



OIL



Samsun – Ceyhan pipeline route changed

Date : 20.09.2007

Source : Today's Zaman

<http://www.todayszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=detay&link=122620>

The route for the Samsun-Ceyhan pipeline has been changed according to a General Directorate of Petroleum Affairs decision published in Wednesday's Official Gazette. The construction of the project was given to the Trans-Anatolia Petroleum Company (TAPCO), a subsidiary of Çalık Holding, as a build-operate-transfer project.

According to the decision, the new route will run through Ünye, Akkuş, Niksa, Tokat, Yıldızeli, Şarkışla, Pınarbaşı, Sarız, Tufanbeyli, Saimbeyli, Feke, Kozan, Sümbaş, Kadirli, Ceyhan and Yumurtalık without changing the main features from the previous route that included Samsun, Çakallı, Kavak, Havza, Suluova, Yüzbeyli, Turhal, Amasya, Gözlek, Hasabdal, Korucuk, Özükkavak, Azapbaşı, Adilli, Boğazlıyan, Kırıkkale, Kayseri, Çayırözü, Karacaören, Yahyalı, Çamlıca, Işıkkaya, İmamoğlu, Mercimek and Ceyhan.

OIL



Toreador abandons Black Sea exploration

Date : 21.09.2007

Source : Turkish Daily News

<http://www.turkishdailynews.com.tr/article.php?newsid=84025>

Toreador Resources Corporation said the exploration well in the Thrace permit area in Black Sea offshore Turkey has been plugged and abandoned and expects to record a dry hole cost of about \$4 million in the third quarter. The oil and gas explorer also said the Doğu Ayazlı platform offshore Turkey, which is operated by 51 percent owner TPAO, the Turkish national oil company, has been reconnected and initial gas production has begun from two wells.

Oil exploration studies halt as TPAO board fails to convene



Date : 18.09.2007

Source : Today's Zaman (Ercan Baysal)

<http://www.todayszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=detay&link=122413>

As Energy Minister Hilmi Güler delays appointing new members to the administrative board of the Turkish Petroleum Corporation (TPAO), the company's decision making mechanism has reached gridlock. For more than a month the company's management has not been able to meet, therefore all projects to explore energy resources in domestic sites and foreign lands were postponed.

At present there are only two board members in TPAO, which normally needs six members and a chairman. Vice Undersecretary for the Energy Ministry Yusuf Yazar's term of office expired two months ago while that of Cumali Kınacı, a professor at İstanbul Technical University, ended last month. Management must meet with at least four members in order to make decisions. The existing members are Deputy Chairman Mehmet Uysal and Treasury representative İsmet Salihoğlu. A top-level official from TPAO points out that the same problem is valid for the Turkish Petroleum International Company (TPIC).

GdF wants to join Nabucco



Date : 17.09.2007

Source : Turkish Daily News

<http://www.turkishdailynews.com.tr/article.php?enewsid=83586>

French utility Gaz de France wants to join the European Union's flagship Nabucco gas pipeline, the French gas giant's chief operating officer, Jean-Marie Dauger, said. The 3,300-kilometer Nabucco pipeline, scheduled for completion in 2012, currently has five shareholders, Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Austria, who have long been looking for a sixth partner for the project.

"I'm not betraying any great secrets by telling you that GdF wants to become a partner in Nabucco. We could help meet the challenges facing the project," Dauger told an international conference. Earlier, Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany said his country fully backed the construction of Nabucco, but not to the exclusion of Russia's alternative project, Blue Stream. *"It's not a question of 'Nabucco versus Blue Stream,'"* Gyurcsany told the conference, insisting that several new pipelines would be necessary to secure Europe's energy supply in the future. In the past, Gyurcsany had been critical of Nabucco, arguing that it lacked both political and financial backing, unlike Moscow's Blue Stream project.



Erdoğan vows to go ahead with Iran energy deal

Date : 21.09.2007

Source : Today's Zaman

<http://www.todayszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=detay&link=122736>

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan defended Turkey's gradually deepening cooperation with its neighbor Iran on Thursday, hours after a top US diplomat here in Ankara called on Turkey and other countries to sever their business ties with the Islamic republic to help prevent Tehran from possibly obtaining nuclear weapons.

Speaking to reporters at a press conference yesterday held at Ankara's Esenboğa Airport before departing for New York, where he will attend the 62nd session of the UN General Assembly, Erdoğan was reminded of remarks by US Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns concerning the issue. Burns, in remarks aired live in an interview earlier in the day, didn't explicitly refer to a preliminary deal signed by its NATO ally Turkey for boosting energy cooperation with Iran and investing \$3.5 billion in its South Pars gas field starting next year. He, however, said no country should go ahead with its bilateral relations with Iran without taking into consideration the fact that this country should be isolated via peaceful means in order to convince it to accept negotiation its controversial nuclear plans with the international community.

Noting that Burns didn't outline any particular request from the US side for canceling the deal with Iran during their meeting on Wednesday, Erdoğan said: *"Moreover, Iran and Russia are the most important resources in terms of Turkey's need for natural gas."* Erdoğan explained Turkey's urgent need for natural gas and said that *"it was out of the question for Turkey to completely cut its relations with Iran,"* concerning the natural gas issue.



State sizes BOTAŞ pipeline's receivables

Date : 19.09.2007

Source : Turkish Daily News

<http://www.turkishdailynews.com.tr/article.php?newsid=83756>

Turkey ordered 35 natural-gas customers of BOTAŞ, the state pipeline company, to pay the Finance Ministry directly in a bid to collect YTL 700 million BOTAŞ owes in back taxes. The energy company has been unable to pay taxes because its customers are not paying their debts. BOTAŞ is owed YTL 10,4 billion, including interest, primarily by EÜAŞ, a state-owned power company, and natural gas distributor EGO, which belongs to the city of Ankara.

OIL



Price of fuel stations rise as illegal trade ceases

Date : 19.09.2007

Source : Today's Zaman

<http://www.todayszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=detay&link=122516>

The illegal gasoline trade was a big problem for Turkey for many years in the recent past. The annual volume of the illegal trade was estimated at around \$3 billion to \$4 billion. Beginning in January of this year, the Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EPDK) forced fuel distributors to use a liquid substance as a national marker to prevent illegal trade.

The energy authority also launched tight auditing, and as a result, legal sales increased. According to a Petroleum Industry Association (PETDER) report, gasoline sales in the January-June 2007 period increased by 8,2 percent over the same period last year.

The Turkish Fuel Stations, Oil and Gas Company Employers' Union (TABGİS) President Atıf Keçeci said the increase in the price of gas stations was due to the interest from oil distributors and was only occurring within major cities; he noted that there were no changes in the prices of stations in rural areas. *"Main fuel distributors have unbelievable competition; this raises the prices only along main urban roads. But besides competing with each other, they also need to be attentive to the problems of stations,"* he said.

GAS



President says Turkmenistan ready to sell gas to Europe

Date : 21.09.2007

Source : Today's Zaman

<http://www.todayszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=detay&link=122723>

Turkmenistan has some of the world's biggest gas reserves and is the second-largest gas producer in the former Soviet Union after Russia. All its exports currently go through pipes controlled by Russia's state-controlled gas giant OAO Gazprom, but President Gurbanguli Berdimukhamedov has appeared eager to develop alternate export routes.

Berdymukhamedov, after meeting Wednesday with Austrian Economic Minister Martin Bartenstein, said Turkmenistan, *"having multiple vectors in its energy policy and creating alternative export routes, including in the southern direction through the Caspian Sea, is prepared to deliver natural gas to European countries,"* the Neutral Turkmenistan newspaper reported. Further details were not available, but Berdymukhamedov appeared to be proposing a pipeline that would run to Azerbaijan, which is the starting point for a gas pipeline running to Turkey via Georgia.

OMV plans Azeri gas for Nabucco



Date : 20.09.2007

Source : Oil & Gas Journal (Uchenna Izundu)
http://www.ogj.com/display_article/306585/7/ONART/none/Trasp/OMV-plans-Azeri-gas-for-Nabucco-pipeline/

Azerbaijan will provide gas for the proposed Nabucco gas pipeline under a memorandum of understanding signed Sept. 20 by Austrian and Azeri government officials. Austria Minister of Economics Martin Bartenstein signed the MOU with Azeri Minister of Industry and Energy Natiq Aliyev to begin talks between OMV AG and Azerbaijan's state oil company Socar.

Socar plans to deliver gas to the Baumgarten hub near Vienna via Nabucco. Deliveries are scheduled for 2012, but no details were given on volumes. The MOU said Azerbaijan is in the position to play a leading role in the transport of gas from the Caspian region to Europe.

AMEC Paragon wins contract for Turkish Black Sea gas project



Date : 20.09.2007

Source : Oil Online
http://www.oilonline.com/news/headlines/business/20070920.AMEC_Par.24536.asp

AMEC Paragon was selected by the Turkish national oil company to provide front-end engineering design for a natural gas drilling and wellhead platform in the Western Black Sea near Akçakoca. As operator for the Akçakoca Gas Field Development Project, TPAO holds a 51 percent share in the development. Toreador (USA) and Stratic Energy (Canada) are joint venture partners.

Prompted by Turkey's rapidly growing demand for natural gas resources, the project represents a significant milestone for the country as the Turkish Black Sea's first major gas development project. Financial details of the award are undisclosed.

"We are honored to assist TPAO in its efforts to increase Turkey's production by exploiting the much-needed energy resources from the Black Sea," said Terrance Ivers, AMEC Paragon's president. *"We are bringing our worldwide project execution expertise to the Akçakoca project to help TPAO maximize efficiency by optimizing offshore infrastructure."*

AMEC Paragon's work aims to expand gas production capacity, currently achieved via three minimal tripods, by 35% to 75 million standard cubic feet per day. A new four-legged platform in 312 feet of water will be installed over two existing exploratory wells. TPAO plans to drill three or four additional production wells from the same platform. Additional exploratory wells are planned for 2008.

✚ TPAO Farmout - Black Sea Deep Offshore Licenses

Source : TPAO
Weblink : <http://www.tpao.gov.tr/farmout/index.asp>

✚ EMRA Activity Report - 2006

Source : EMRA
Weblink : <http://www.epdk.org.tr/english/reports/2006engfaalrap/2006engfaalrap.zip>

✚ Announcement on Restructuring of Petroleum Market Pricing System to be Implemented in Petroleum Market

Source : EMRA
Weblink : <http://www.epdk.org.tr/duyuru/petrol/taslak/fiyatlandirma/index.asp>

✚ Board's Decree on Application Petition Amendments in Petroleum Market

Source : EMRA
Weblink : http://www.epdk.org.tr/mevzuat/kurul/petrol/1304_12/1304_12.doc

✚ E&P Technology Summit 2007

Date : October 16 – 17, 2007
Place : Barcelona – Spain
Website : www.eptsummit.com
Contact : Michael Travers (+44 0 20 7202 75 11)



✚ Africa Upstream 2007

Date : October 31 – November 02, 2007
Place : Cape Town – South Africa
Website : <http://petro21.com/events/index.cfm?id=302>
Contact : babette@glopac.com



✚ World Energy Congress

Date : November 11 – 15, 2007
Place : Rome – Italy
Website : www.rome2007.it
Contact : Erica La Venuta (+06 420 45423)

