

## Elgin Gas Leak: Weekly Summary (20-26 April 2012)

2, place Jean Millier  
La Défense 6  
92 400 Courbevoie France  
Tel. : 33 (1) 47 44 58 53  
Fax : 33 (1) 47 44 58 24

Martin DEFFONTAINES  
Laurent KETTENMEYER  
Matthieu GOT  
Karine KACZKA  
Robert PERKINS

Robert HAMMOND (U.S.)  
Tel. : (1) 713-483-5070  
Fax : (1) 713-483-5629

TOTAL S.A.  
Capital 5 909 418 282,50 euros  
542 051 180 R.C.S. Nanterre

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

**Paris, April 25, 2012** – Further significant steps have been taken this week towards stopping the Elgin gas leak, including the installation of a key piece of equipment on the G4 well to divert leaking gas away from the wellhead platform. Known as a diverter, this specially manufactured device has been connected to the G4 wellhead and is now carrying the flow of leaking gas, via four flexible hoses, away from the wellhead and the platform. The fitting of this device ensures that there is no gas accumulating around the G4 wellhead or the platform. This reinforces the safety of the well intervention operation and helps alleviate restrictions on helicopter landings on the platform from now on.

Due to the unfavourable weather conditions, a team of experts from Total and specialist contractors were able to make only two further flights to the Elgin platform this week. During these visits, in addition to installing the diverter, they were able to continue laying down essential equipment for the well intervention and undertook further monitoring and inspection.

The state-of-the-art, dynamically positioned drilling rig, the West Phoenix, will be used as the main support vessel for the well intervention operation and is preparing for the operation while located on the edge of the 2 nautical mile Elgin exclusion zone. The Skandi Aker, currently still in Peterhead harbour in Scotland, will have a complementary supporting role during this operation.

Next steps will be the manoeuvring of the West Phoenix alongside Elgin complex to be in a position to start the well intervention operation as soon as possible. In parallel, drilling of the first relief well by the Sedco 714, 2 km east of the Elgin complex, is progressing according to plan.

## DIVERTING SLEEVE



**Legend:** 25 April 2012 - A diverting sleeve has been installed on the G4 well. Known as a “diverter”, this specially manufactured piece of equipment connects to the wellhead and diverts the flow of leaking gas, via four flexible hoses, away from the wellhead and the platform. This key piece of equipment improves the safety of the well intervention operation by avoiding the possibility of gas accumulating in the work area around the G4 wellhead and the platform.

\* \* \* \* \*

Total is one of the largest integrated oil and gas companies in the world, with activities in more than 130 countries. The Group is also a first rank player in chemicals. Its 96,000 employees put their expertise to work in every part of the industry – exploration and production of oil and natural gas, refining and marketing, new energies, trading, and chemicals. Total is working to help satisfy the global demand for energy, both today and tomorrow. [www.total.com](http://www.total.com)