LNG Unlimited

LNG JOURNAL PUBLICATION 25 June 2024

IPO is planned for Australia's equivalent of Marcellus shale

Tamboran Resources Is offering 6.5 million shares priced at US$24 and US$27

LNG News Editor

Tamboran Resources, an exploration and production company currently valued at A$391.5 million (US$258M) on the Australian Securities Exchange, is launching an initial public offering of shares in the US for shale-gas assets in Australia's equivalent of the Marcellus Shale in the Northeast US.

The Australian natural gas company plans to raise up to US$175.5 million by offering 6.5 million shares priced at between US$24 and US$27 each.

The capital raising from the IPO on the New York Stock Exchange will support operations in the Beetaloo basin in Australia's Northern Territory.

Tamboran, through its subsidiaries, is the largest acreage holder and operator with around 1.9 million net prospective acres in the Beetaloo Basin within the Greater McArthur Basin in the Northern Territory.

LNG exports

The Beetaloo Basin is located about 500 kilometres southeast of the port of Darwin, an LNG exports location, and covers 28,000 square kilometres with estimated natural gas resources of around 500 trillion cubic feet of gas.

One of the LNG plants owned by Santos is not currently exporting because of a lack of feed-gas and is developing an offshore field in the Timor Sea. The other LNG plant is operated from near Darwin by the Japanese company Inpex Corp.

Tamboran has around 1.9M net prospective acres in Beetaloo Basin in the Northern Territory near LNG plants

The Northern Territory government expressed that it was in favour of shale-gas development in February 2024 after a pilot project in the Shenandoah South area of the Beetaloo was successfully completed.

Impressive study

Tamboran led the first 30-day period of well testing in the Shenandoah South well and recorded the highest normalised rates of gas flow achieved in the Beetaloo to date.

According to Tamboran, those results "exhibited the commercial viability of the project" with Tamboran now moving onto the construction phase with potential for natural gas to be delivered to the Northern Territory in 2026.

The Northern Territory government said the Beetaloo Basin was at the centre of the "most comprehensive regional scientific study in Australia's history".

This was completed alongside a major scientific inquiry into hydraulic fracking, or fracking, to ensure rigorous mechanisms are in place to protect the environment.

The regional Government is anticipating a new economic era for the under-populated Northern Territory with increased economic activity amounting to tens of billions of dollars. The Beetaloo Basin is likened to the Marcellus Shale where the modern era of US gas output began in 2004 and grew rapidly across Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and into southeast Ohio and upstate New York. However, some production had started in the Marcellus shale area in the 1800s.

The IPO is being sought in New York rather than in Australia as Australian banks and the executive managements of most energy companies are wary of upsetting environmental activists in Australia who are backed by the governing far-left Labor party and its allies in the national government in Canberra.

Key assets

Tamboran's key assets include a 38.75 percent working interest and operatorship in three licences, a 100 percent working interest and operatorship in a fourth licence and a 25 percent non-operated working interest in a fifth licence and all located in the Beetaloo Basin.

Tamboran said it expected to grant the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 975,000 shares of its common stock at the IPO offering price, less the underwriting discount. ■

UNLIMITED AGENDA

Indian imports of LNG decline in May while domestic gas output and gas demand increase

LNG News Editor

Indian liquefied natural gas imports went into reverse last month and fell by more than 7 percent even as prices declined and more regasification infrastructure was put in place, while the need for imports was offset by growth in domestic gas output, including coal-bed methane.

LNG imports for the month of May amounted to 1.96 million tonnes, or 29 cargoes, compared with 2.11MT, or 31 shipments, in May 2023, a decrease of 7.2 percent, according to preliminary data from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Cargo deliveries for the first two months of the fiscal year for April and May fell by 1.3 percent to 3.92MT versus 3.97MT in the same two months of last year.

Cargo costs drop

The Ministry data also showed that LNG cargoes for May 2024 cost around $1.1 billion, down from the $1.8Bln paid in May 2023.

The LNG cargoes received for the last fiscal year cost India $13.30Bln, which was around 22.5 percent lower than the $17.10Bln paid in the prior fiscal-year period.

India's newest Chhara LNG terminal located in Gujarat

India's eighth LNG import terminal, the Chhara facility in the West Coast state of Gujarat, received its commissioning cargo in April 2024.

The Chhara terminal has 5 million tonnes per annum of capacity and has been developed by Hindustan Petroleum Corp.

Deliveries of LNG to Indian terminals have in the past year mainly come from Qatar, which provides over one-third of volumes, as well as West Africa, the US, Asia-Pacific nations and the spot market.

Domestic gas

The Indian Ministry data showed that India's domestic natural gas production for the month of May 2024 was 3.105 billion cubic metres, which was higher by 6.7 percent than the 2.909 Bcm measured in May 2023.

For the first two months of the fiscal year so far India's gas production reached 6.063 Bcm versus 4.257 Bcm in the prior-year period, which was an increase of 7.2 percent.

The Ministry also gave average capacity utilization rates for seven LNG terminals and with data covering the previous month of April 2024.

The total capacity of existing terminals has now risen to 52.7 MTPA from the eight facilities. However, the Chhara LNG terminal will take several months to appear in the Ministry regasification data book.

Regasification

The largest Indian terminal at Dahej, located north of Mumbai and operated by Petronet LNG, has capacity of 17.5 MTPA and had the highest utilisation rate of 101 percent of nameplate capacity.

At the Hazira facility, operated by Shell India, the utilisation rate for the 12 months was 28.6 percent for 5.2 MTPA of capacity.

The GAIL (India) terminal at Dabhol, south of Mumbai, reported 69.9 percent usage for its 5 MTPA. ■

Japan's LNG imports rise again even at higher prices while nuclear competition increases

Japanese liquefied natural gas imports increased again in May even at higher prices while thermal coal deliveries dropped and nuclear plant re-starts plans continued to advance.

Japan's network of 37 terminals handled 4.87 million tonnes of LNG, or around 72 cargoes, in May 2024. This was an increase of 5.6 percent on the 4.62MT, or 68 shipments, received in May 2023, according to preliminary Finance Ministry data.

Deliveries of LNG cargoes had soared by 16.7 percent in April 2024 to 5.28MT from 4.53MT in April 2023.

Japan still faces tough competition from China for LNG volumes and the Chinese May deliveries were higher at 6.57MT, an increase of 2.5 percent from the 6.41MT received in May 2023.

LNG costs jump

The cost to Japan of the May cargoes was 449.16Bln ($2.84Bln), an increase of 9.1 percent from the 411.76 billion yen ($2.61Bln) paid in May last year.

Thermal coal imports, a competitor to LNG for electricity generation, amounted to 6.09MT, down by 1.5 percent and with costs at 145.76Bln yen ($923 million), which was 28.8 percent lower than last year.

The data from the Finance Ministry showed that deliveries of LNG from Asian nations like Malaysia and Indonesia amounted in May to 1.50MT, an increase of up 27.4 percent from the same month last year.

Deliveries from countries in the Middle East like Qatar came to 464,000 tonnes in May, a two-fold increase on the imports in May 2023.

US deliveries to Japan in May jumped by 171 percent from May 2023 to 494,000 tonnes, while deliveries from Russia plunged by over 40 percent to 363,000 tonnes.

The balance of the shipments in May came mainly from Australia and the spot market and amounted to 2.05MT, higher than the 1.88MT delivered by this supply segment in May 2023.

Japan's LNG deliveries for the full fiscal year to the end of March 2024 had amounted to 63.88MT, which was 8 percent lower than the previous fiscal year.

More nuclear

Japan is additionally continuing with its nuclear plant re-start programme and this could lessen the need for LNG imports in the medium term.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. Holdings recently announced it was preparing to recommence operations in October 2024 at unit 7 of the Kashiwazaki Kariwa facility in Niigata Prefecture. ■

Chinese LNG cargoes increase

China's natural gas imports by pipelines as well as LNG increased for May and during the first five months of 2024 along with domestic natural gas production.

A total of 54.28 million tonnes of natural gas was imported in the first five months of 2024, up 17.4 percent versus the previous year, according to data published by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in China.

Chinese energy majors also produced 103.3 billion cubic metres of natural gas in the January-to-May period, up 5.2 percent from a year earlier.

In May alone, the natural gas output expanded 6.3 percent year-over-year to 20.3 Bcm.

China's LNG imports increased slightly in May, according to other data from the Chinese General Administration of Customs.

China imported 6.57 million tonnes of LNG last month, an increase of 2.5 percent from the 6.41MT received in May 2023.

Imports of LNG to the Chinese network of 25 regasification terminals in April 2024 had soared by 31.5 percent to 6.22MT compared with 4.77MT in April 2023.

In the first five months of 2024, China's total LNG imports reached 32.42MT, up about 17.7 percent compared with the 27.54MT received in January-to-May 2023.

The Chinese NBS data additionally showed that China's crude oil production in May rose by 0.6 percent from a year earlier to 18.15 million tons, or about 4.27 million barrels per day.

Chiyoda outlines efforts to get Golden Pass LNG back on track

LNG News Editor

Chiyoda Corp, the Japanese LNG engineering company working on the Golden Pass project in Texas that has been hit by the bankruptcy of the US Zachry construction group, is seeking an immediate return to building work along with the owners to get Train 1 back on track.

Chiyoda said that its wholly owned Houston, Texas-headquartered subsidiary, Chiyoda International, was supporting motions filed to the bankruptcy court by the Golden Pass project owners, QatarEnergy and ExxonMobil Corp.

Zachry Holdings, the lead contractor in the $10 billion project to transform the Golden Pass LNG terminal in Texas into an export plant, filed on May 8, 2024, for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

Train 1 schedule

"We are all requesting Zachry's formal withdrawal from the project and for the lifting the Automatic Stay to resume construction work on Train 1," Chiyoda explained.

Golden Pass takes shape on Sabine-Neches Waterway

The Golden Pass liquefaction facilities are being constructed at the existing terminal located on the Sabine-Neches Waterway in Texas.

Three liquefaction Trains are planned with a combined nameplate capacity of around 16 million tonnes per annum of LNG.

ExxonMobil and QatarEnergy, which own 30 percent and 70 percent respectively of the venture, are marketing their own volumes.

The Train 1 mechanical completion had been scheduled for the end of 2024 and with first LNG in the first half of 2025.

The Japanese firm explained that the discussions among the engineering companies, including McDermott's tanks maker CB&I and Chiyoda, are focused on a short-term execution plan and a long-term execution plan for the project.

"These talks have been continuing in preparation for Zachry's official withdrawal from the project," said Chiyoda.

"The Customer has already been carrying forward payment procedures for safety-related tasks or infrastructure development tasks required for continuing local construction work as well as other tasks specific to CB&I and Chiyoda. No financial burden on such tasks has been imposed on Chiyoda," said the Houston unit of Chiyoda.

NextDecade confirms non-binding accord with Saudis for LNG supply

NextDecade Corp., the developer of the Rio Grande LNG export plant in Texas, confirmed a non-binding accord with Saudi Arabia for the supply of cargoes from the future Train 4 of the plant being constructed at the Port of Brownsville.

The Heads of Agreement (HoA) was for 20 years with the upstream division of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Aramco).

Finalising terms

The Rio Grande project is located on 984 acres of land which has been leased long term and includes 15,000 feet of frontage on the Brownsville Ship Channel.

The venture has received all necessary approvals and authorizations required for construction, including those from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which allow for development, construction and operation of up to five Trains and 27 million tonnes per annum of LNG exports.

Under the terms of the HoA, Aramco expects to purchase 1.2 MTPA of LNG at a price indexed to the US benchmark Henry Hub price.

The NextDecade-Aramco accord would be subject to a positive final investment decision on Train 4.

"We look forward to finalizing the terms of a long-term LNG off-take agreement with NextDecade, as we explore opportunities to expand our presence in international energy markets," said Nasir K. Al-Naimi, Aramco Upstream President.

"We expect LNG to play an important role in meeting the rising demand for secure and efficient energy," added Al-Naimi.

Matt Schatzman, NextDecade Chairman and Chief Executive, said he was pleased with the Saudi accord.

"We look forward to finalizing the LNG Sale and Purchase Agreement with Aramco and to pursuing other opportunities together," Schatzman stated.

CROWN LNG

LNG infrastructure for harsh weather conditions

Crown LNG's vision is to enhance energy security & support a responsible green energy transition.

The Crown LNG value chain

To find out more visit **www.crownlng.com**

Drammensveien 145-147
0277 Oslo NORWAY

(+47) 980 25 359 | info@crownlng.com
www.crownlng.com

NEWS BRIEFS

Woodside team overhaul

Woodside Energy, the Australian LNG operator, has revised its leadership structure to deliver the next phase of strategy after the merger with BHP's petroleum business. The new structure takes effect from August with key appointees having Executive Vice President and other titles and split Australian and International Chief Operating Officer roles. The new team under Chief Executive Meg O'Neil includes Chief Financial Officer Graham Tiver; COO Australia Liz Westcott; COO International Daniel Kalms and Chief Commercial Officer Mark Abbotsford. Other posts include Technical and Energy Development Julie Fallon; Strategy Andy Drummond; and External Affairs Tony Cudmore. CEO O'Neil thanked departing members Shiva McMahon and Matthew Ridolfi.

Subsea 7 contract win

Subsea7 S.A., the oil and gas services company listed on the Oslo exchange in Norway, was awarded of a sizeable contract by Dana Petroleum for the Bittern natural gas and oil field located 190 kilometres (118 miles) east of Aberdeen in the UK Central North Sea and at a water depth of 90 metres. The contract scope includes project management, engineering, procurement, construction and installation of a 22km, 12-inch water injection pipeline. Subsea7's scope also includes associated subsea structures and tie-ins to the Triton Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) vessel. Natural gas from the Bittern field is brought ashore via the Shell-Esso Gas and Liquids (SEGAL) gas line.

■

Most politicised US natural gas pipeline Mountain Valley starts and opens way for the future EQT merger with Equitrans

LNG News Editor

Mountain Valley Pipeline crosses the state of West Virginia

Mountain Valley Pipeline spanning the states of Virginia and West Virginia and whose operator is Equitrans Midstream, a company currently the subject of a merger deal with LNG player EQT Corp., has formally started up to meet soaring demand and as the most politicised and delayed pipeline in North America.

The Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) , whose final cost is estimated at $7 billion, said in a statement it was now online for interruptible or short-term firm transportation services from June 14 and would commence meeting long-term firm capacity obligations on July 1, 2024.

EQT, the largest shale-gas operator in the US Appalachian Basin, had entered into a definitive merger agreement with Equitrans Midstream in March 2024 creating a natural gas business with an initial combined enterprise value over $35 billion.

Merger contingent on start-up

The EQT-Equitrans transaction is expected to close during the fourth quarter of 2024 and was crucially contingent on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission letting the Mountain Valley Pipeline start operations and this has now happened.

Pittsburgh-based EQT has existing shale-gas operations in the Marcellus and Utica formations of western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

EQT has also signed LNG accords including with the Texas LNG project at the Port of Brownsville owned by the leading infrastructure developer Glenfarne Energy Transition.

Equitrans stated that the Mountain Valley Pipeline was now part of a critical network of more than 300,000 miles of interstate and intrastate natural gas transmission pipelines transporting the natural gas that fuels modern America and the US economy.

"We are grateful for the ongoing professionalism and tremendous efforts of the federal and state agencies that worked tirelessly for many years to ensure MVP's construction activities met or exceeded all applicable permitting requirements," said Thomas F. Karam, Executive Chairman of Equitrans Midstream.

"In addition, we would not be commencing commercial operations were it not for the relentless advocacy and commitment of our federal and state elected officials," said Karam.

Politicians praised

"In particular, the resolve and commitment of Senator Manchin who championed and declared MVP as being critical to our energy security and national security, and the dedication of Senator Capito, Congressman Reschenthaler, and Congresswoman Miller who recognized the essential benefits of MVP, including reliable, affordable access to domestic energy," Karam declared.

Construction of the pipeline had been severely slowed by court challenges until a congressional spending deal was achieved in 2023 by Senator Joe Manchin, a conservative Democrat from West Virginia who supported the project and who gained the consent for the pipeline from the Biden Administration.

President Biden on June 3, 2023, signed legislation that raised the nation's debt limit and ratified and approved all permits and authorizations necessary for the completion and initial operations of the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

The completed natural gas pipeline, which has been in the design and construction stages since 2014, runs from the northwest of West Virginia to southern Virginia.

The pipeline is designed to transport natural gas from the prolific Marcellus and Utica shale regions to the growing demand markets of the mid-Atlantic and southeast regions of the US.

Natural gas demand

Mountain Valley is a 42-inch diameter pipeline that extends from Equitrans's existing transmission and storage system in Wetzel County, West Virginia, to Transco Station 165 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

"Demand for natural gas in Southwest Virginia continues to grow, and the importance of MVP's energy supply cannot be overstated," said Paul Nester, President and Chief Executive of Roanoke Gas Co.

■

Bolivian pipelines unlikely to be easy fix for region's gas flows amid LNG and LPG needs

LNG News Editor

Bolivia's natural oil and gas company, Yacimientos Petrolófilos Fiscales Bolivianos (YPFB), said that when a natural gas transportation contract expires in September the Bolivians may be able to offer their pipelines to Argentina to send gas to Brazil from the Vaca Muerta shale-gas basin.

However, YPFB said that many issues have to be resolved before Bolivia could start transporting pipeline gas from the border with Argentina to Brazil.

Both Brazil and Argentina import LNG cargoes to meet their domestic natural gas needs, especially during the current South Hemisphere winter.

"The current bottleneck is Argentina's lack of pipelines and related infrastructure. They want to negotiate with Bolivia, but they must first reverse their own gas pipeline flows and secure gas to the border," said a Bolivian energy executive.

"They must also work on setting up tariffs and a regulatory regime," he added.

Argentina's Vaca Muerta Shale is located in the country's northwest Neuquén province and with estimated recoverable resources of 308 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 16 billion barrels of oil.

Bolivian gas company Chief Executive Armin Dorgaten (right) and commercial manager Oscar Claros

Analysts noted that while the transportation route via Bolivia appears to be a feasible strategic solution the commercial negotiations required and the slow Argentine infrastructure build-out may be difficult to overcome.

Brazilian natural gas demand continues to rise along with LNG imports because of fluctuating hydro-electric power.

Reverse gas flows

The proposed plan involves reversing the flow of existing Bolivian pipelines, which historically transported gas southbound to Argentina.

This reversal would enable northbound gas flows from Argentina via Bolivia to Brazil.

However, Bolivia's YPFB recently rejected a tolling fee proposal from Argentina for Bolivia to handle gas flowing to Brazil and the negotiations are said to be stalled.

Bolivia's natural gas supplies to Argentina have declined to as low as 2 million cubic metres per day while Argentina's own domestic natural gas consumption during the winter season is 130 million cubic metres per day.

Higher natural gas imports from Bolivia are not now possible as the Andean nation's gas production has fallen in recent years by about 50 percent to 32 million cubic metres per day.

Analysts noted that Bolivia by 2029 would no longer have gas to export because domestic demand would match Bolivian production capacity.

YPFB's problems are more complex and the company is currently making sure that Bolivian consumers have enough bottles of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) at reasonable prices to see them through the winter.

Bolivia's energy company said it would have LPG for sale at service stations around the country at affordable prices to prevent speculation.

"We guarantee the availability of production and bottling capacity to meet the demand for LPG in the winter season," the company stated.

NEWS BRIEFS

Cheniere Energy buybacks

Cheniere Energy, the largest US LNG producer with the Sabine Pass and Corpus Christi plants and their expansion projects, has received board approval for an increase in its share repurchase authorisation by an additional $4 billion through 2027, and for a plan to increase its quarterly dividend by 15 percent to $2.00 per common share annualised, commencing with the third quarter 2024. Cheniere noted that the capital allocation plan started in 2022 to enable investment in growth projects while returning capital to shareholders. Share repurchases allow companies to re-invest in themselves while boosting the value of the shares as there are fewer outstanding. "Cheniere has funded accretive brownfield growth, bringing the Corpus Christi Stage 3 project to over 60 percent completion, repurchased 10 percent of shares outstanding while growing its dividend by over 30 percent," Cheniere said.

NFE pushes back date for first FLNG start-up

New Fortress Energy, the US LNG and power company that owns and operates facilities in five countries, has extended the schedules for first LNG at the floating liquefaction plant offshore Altamira in the Gulf of Mexico and the first cargo will now be shipped in July rather than June.

Wes Edens, Chairman and Chief Executive of New York-based NFE, had previously said that the first cargo from the FLNG facility was expected in June.

The FLNG production facility is located in Mexican waters of the Gulf of Mexico offshore the port of Altamira where there is already an onshore LNG import terminal.

"The company has made tremendous progress on its path towards the start of liquefaction operations," said a statement from New Fortress, which is listed on the Nasdaq global exchange.

"As of June 14, the work necessary to begin operations is complete and the company has also completed the full remainder of pre-commissioning activities," explained NFE.

"The company now expects to produce LNG in the next 10 days, and then expects to be able to deliver its first cargo in July," the company added.

The FLNG facility has also received a positive ruling from the US Customs and Border Protection agency confirming that the transportation of LNG produced at NFE's FLNG unit can transport cargoes on non-US Jones Act qualified vessels.

As a result of this ruling, NFE will be able to sell and deliver LNG produced at its FLNG facility offshore Mexico to US locations, including the territory of Puerto Rico.

Moroccans acquire natural gas assets from UK owner including LNG plan

LNG News Editor

Morocco, the North African kingdom advancing plans for floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) tenders to improve energy security, has also just acquired a UK company's Moroccan natural gas assets and an LNG production project.

The Moroccan mining company called Managem has announced the acquisition of UK firm Sound Energy's Moroccan gas assets.

Managem, which is majority-owned by Al Mada, a private Pan-African investment fund, said the move would enable the setting up by Managem of an upstream exploration and production unit and allow it to become "a regional player" in natural gas resources.

The acquisition of the Sound Energy Morocco East Limited (SEME) company for $45.2 million followed a competitive bidding process.

Tendrara gas wells are near eastern border with Algeria

Concessions

The assets comprise 55 percent of the Tendrara natural gas concession, 47.5 percent of the Grand Tendrara exploration licence and 47.5 percent of the Anoual exploration licence.

The London-listed company Sound Energy was additionally developing a small-scale LNG liquefaction plant for the Tendrara gas wells concession near the eastern border with Algeria.

Managem explained that the gas development plan for the Tendrara project would be structured in two phases.

"The first phase currently under construction aims to produce LNG from mid-2025 from 100 million cubic metres per year of gas," said the Moroccan company.

"It involves setting up a processing, liquefaction and gas storage facility to serve the needs of national industrial manufacturers," Managem added.

Managem said that another project is being studied and involves the construction of a processing facility and a pipeline that will connect to the Maghreb-Europe gas link.

This is the Gazoduc Maghreb-Europe (GME) natural gas pipeline, which extends from a major gas field in Algeria and transits through Morocco to Cordoba in Spain.

Elixir Energy gives update over Queensland LNG feed-gas move

Australian natural gas explorer Elixir Energy has given a positive update on expanding activities in Queensland's onshore Bowen Basin, which supplies feed gas for LNG plants and could potentially help avert a security of supply crisis on the East Coast.

Elixir's latest statement to the Australian Securities Exchange concerns the Grandis gas venture in the Taroom Trough, part of the Bowen Basin.

The Adelaide-based company's key commitment under this licence is to drill and stimulate a deep well, basically covering the completion of the current Daydream-2 well programme.

Condor Energy

"Following recent operational issues in the stimulation phase of the Daydream-2 appraisal programme, Elixir has engaged leading Australian well services company Condor Energy to complete the remaining stimulation stages," Elixir explained.

Condor has advised Elixir that it will be in a position to recommence this work in late July or early August.

"The exact timing will become clearer in coming weeks as the availability of coil tubing equipment being utilized by a neighbouring operator becomes clearer," Elixir added.

The company's internal assessment of the prospective resources in these deep coals areas to 3.6 trillion cubic feet of coal-seam gas.

Elixir holds a 100 percent interest in petroleum exploration licence ATP 2044 in the basin.

This 1,000 square kilometres CSG tenement is located within a transportable distance to the Wallumbilla gas hub and can access domestic and international gas markets.


CHART®
NEXUS OF CLEAN™
"Chart's vision is to be the global leader in the design, engineering and manufacturing of cryogenic process technologies and equipment for the Nexus of Clean™ — clean power, clean water, clean food and clean industrials, regardless of molecule."
JILL EVANKO / CEO / CHART INDUSTRIES
CLEAN
CLEAN
CLEAN
CLEAN
CHART DELIVERS CLEAN SOLUTIONS FOR
Power
Water
Food
Industrials
Learn more at chartindustries.com

Côte d'Ivoire's President Ouattara declares African nation is headed for oil and gas ramp-up by 2027

LNG News Editor

Côte d'Ivoire President Alassane Ouattara has outlined plans to boost oil and natural gas output three-fold in the West African nation by 2027 when it would become a major regional energy hub.

President Ouattara told a joint session of Parliament in a major speech that more than $15 billion was expected to be invested in the country's oil and gas sector, adding that output would grow to about 200,000 barrels per day (bpd) by 2027 from 60,000 at the moment.

He said that resources had been boosted by recent oil and gas discoveries including the Baleine and Calao offshore fields and Italy and others and nations would lead the investment to help the nation on the path to economic success.

"It will be a spectacular leap," Ouattara declared to the legislature.

The Baleine field was discovered by Italian major Eni in 2021 and production started in 2023.

The offshore Baleine field is now being developed

National resources

The Baleine oil and gas project alone will help ensure that the population has access to energy for daily living and the surplus would strengthens the Côte d'Ivoire's position as a regional energy hub.

The Côte d'Ivoire's regional neighbours to the North, Senegal and Mauritania, are currently developing floating LNG projects and Senegal is starting its first offshore oil project backed by Australian LNG operator Woodside Energy.

Among Côte d'Ivoire's southern neighbours, Nigeria is an established world-scale LNG and oil exporting nation.

Ouattara said that $10 billion would be invested in developing the Baleine field and this spending was taking place in three phases through 2027.

Certified reserves of the Baleine field, discovered by the Italian energy group in 2021, are estimated at 2.5 billion barrels of oil and 3.3 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Eni additionally announced in March 2024 that the Calao field had been discovered with preliminary assessments indicating potential resources ranging between 1 billion barrels of oil to 1.5 billion barrels of oil.

Another neighbour Cameroon has a small FLNG project in operation, Ghana plans LNG imports and Angola is a major oil and gas nation. Most recently, the Eni-led FLNG project in the Republic of Congo shipped its first cargo to Italy.

African Investment surge

The Côte d'Ivoire's mainly oil production has varied significantly over the past two decades as existing fields have become depleted, closed for maintenance or development works and as new discoveries have been made but have needed further investment and development.

Eni's partner in the Baleine project and other ventures in Côte d'Ivoire is the nation's state energy company, Société Nationale d'Opérations Pétrolières de la Côte d'Ivoire (Petroci).

In addition to the CI-101 block, Eni owns stakes in four other blocks in the Ivorian deepwater.

They are CI-205, CI-501, CI-504 and CI-802, all with the same partner Petroci.

Baleine's initial gas production is destined to boost the domestic market, strengthening access to energy for the people of Côte d'Ivoire.

LNG engineer Technip wins contract for one of world's largest oil and gas fields in Kazakhstan

Technip Energies, the LNG and energy engineers, has signed a long-term joint venture services agreement for one of the world's largest oil and gas fields in the Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan.

The French company said the award was to the TKJV LLP venture comprising Technip and the long-standing infrastructure company Karaganda Promstroyproekt Institute LLP (KPSP) in the former Soviet republic.

The contract came from the Karachaganak Petroleum Operating company (KPO) for the further development of the onshore Karachaganak field, located in northwest Kazakhstan. The value of the contract was not disclosed.

The huge Karachaganak field produces oil, condensates and natural gas to supply global markets.

Five-year deal

"This five-year agreement covers a comprehensive range of services, from consulting and concept to detailed engineering, aimed at optimizing and expanding the existing facilities and infrastructure of one of the largest oil and gas condensate fields in the world," said Technip.

The TKJV LLP venture firm was established by Technip in 2019 to serve the Kazakh market by leveraging its engineering and technology capabilities.

"We are delighted to strengthen our relationship with KPO through this engagement," said Charles Cessot, a senior vice president at the Technip consulting and products unit.

"The trust placed in us for this project demonstrates our expertise and operational quality after many years in Kazakhstan," Cessot added.

Nour Abou Jaoudé, Chief Executive and Chairman of the TKJV venture with Technip, said the contract was an act of trust by KPO's CEO Marco Marsil and the Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Almassadam Satkaliyev.

Committed

"We are fully committed to supporting the localization of complex engineering services as part of the country's ambitious local content development plans and especially on such an important project for the Kazakh energy sector and economy," explained Abou Jaoudé.