

Nigeria to earn \$22bn annually from Gbaran/Ubie gas project

By Ibanga Isine, Port Harcourt
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The Federal Government will earn over \$22bn annually from the Integrated Oil and Gas Project situated in Gbaran/Ubie, Bayelsa State.

The Public Affairs Manager, Shell Petroleum Development Company, Mr. Precious Okolobo, made this known in Port Harcourt on Sunday.

Okolobo said contract for the construction of a gas processing facility for the project had already been signed between the SPDC and an engineering firm, Hanover Nigeria Limited.

He said the signing of the contract was part of the implementation of the Federal Government's integrated oil and gas project in the area.

The engineering firm, in partnership with an indigenous firm, Inter Global Procurement and Engineering Services Limited, got the contract for the installation, operation and maintenance of the fuel gas processing facility.

The contract documents were jointly signed at a brief ceremony by SPDC's General Manger, Major Projects, Mr. Andrew Birch, and Director of Hanover for Europe and Africa, Mr. William Cotton.

It was also witnessed by the Managing Director of IGPEs, Mr. Uzoma Ekpechem.

Birch said, "The contract helps to meet two key national objectives building of indigenous capacity and helping to meet national power generation aspirations.

"SPDC is pleased to be part of this important initiative, and we are confident of a very positive and productive partnership with Hanover and IGPEs."

But Okolobo said Hanover and IGPEs were expected to deliver the gas processing facility during the third quarter of 2009.

The facility, he said, would provide 80 million standard cubic feet of gas per day to the nation's power plant.

He said SPDC had completed drilling of gas wells, while the installation of flow lines to transport gas from the wells to the processing plant were currently being carried out.

Okolobo said, "The Gbaran/Ubie project itself is one of Nigeria's largest oil and gas development undertakings. "While supplying the Federal Government's power plants, it is expected to boost gas supply capability to the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Company, eliminate gas flares near oil fields and lay the foundation for further development phases.