
Knoll “a small continental remnant that now lies abandoned, isolated and generally neglected”.

The Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board’s 2003 land sale included ten land parcels in the Orphan Basin. Work commitment bids totalling \$672 680 000 were received on eight of the ten parcels, with a record bid of \$251 600 000 on one. Both the total sale and the high single bid represent the highest ever on the East Coast.

A number of wells have been drilled around the western and southern peripheries of the basin in the late 1970s and early 1980s. These include the Texaco et al. Blue H-28 well that was drilled in 1486 m of water in 1979 and held the world deep water drilling record at that time. Several seismic programs have been recorded in recent years and provide a glimpse into the hydrocarbon potential of the basin.

Orphan Basin: hottest play on the east coast

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Orphan Basin is one of the Mesozoic rift basins around the North Atlantic. Located north of the Newfoundland Grand Banks, water depths in the basin range from 400 to 4000 m. The basin seems to have derived its name from the Orphan