ENR
ADVISORY

The CONDUIT

Monthly Updates On *Nigeria's Petroleum, Mining And Power Sectors*

July, 2026

Oil and Gas

NUPRC AWARDS 37 OIL BLOCKS TO 31 COMPANIES IN THE 2025 LICENSING ROUND

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) recently announced the winners of the oil and gas blocks under the 2025 petroleum licensing round. According to the commission, 143 companies had submitted 200 bids for 37 out of the 50 oil and gas blocks originally put on offer, and 31 companies emerged winners of 37 blocks. The successful companies will be presented final awards after payment of their respective signature bonuses and ministerial approval in accordance with the Petroleum Industry Act 2021 (PIA). The awarded acreages are expected to add approximately 300,000 barrels to daily crude oil production, upon commencement of production within the next 3 years.
Click here for more information

NUPRC PRESENTS OIL PROSPECTING LICENCES TO 12 FIRMS UNDER 2024 BID ROUND

The NUPRC has formally presented Petroleum Prospecting Licences (PPLs) to successful bidders from the 2024 licensing round. The commission issued 19 PPLs to 12 companies across deep offshore, shallow water and continental shelf acreages. The concession contracts, presented during the 25th NOG Energy Week in Abuja, establish the legal, fiscal and commercial framework governing the acreages under the PIA.
Click here for more information

SEPLAT ENTERS AGREEMENT TO SELL 10% JV STAKE TO NNPC FOR US$281.6M

According to a filing with the Nigerian Stock Exchange, Seplat Energy Plc has signed a binding Heads of Agreement with NNPC Limited to sell a 10% participating interest in the NNPC/Seplat Energy Producing Nigeria Unlimited Joint Venture for $281.6 million. Upon completion of the transaction, Seplat will retain a 30% working interest and continue as operator, while NNPC Limited's interest will increase from 60% to 70%.
Click here for more information

NUPRC, OIL FIRMS OPPOSE PROPOSED 3% LEVY FOR SSDC

The NUPRC and oil industry operators have opposed a proposal requiring oil and gas companies in the South-South region to contribute three per cent (3%) of their total annual budgets to the South-South Development Commission (SSDC), warning that the levy could raise operating costs and discourage investment. At a House of Representatives Committee public hearing in Abuja, the NUPRC observed that the phrase "total annual budget" was undefined in the bill, creating uncertainty over assessment, deductibility and enforcement, while noting that operators already bear other additional financial obligations under the PIA, including mandatory annual contributions to the Host Community Development Trust.
Click here for more information

FG INAUGURATES DECARBONISATION WORKING GROUP FOR OIL AND GAS SECTOR

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FG) has inaugurated a Joint Decarbonisation Working Group (JDWG) to reduce emissions, attract investment and position Nigeria's petroleum industry for a low-carbon future. The Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Gas), Ekperikpe Ekpo, disclosed at the inauguration of the JDWG in Abuja that the JDWG was established between the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, the National Council on Climate Change and other regulatory agencies.
Click here for more information

FG DIRECTS NMDPRA TO CURB EXCESSIVE PRICING BY PETROLEUM MARKETERS

The Federal Government of Nigeria directed the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) to ensure that petroleum marketers do not sell petrol at excessive prices under the deregulated downstream petroleum market. Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Oil), Senator Heineken Lokpobiri, gave the directive at the NMDPRA General Counsel and Legal Advisers Forum in Abuja, noting that marketers had yet to pass on the benefits of falling global crude prices to consumers.
Click here for more information

NNPC LIMITED ENDS CRUDE-BACKED LOANS FOR PORT HARCOURT, WARRI REFINERIES

The NNPC Limited announced discontinuance of the practice of financing the Port Harcourt and Warri refineries with loans backed by crude oil production, in favour of a performance-driven funding model. Group Chief Executive Officer, Bayo Ojulari, disclosed this at the 25th NOG Energy Week, stating that future financing would be tied to productivity rather than crude oil volumes.
Click here for more information

NNPC LIMITED RECORDS 98% RECOVERY ACROSS FIVE CRUDE OIL EXPORT TERMINALS

The Group Chief Executive Officer of the NNPC Limited, Bayo Ojulari, disclosed that the NNPC Limited recorded an average of ninety-eight percent (98%) recovery across its five crude oil export terminals between April 2025 and May 2026, compared with operational lows of about one per cent (1%) at the Bonny Oil and Gas Terminal in June 2022. Speaking at the opening of the 25th NOG Energy Week in Abuja, Ojulari stated that Nigeria's crude oil production had risen to 1.71 million barrels per day, the highest in five years, while gas production reached 7.5 billion standard cubic feet per day.
Click here for more information

NNPC LIMITED, PARTNERS SIGN AGREEMENTS TO BOOST DOMESTIC GAS SUPPLY

The NNPC Limited signed a series of agreements on the sidelines of the 25th NOG Energy Week in Abuja, covering gas supply agreements, gas transportation arrangements and network entry agreements. The agreements include a 20-year Gas Sale and Aggregation Agreement with Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited and a 15-year Wet Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement between the NNPC/Seplat Energy Producing Nigeria Unlimited Joint Venture and UTM FLNG Ltd for 200 MMscf/d of feed gas.
Click here for more information

EXXONMOBIL BEGINS US$1BN USAN INFILL PROJECT

Esso Exploration and Production Nigeria (Offshore East) Limited, an affiliate of ExxonMobil, has commenced on-block activities for the US$1 billion Usan Infill Project in Oil Mining Lease 138, a development expected to add up to 40,000 barrels of oil per day to Nigeria's crude production. The company disclosed that first oil production is expected within 18 months. The Chairman and Managing Director of ExxonMobil affiliates in Nigeria, Jagir Baxi, described the project as reflective of the company's confidence in Nigeria's deepwater resource base.

Click here for more information

NIGERIA MEETS 104% OF OPEC QUOTA AS CRUDE PRODUCTION HITS 74-MONTH HIGH

Nigeria's crude oil and condensate production rose to an average of 1,735,398 barrels per day in June 2026, marking the fourth consecutive month of growth, according to data released by the NUPRC. In terms of only crude oil (excluding condensates), the average daily production of 1.56 million barrels represented a 74-month high and 104 per cent of Nigeria's daily quota of 1.5 million barrels set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).
Click here for more information

Mining and Metals

MCO APPROVES TRANSFER OF MINERAL TITLES TO CHARIOT'S NIGERIAN SUBSIDIARY

Chariot Resources Limited ("Chariot"), an Australian Mining Company, announced that the Mining Cadastre Office (MCO) has approved the transfer of three exploration licences – EL 38148, EL 67480 and EL 68365 –from Continental Lithium Limited to Chariot's Nigerian subsidiary, C&C Minerals Limited, subject to the payment of statutory fees. These approvals, in addition to the four exploration licences already transferred to C&C Minerals Limited, marks further progress toward completing Chariot's acquisition of 11 mineral titles in Nigeria.
Click here for more information

KADUNA STATE GOVERNMENT AND AFRICA FINANCE CORPORATION SIGN US$500 MILLION MINING INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS

Kaduna State Government signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) valued at US$500 million with the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC). The first MOU between the AFC and the Kaduna Mining Development Company (KMDC) establishes a framework for identifying, developing and financing high-potential mining assets across Kaduna State while the second agreement, involving KMDC, AFC and the Jema'a Resource Project, is designed to advance the development of the Gidan Waya mining project in Jema'a Local Government Area for the purpose of attaining commercial production.
Click here for more information

PRESIDENT TINUBU INAUGURATES LITHIUM PROCESSING PLANT IN NASARAWA STATE

President Bola Tinubu inaugurated a lithium processing plant in Nasarawa State, with a daily processing capacity of 6,000 metric tonnes of lithium ore and an annual processing capacity of 3,000,000 tonnes. The facility, located in the Endo community of Nasarawa Local Government Area and operated by Diamond New Energy Company Limited, marks a milestone in Nigeria's drive to shift from exporting raw minerals to domestic value addition and industrial manufacturing.
Click here for more information

ZAMFARA STATE INAUGURATES US$200 MILLION LITHIUM MINING AND PROCESSING PLANT

Zamfara State Governor, Dauda Lawal, inaugurated a US$200 million lithium mining and processing plant in Boko Village, Zurmi Local Government Area. The plant is being developed through a joint investment involving ZAM Mining Company Limited, Bima Mines Limited, Jinlide Mining Company Limited and other partners.
Click here for more information

NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT SIGNS MOU WITH CHINESE FIRM TO BOOST LITHIUM DEVELOPMENT

The Nasarawa State Government has signed an MOU with Jinlide Mining Nigeria Limited to accelerate the exploration, processing and value addition of the state's lithium resources as part of efforts to position Nasarawa as a leading hub for Nigeria's critical minerals industry. The partnership is expected to create employment opportunities, encourage technology transfer, enhance skills development, and stimulate broader economic growth through increased investment in the state's solid minerals sector.
Click here for more information

SOLID MINERALS SECTOR REVENUE RISES BY 337% IN TWO YEARS

The Executive Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the Solid Minerals Development Fund (SMDF), Fatima Umaru Shinkafi, disclosed that revenue generated

from Nigeria's solid minerals sector increased by more than 337% in two years, rising from about ₦16 billion in 2023 to ₦38 billion in 2024 and crossing ₦70 billion in 2025. She further noted that the sector recorded real growth of 33.5% in 2025 against Nigeria's overall economic growth of 3.9%.
Click here for more information

NIWIMNRO AND AFA INITIATIVE SIGN MOU TO ADVANCE INCLUSIVE MINING IN NIGERIA

The Nigerian Indigenous Women in Mining and Natural Resources Organisation (NIWIMNRO) and the Africans for Africa (AFA) Initiative signed an MOU at the African Natural Resources and Energy Investment Summit (AFNIS) 2026, in a bid to strengthen collaboration in Nigeria's mining sector. The partnership focuses on formalising and strengthening the artisanal and small-scale mining sector by organising indigenous women miners into structured cooperatives capable of participating in formal commercial arrangements and accessing new economic opportunities within the mining value-chain. The collaboration will also facilitate the establishment of mineral aggregation hubs where commodities such as lithium, gold and tin can be collected, graded and integrated into AFA-backed global supply chains.
Click here for more information

AFA INITIATIVE AND STERON SIGN MOU TO BOOST LITHIUM AND RARE EARTH MINING

AFA Initiative and Steron International Resources Limited signed an MOU to accelerate the development of lithium and rare earth minerals for sustainable mining across Africa. A key component of the collaboration is the adoption of AFA Initiative's fifty-one per cent (51%) Total African Benefit Model, which seeks to ensure that a minimum of fifty-one per cent (51%) of the economic and commercial value generated by the project remains within Africa through local processing, domestic supply chain participation and direct investments in host communities.
Click here for more information

Electricity and Renewables

NERC ISSUES GUIDELINES ON THE PROCEDURE FOR TECHNICAL AUDIT OF THE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM AND NETWORK DATA VALIDATION

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) has issued the Guidelines on the Procedures for Technical Audit of the Transmission System and Network Data Validation 2026. The guidelines establish a uniform and standardized framework for conducting periodic technical audits of Nigeria's electricality transmission system and validating transmission network data to enhance the reliability, safety, security and operational efficiency of the grid. The guidelines require the Nigerian Independent System Operator to engage qualified consultants to audit the 330kV and 132kV transmission networks at least once every 5 years. It also mandates Transmission Service Providers to grant auditors full access to transmission facilities, operational records and other relevant information required for the audit.
Click here for more information

FG HOLDS INVESTOR FORUM FOR SERIES II BOND ISSUANCE UNDER THE PRESIDENTIAL POWER SECTOR FINANCIAL REFORMS PROGRAMME (PPSFRP)

The Federal Government held an investor's forum in respect of the upcoming Series II bond issuance under the PPSFRP following the ₦501 billion maiden bond issuance earlier in the year. The Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Taiwo Oyedele, noted that the bond programme represents a tested model for mobilising long-term capital into critical infrastructure, adding that government intends to replicate the financing model across other strategic sectors, including housing, transportation, agriculture and technology. The Special Adviser to the President on Oil and Gas, Olu Verheijen, disclosed that ₦333.12 billion had already been settled to eight participating generation companies, with the first coupon payments for Series I of about ₦63.5 billion paid in full as of July 14, 2026.
Click here for more information

NIGERIA WAIVES IMPORT DUTY, VAT, ON CNG, LPG AND ELECTRIC POWERED VEHICLES

The Federal Government has exempted fully compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and electric vehicles from import duty and Value Added Tax (VAT) to incentivize the shift to cleaner transport and reduce dependence on petrol. The Nigeria Customs Service announced the exemptions under the Presidential Gas for Growth Initiative, covering fully CNG and LPG-powered vehicles, battery electric vehicles, extended-range electric vehicles capable of at least 200 kilometres on electric power, conversion kits, certified tricycles and motorcycles, and gas-distribution semi-trailers, with importers required to obtain an Import Duty Exemption Certificate from the Ministry of Finance. Excluded from the relief are hybrid vehicles, dual-fuel CNG/petrol and CNG/diesel vehicles, luxury vehicles valued at US$100,000 or more, overseas CNG conversions without factory-fitted systems, and vehicle spare parts, which will continue to attract duty and VAT.
Click here for more information

NIGERIA JOINS THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY AS AN ASSOCIATION COUNTRY

The Governing Board of the International Energy Agency (IEA) unanimously agreed to the admission of Nigeria to the IEA Family as an Association country. As an Association country, Nigeria and the IEA will work more closely across a wide range of issues in the energy space, including the agency's engagement in sub-Saharan Africa.
Click here for more information

PRESIDENT TINUBU LAUNCHES POWER FORCE TO TRAIN 5,000 YOUNG NIGERIANS AND ACCELERATE SMART METER ROLLOUT

President Bola Tinubu has launched Power Force, a national initiative that will train 5,000 young Nigerians to support the accelerated deployment of smart electricity meters across the country, create employment opportunities and strengthen ongoing power sector reforms. The programme, implemented through the

Presidential Metering Initiative in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Youth Development, is designed to close critical skills gaps in meter installation while expanding opportunities for young Nigerians.
Click here for more information

ELECTRICITY SUBSIDY FALLS TO ₦358.32 BILLION IN FIRST QUARTER 2026

According to NERC's 2026 First Quarter Report, the Federal Government incurred an electricity tariff subsidy obligation of ₦358.32 billion in the first quarter of 2026 to keep consumer tariffs below the actual cost of supplying power. The figure represents a decline of ₦60.46 billion, or 14.44%, from the ₦418.79 billion recorded in Q4 2025, which the NERC attributed largely to lower electricity offtake by distribution companies(DisCos) rather than any significant improvement in tariff recovery. According to the NERC, electricity generated during the quarter attracted invoices worth ₦689.72bn. However, due to the Federal Government continued subsidy of tariffs, NBET Plc invoiced the DisCos only ₦331.40bn, while the balance of ₦358.32bn was borne by the federal government.
Click here for more information

FGN BEGINS CONSTRUCTION OF 1.5MW SOLAR MINI-GRID IN PLATEAU STATE

The Federal Government, through the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) announced the commencement of construction of a 1.5MW interconnected solar energy mini-grid in Pankshin, Plateau State. According to the REA Managing Director, Abba Aliyu, the facility forms part of a larger national rollout involving 48 interconnected mini-grids across the country. He further noted that the project aims to improve power quality, reduce technical losses and provide reliable electricity to drive local agro-processing, healthcare and commercial enterprises.
Click here for more information

REA TARGETS 3.7GW OF LOCAL SOLAR MANUFACTURING CAPACITY TO CLOSE NIGERIA'S POWER GAP

The REA has unveiled plans to establish 3.7 gigawatts of local solar photovoltaic panel manufacturing capacity by the end of 2027. The Managing Director of the REA, Abba Aliyu, disclosed that the agency is encouraging Chinese solar manufacturers to establish production facilities in Nigeria and that locally assembled panels are already being exported from Lagos to Ghana.
Click here for more information

Key Contacts

Gbite Adeniji
adeniji@enradvisory.com

Jumoke Fajemirokun
fajemirokun@enradvisory.com

Rasheed Belo-Osagie
belo-osagie@enradvisory.com