Our date Our reference Your date

2004-06-22 TEK,F&T,OGF, Prosesskontroll

Administrative officer Your reference Jan Richard Sagli, +47 99163129

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir/Madam

## **Optimal Design and Operation of Gas Processing Plants.**

Statoil ASA is currently operating the Kårstø gas processing plant as TSP (Technical Service Provider) for GassCo, and is currently developing the Snøhvit LNG plant in Hammerfest. Along with partnerships in several other oil- and gas processing plants it is crucial for Statoil that the facilities are designed and operated as effectively as possible. Special attention has now been focused on the integrated operation of plants, such that both the offshore- and onshore part is regarded as a complete and integrated plant. The goal is to design and operate the entire production chain as a whole. Crucial tools in this work will be stationary- and dynamic simulators, modelbased predictive control (MPC) and real time optimisation (RTO).

We therefore welcome the initiative to start a SIP within this strategic important field for Statoil, and are looking forward to possibly future joint research between Statoil and NTNU Gas Research Centre.

Yours faithfully, for Statoil ASA

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