

MONTHLY UPDATES ON NIGERIA'S PETROLEUM, MINING AND POWER SECTORS

**APRIL 2025** 



#### **PETROLEUM**

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DIRECTS IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF NAIRA-FOR-CRUDE ARRANGEMENT WITH DOMESTIC REFINERS

The Minister of Finance has announced the immediate resumption of the naira-for-crude arrangement between the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL) and local refiners, which enables the purchase of crude oil in naira instead of US dollars. This announcement is timely as NNPCL's previous arrangement with the Dangote Refinery expired last month, creating panic in the market.

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# NMDPRA SETS NEW DOMESTIC BASE PRICE AND APPLICABLE WHOLESALE PRICE OF NATURAL GAS FOR THE STRATEGIC SECTORS

The Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) has announced a new domestic base price and wholesale price of natural gas supplied to the strategic sectors (power sector, commercial sector and gas-based industries), effective 1st April 2025. According to a statement signed by the Chief Executive of NMDPRA, the new domestic base price is set at \$2.13 and the wholesale price of natural gas for supply to the power sector and the commercial sectors is \$2.13/MMBtu and \$2.63/MMBtu, respectively. For the supply to gas-based industries, the wholesale price is to be calculated using the pricing formular contained in the fourth schedule to the Petroleum Industry Act, 2021, subject to a floor price of \$0.90/MMBtu and a ceiling price of \$2.13/MMBtu.

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## NIGERIA'S WALCOT LIMITED SIGNS PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACT FOR 3 OIL BLOCKS IN ANGOLA

Walcot Limited, a Nigerian independent energy company, has announced the signing of a production sharing contract with the Angolan National Agency for Petroleum, Gas, and Biofuels (ANPG), following its successful bid for three oil blocks in Angola. The agreement grants Walcot Limited operatorship and 100% participating interest in 2 of the awarded blocks – Blocks CON 3 and CON 7, and a 10% participating interest in Block KON 13. The President and Chief Executive Officer of Walcot Limited disclosed that the deal marks a significant advancement towards the company's journey to establish a formidable presence in Africa's high-potential basins.

# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SIGNS \$27.3 MILLION DEAL WITH LNG ARETE LIMITED TO DEVELOP LNG PROJECT IN KOGI STATE

The Presidential Compressed Natural Gas Initiative (P-CNGi) has executed a memorandum of understanding with LNG Arete Limited for the construction of a \$27.3 million liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant with a processing capacity of 7 mmscf/d in Ajaokuta, Kogi State. The plant, when operational will convert LNG into compressed natural gas (CNG). The Chief Executive Officer of P-CNGi disclosed that the project will establish a key supply hub for CNG in Northern Nigeria and ensure that gas becomes more accessible and cost-competitive for users within the region. Click here for more information



#### **PETROLEUM**

#### NGML MOVES TO ACQUIRE A 5.2 MILLION STANDARD CUBIC FEET PER DAY CNG FACILITY

The NNPC Gas Marketing Limited (NGML), a subsidiary of the NNPCL, is set to acquire a 5.2 mmscf/d CNG compression and refuelling facility from Gas Network Services Limited. This acquisition is expected to strengthen the CNG market by increasing infrastructure capacity and making CNG more accessible and affordable, particularly for the transport and commercial sectors. Click here for more information

# AFREXIMBANK LAUNCHES \$3 BILLION REVOLVING INTRA-AFRICAN OIL IMPORT FINANCING PROGRAMME

African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) has launched a \$3 billion Revolving Intra-African Oil Trade Financing Programme to finance the purchase of refined petroleum products, such as premium motor spirits, automotive gas oil, heavy oil fuel, jet fuel and kerosene, by African and Caribbean oil buyers. The President and Chairman of Afreximbank disclosed that the programme is expected to have direct impact on the volume of refined petroleum products produced and consumed in Africa.

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#### MINING

#### NIGERIA AND SOUTH AFRICA SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON MINING DEVELOPMENT

Nigeria and South Africa have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen cooperation in geology, mining, and mineral processing. The agreement was signed during a meeting in Abuja between Nigeria's Minister of Solid Minerals Development, Dr. Dele Alake, and South Africa's Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Gwede Mantashe. Key areas of cooperation include capacity building in geological applications using unmanned aerial vehicles, the use of remote sensing technologies for mineral exploration and geological mapping, geoscientific data sharing, training on mineral processing, and the exploration of agro and energy minerals. Click here for more information.

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GENERATES N6.96BN IN MINING FEES AND APPROVES 118 NEW **MINERAL BUYING CENTRES IN 01 2025**

Minister of Solid Minerals Development, Dr. Dele Alake has announced the collection of ₩6.96 billion in mining fees and the registration of 118 new private mineral buying centres during the first quarter of 2025. Dr. Dele Alake disclosed that the revenue was derived from 955 applications for mining title grants, including exploration, small-scale mining, quarrying, and reconnaissance permits. Of these, 867 applications were approved. Dr. Alake indicated that the fees comprised of annual service charges and processing fees.

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#### KOGI STATE PARTNERS WITH CHINA'S HUNAN PROVINCE TO DRIVE INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT**

The Kogi State Government has entered into a strategic partnership with China's Hunan Province to enhance development in agriculture, mining, and industrialization in the state. The agreement focuses on establishing an Industrial Park in Ajaokuta as a Special Economic Zone to attract foreign investment and boost local industries.

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### **POWER AND RENEWABLES**

## NERC ISSUES ORDER ON DELINEATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES OF DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES

Following the decentralisation of Nigeria's electricity market under the Electricity Act 2023, which allowed for the devolution of powers from NERC to newly formed state electricity regulatory commissions, NERC has issued an order to provide further clarity the process for delineation of assets and liabilities of existing electricity distribution companies ("Discos") to their subsidiary companies. The order defines the key assets and highlights the delineation principles to apply to each type of asset or liability. It also provides for the delineation of legacy commitments and contractual obligations. This order is significant light of the decentralization of the regulation of the sector and the attempts being made by the Federal Government to address the legacy debts and obligations that need to be considered during the transition period by Discos. Click here for more information

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INAUGURATES NISO BOARD AND MANAGEMENT AND UNBUNDLES TCN

The Federal Government has officially launched the Nigerian Independent System Operator of Nigeria Limited (NISO), marking the operational split of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) into NISO and the Transmission Service Provider (TSP). While the TSP will manage transmission infrastructure, NISO will oversee system operations, including load allocation and market coordination. The new appointees include Abdu Mohammed as managing director, and Dr. Adesegun Akin-Olugbade as board chairman.

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# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SIGNS \$328.8M DEAL WITH CHINESE FIRM TO UPGRADE TRANSMISSION LINES

The Federal Government has signed a \$328.8 million contract with China Machinery Engineering Corporation to rehabilitate and expand Nigeria's electricity transmission network under Phase I of the Presidential Power Initiative. The project involves the construction and upgrade of 330kV and 132kV transmission lines across 544 kilometres, with a load capacity of 7,140MW. The initiative aims to improve grid reliability, reduce stranded generation, and strengthen power delivery nationwide.

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## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO BRIDGE METERING GAP WITH ARRIVAL OF 275,000 METERS BY MAY 2025

The Federal Government is set to receive 275,000 electricity meters between April and May 2025, as part of efforts to close Nigeria's 7 million metering gap. Under the Distribution Sector Recovery Programme (DISREP), 75,000 meters are expected in April, with another 200,000 in May. The initiative aims to deliver over 3.2 million meters by 2026 through various procurement channels. In addition to DISREP, the N700bn Presidential Metering Initiative targets two million meters annually for five years, with the first tender expected in Q3 2025.

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### **POWER AND RENEWABLES**

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSURES GENCOS OF PLANS TO OFFSET N4 TRILLION DEBT

The Federal Government says it is working to settle the over \ 4 trillion owed to power generation companies (GenCos) for electricity supplied. The Minister of Power's spokesperson, Bola Tunji, has announced that discussions are ongoing with the Ministry of Finance to address the issue.

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#### NERC FINES EIGHT DISCOS OVER N628 MILLION FOR OVERBILLING UNMETERED CUSTOMERS

NERC has fined eight electricity distribution companies (Abuja, Ikeja, Eko, Enugu, Jos, Kaduna, Kano, and Yola Distribution Companies) a total of over \(\frac{1}{2}\)628 million for violating energy caps on estimated billing for unmetered customers between July and September 2024. The DisCos were found to have overbilled customers beyond the limits set by NERC's 2020 Capping Order, which aims to align estimated bills with actual metered consumption. In addition to the fines, NERC has mandated that all affected customers receive credit adjustments by May 15, 2025, stressing that the enforcement action is essential to uphold consumer protection and regulatory compliance within the electricity sector.

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#### ELEKTRON ENERGY TO ISSUE #17BN BOND FOR 30MW GAS POWER PROJECT IN LAGOS

Elektron Finance SPV Plc, a vehicle of Elektron Energy Development Strategies Ltd, is set to issue a N17 billion, 15-year senior guaranteed fixed rate infrastructure bond to fund a 30MW gas-fired embedded generation plant in Victoria Island, Lagos State. The project is to be backed by InfraCredit and Global Credit Rating and will deliver more reliable power to commercial areas via a dedicated 5km distribution network and long-term PPAs with Eko Electricity Distribution Company and other off-takers.

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# LINCS POWER ENERGY SOLUTIONS PARTNERS WITH ONDO STATE GOVERNMENT TO CONSTRUCT 5MW POWER PROJECT

Lincs Power Energy Solutions has commenced construction of a 5-megawatt power project in partnership with the Ondo State Government to enhance electricity supply in the state. The project, located in Ondo West Local Government, is expected to drive economic growth and improve living standards in the state.

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# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BETWEEN LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AGENCY

The Rural Electrification Agency (REA) and the Lagos State Government have signed an MOU to expand clean energy access in the state by powering public institutions with rooftop solar systems. The partnership aims to reduce reliance on diesel generators currently in use across Lagos State by deploying sustainable, distributed energy solutions.

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### **POWER AND RENEWABLES**

## FG LAUNCHES SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACCESS PROJECTS TO DELIVER CLEAN ENERGY TO ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN NIGERIA

The Federal Government has launched Sustainable Energy Access Projects (SEAP), a program aimed at delivering at least 5MW of decentralized clean energy to each of the country's 774 local government areas. SEAP will support key sectors such as agro-processing, healthcare, SMEs, and transportation. A 30MW decentralized power facility was commissioned at the official launch in Sagamu, Ogun State while a tripartite MOU was also signed between the Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON), Data Analytics & Solutions International Ltd, and CCK Electric Power Technology Company to drive the implementation of the projects. SEAP is expected to create jobs, reduce emissions, and advance Nigeria's progress on the Sustainability Development Goals. Click here for more information

## GENESIS ENERGY SIGNS \$500MDEAL WITH KATSINA STATE GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS

Genesis Energy Holding, a UK-based pan-African clean energy firm, has signed an MOU with the Katsina State Government to develop major energy infrastructure projects worth \$500 million aimed at driving industrial and economic growth. The deal is to cover the development, financing, construction, and operation of clean and sustainable energy projects including solar, wind, hydro, mini-grids, and gas-based solutions.

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#### ENERGY COMMISSION NIGERIA, ENERGY CHINA & NIGERIAN GOVERNORS' FORUM SIGN MOU

The Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN), China Energy Engineering Corporation Ltd (Energy China), and the Nigerian Governors' Forum have signed an MOU to jointly address Nigeria's persistent energy issues through strategic partnerships and innovation. The MOU provides a framework for state-level energy planning, expansion of renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydro, and the development of green energy infrastructure. A key outcome of the agreement is the planned establishment of a Nigeria-China Renewable Energy Research Centre to drive innovation and capacity-building in the clean energy sector.

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### RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AGENCY SIGNS GRANT DEALS WITH NINE FIRMS TO ELECTRIFY 17.5 MILLION NIGERIANS

The REA has signed grant agreements with nine renewable energy companies to provide electricity access to 17.5 million Nigerians through the deployment of 1,350 mini-grids and 1.6 million solar home systems. The companies include Privida Power, Baobab Plus, Salpha Energy, Asolar, NTA-StarTimes, A4&T Power Solutions, Sunking Greenlight Planet, Bboxx, and D.Light. Click here for more information



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