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New bid to highlight Scotia play

The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board has released a report on the potential of Nova Scotia's sparsely drilled deep-water play, which is said to host substantial oil and gas potential, writes Iain Esau.

Deep-water gas potential in this frontier area is assessed as being between 12 trillion and 39 trillion cubic feet, while oil potential lies between 1.3 billion and 4.5 billion barrels.

The updated geological report, Nova Scotia Deepwater Post-Drill Analysis 1982-2004, reviewed data from seven deep-water wells drilled between 2002 and 2004 and four wells drilled between 1982 and 1986.

Nova Scotia's deep-water zone covers more than 80,000 square kilometres, extending 850 kilometres from the US maritime border in the south-west to the Newfoundland & Labrador border in the north-east.

The report states that "the Scotian Slope remains a virtually unexplored deep-water frontier basin, with a confirmed petroleum system and the potential for significant hydrocarbon discoveries."

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