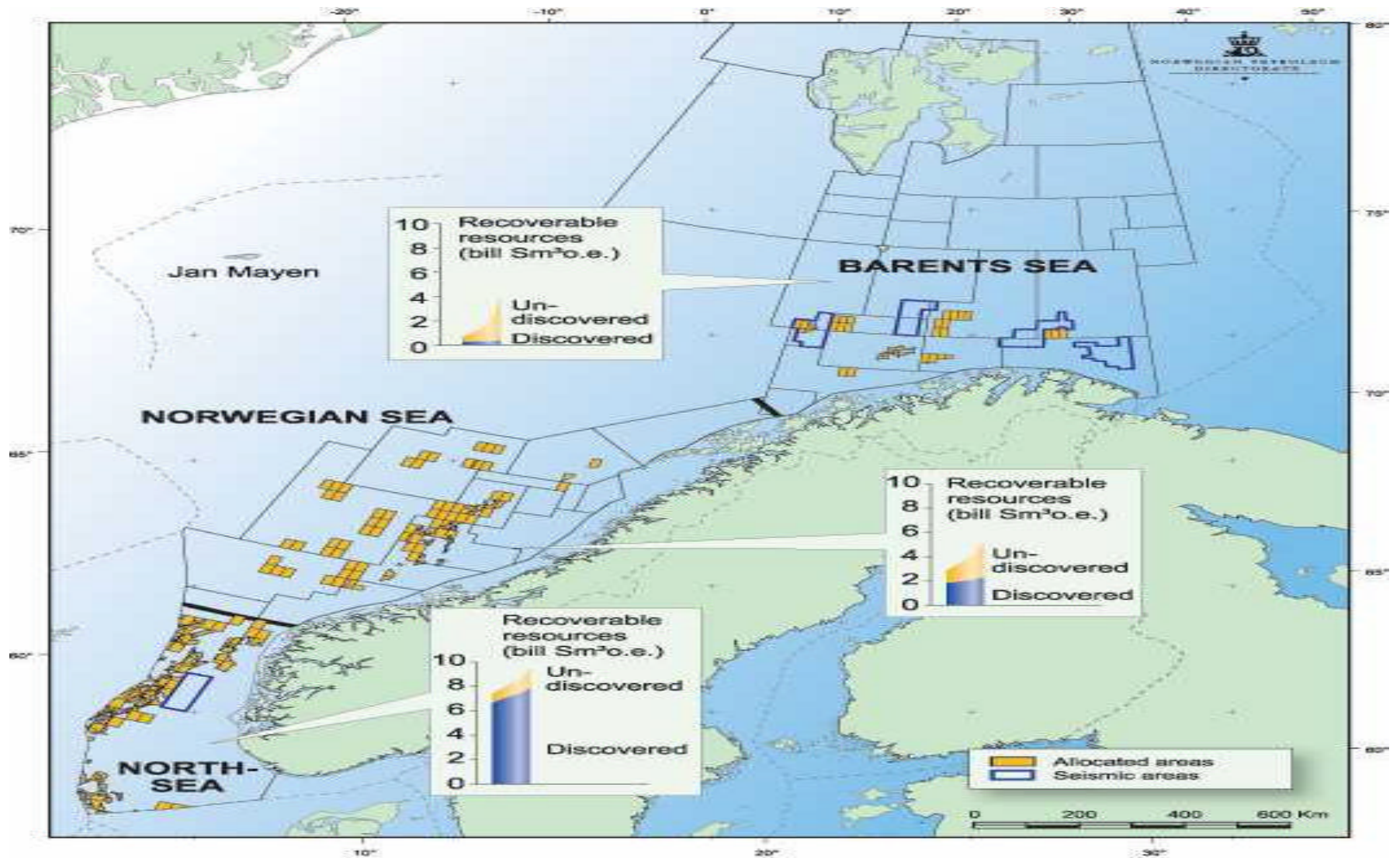
## June 23rd, 2003

Einar Steensnæs  
Minister of Petroleum and Energy

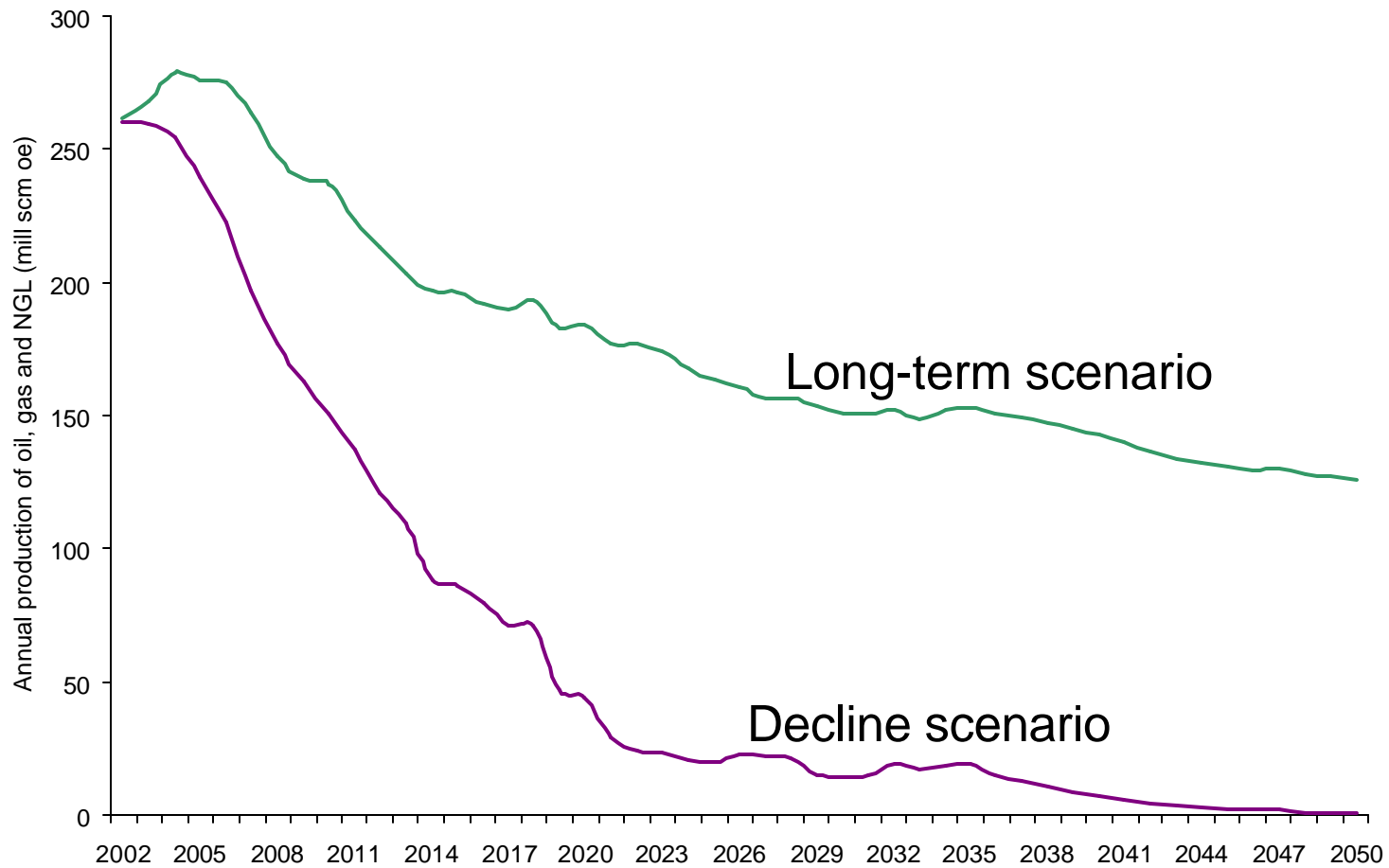
# Global energy demand



# Resources on the NCS



# Two scenarios for petroleum production on the NCS



## The government's principal objectives for oil and gas policy

- Ensure that the petroleum sector remains **a significant contributor** to financing the welfare state and to nationwide industrial development in future.
- Lay the basis for continued development of the petroleum sector by ensuring that the NCS remains an attractive area for **investment, value creation and industrial development** in Norway.

## The government's principal objectives for oil and gas policy

- Pursue **ambitious environmental and resource management policies** based on the goals of a sustainable petroleum business and coexistence between the petroleum sector, other industries and environmental considerations.
- Be a leading-edge industry with a strong focus on **health, safety and the environment** at all levels of the industry, and to base its operations on a goal of continuous improvement.
- Contribute to the **internationalisation** of the Norwegian oil and gas industry.

# Norwegian petroleum policy and the environment

- The issue of global climate change is of high concern
- Continuous challenge related to the marine environment
- Guiding principle in the petroleum policy: Secure coexistence between petroleum activities, the fisheries and environmental concerns
- Environmental concerns have always been an integral part of the petroleum policy since activities started on the NCS 30 years ago



# The Environmental Impact Assessment Study for Lofoten/ the Barents Sea

- The Government is presently conducting an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study of all-year petroleum activities in the northern seas from Lofoten and northward
- Until the EIA study is completed the Barents Sea will not be opened up for further petroleum activities.
  - No new licenses will be awarded in the area in this time period
  - No opening of new areas for petroleum activities in this time period

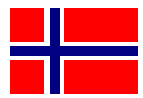




## The Environmental Impact Assessment Study for Lofoten/ the Barents Sea (continued)

- Assuming there are special fishing and environmental challenges related to moving into more northern areas, new and more ambitious demands will be made in order to avoid conflicts with the environment and the fisheries
- The EIA study will be the basis for the Government's further decision-making regarding conditions for possible all-year petroleum activity in the area

# Internettadresse - Internet address



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