

Lagos -- The electricity distribution companies or Discos in the country failed to clear 68.6 per cent of invoices forwarded to them by the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading, NBET, and Market Operators, MOs, in the first quarter of this year.

In the quarter under review,

Power sector sees 68.6% shortfall in remittances

the Discos were issued a total invoice of ₦163.1 billion for energy received from NBET and for the service charge by MOs, out of which only ₦51.2 billion or 31.4 per cent was settled by the Discos.

This left a huge shortfall of

₦112 billion or 68.6 per cent.

Disclosing this in a report on the state of the power sector, the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission, NERC, also stated that In the period under review, the total invoice issued to special customer (Ajaokuta Steel) and

international customers, who are connected to the grid in Nigeria through an inter-connector, and have commercial relationship with NBET or other grid users, stood at N12.2 billion.

No payment was received from these customers, NERC said.

The international customers are

CEB/SAKETE and NIGELEC. NBET manages the long-term diplomatic Power Sale Agreement between Nigeria and Togo/Benin Republic (CEB/SAKETE) and Niger Republic (NIGELEC).

Sweet **Crude** REPORTS

A Review Of The Nigerian Energy Industry

WEEKLY



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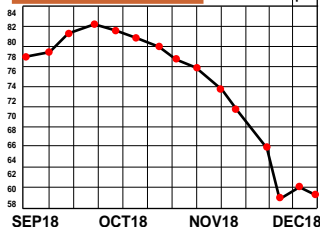
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UPDATES

WEEKLY BASKET PRICE

DEC-14	59.05
DEC-07	59.95
NOV-30	58.80
NOV-23	62.83
NOV-16	66.52
NOV-09	70.51
NOV-02	74.16
OCT-26	76.37
OCT-19	78.85
OCT-12	81.43
OCT-05	83.17
SEP-28	80.64
SEP-21	76.71

Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly **59.07U\$**



● Oil platform

Power generation up 3.32% due to increased gas supply - CBN

Lagos -- The Central Bank of Nigeria, CBN, says power generation improved in the country in the third quarter of this year due to increased gas supply.

"Electricity generation improved during the review quarter. At 3,358.0 megawatts per hour (mw/h), average estimated electricity generation rose by 3.32 per cent, compared with the level at the end of the second quarter of 2018. The increase was attributed to the increased gas supply to thermal stations and higher water level at the hydro stations.

"At 3,098.0 mw/h, average estimated electricity consumption rose by 1.74 per cent, above the level at end of the preceding quarter. The increase in electricity consumption was attributed to increased electricity generation," CBN said in its Third Quarter 2018 Economic Report.

Nigeria suffers 725,859b/d production deferment in 2017 - DPR

OPEOLUWANI AKINTAYO

Lagos -- Nigeria suffered a daily average crude oil production deferment of 725,859 barrels in 2017, according to data from the Department of Petroleum Resources, DPR.

According to the recently-released DPR's Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Annual Report, NOGIAR, 2017, total producing fields in the year under review was 184 while 101 fields were shut-in.

In all, the DPR said, the average production deferment or crude oil not produced due to shut-in in oil fields in 2017 was 725,859 barrel per day.

The report detailed a summary of the month-by-month total production deferment or oil not produced as: January, 34,312,407 barrels; February, 18,741,313 barrels; March, 27,155,214 barrels; April, 22,687,364 barrels; and May, 19,442,180

barrels.

It would be recalled that as at January 2017, militants in the Niger Delta region were still launching heavy attacks on oil facilities, which explains why the month of January saw the highest number of shut-ins and volume of crude oil losses in

the year.

This was prior to Federal Government's cease-fire initiative led by then Acting President Yemi Osinbajo, which minimised attacks on oil facilities and ensured increased oil flow from the fields.

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Fashola says Discos must match govt's N72bn expansion fund

Lagos -- The Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Mr. Babatunde Fashola, has provided more insight on the Federal Government's N72 billion financial facility for the 11 electricity distribution companies or Discos for upgrade and expansion of their networks.

Fashola said the fund would be a shareholder loan which

the Discos must be willing to match, adding that if the Discos failed to do so, the fund would be converted to equity.

By the privatisation terms under which the government sold the national power assets to the Discos, government retained 40 per cent shareholding in the ownership of the assets while their core investors maintained 60 per cent.

The minister explained that government, as a 40 per cent shareholder, had to make the N72 billion approval in order to enhance the distribution of power across the country, pointing out that although operationally, there was 7,000 megawatts of electricity ready for deployment, the operation

CONTINUES ON PAGE 02



NCDMB forum exposes operators to local content opportunities

Port Harcourt -- The Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board, NCDMB, and the Nigeria LNG Limited, NLNG, have held a knowledge-sharing capacity building workshop in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

The workshop was an initiative of the Projects Certification and Authorisation Division, PCAD, of NCDMB and was conceived to foster knowledge in different areas in the oil and gas industry.

According to Engr. Paul Zuhumben, General Manager, PCAD, the workshop provided an opportunity for NCDMB to make relevant NLNG personnel to understand the different Nigerian Content opportunities derivable from their projects.

He added that the knowledge-

sharing and capacity building workshop was started last year in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, and that the participants included Chevron and the Shell Nigeria Exploration Company, SNEPCo.

The workshop was also organised to enhance performance and deepen the relationship between PCAD and different operators/project promoters, so that both parties could understand the technicalities of their partners and Nigerian Content opportunities.

Zuhumben said the workshop also provided an opportunity for NCDMB to make relevant NLNG personnel to understand the different Nigerian Content opportunities derivable from their projects.



● Engr. Paul Zuhumben

"The intent is to improve value addition in the Nigerian Oil and Gas industry, which in turn improves the other sectors of the economy as envisaged in the Board's (NCDMB's) 10 years strategic roadmap," he added.



Gas

Stakeholders seek end to gas flaring, pollution in N'Delta



● Gas flaring

Port Harcourt -- Stakeholders in the Niger Delta region have appealed to the Federal Government to be committed to ending all forms of pollution in the region, including gas

flaring, hydrocarbon soot and oil spill.

The stakeholders, at a forum organised by the Institute of Strategic Management in Port Harcourt, also decried delay in the commencement of Ogoni

clean-up, stressing that crude oil contamination in Ogoniland was alarming and severely impacting other components of the environment.

One of the stakeholders and a university teacher, Dr. Sofiri Peterside, decried the huge financial resources wasting away in the form of flared gas, since the commencement of oil and gas production in the country.

Peterside, in his paper titled 'Critical Environmental Challenges in Rivers State: Exploring Strategic Solutions', said an estimated \$2.5 billion was reportedly lost yearly due to lack of infrastructure to harness gas in the country.

He listed the health

Nigeria suffers 725,859b/d production deferment in 2017 - DPR

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In June, according to the report, 16,290,944 barrels of crude oil were deferred while 18,703,193 barrels were deferred in July, 19,910,410 barrels in August, 22,226,880 barrels in September, 23,008,643 barrels in October, 20,618,839 barrels in November and 21,841,275 barrels in December.

Overall deferment for the year totalled 264,938,662 barrels, giving an average of 725,859b/d, the report said.

It indicated that of the 101 oil fields shut-in during the year, the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria, SPDC, was responsible for 25. It shut in

the 25 fields following down operations of its Trans Forcados Pipeline, TFP, and Trans Niger Pipeline, TNP. Mobil Producing Nigeria had 15 shut-ins, citing as reason the closure of its Qua Iboe terminal in Ibeno, Akwa Ibom State.

Nigerian Agip Oil Company Limited, NAOC, had 13 shut-ins, which it attributed to sabotage of its evacuating pipelines; Addax Petroleum had 8 shut-ins; Total E & P also had 8; Chevron, six; Eroton, two and Aiteo, one.

For Niger Delta Petroleum Resources Ltd, NDPR, it shut in 14 fields due to leak in the Trans-Forcados Pipeline and operational issues and Pan Ocean shut in seven oil fields.

Fashola says Discos must match govt's N72bn expansion fund

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was still constrained at the distribution end.

Reiterating the concern of government towards correcting the anomaly, the minister said the decision to intervene was done after asking the Discos where they would want to spend their money within their franchise, if they have it, that could evacuate "some of the power that is available and that can yield a maximum collection report".

He added that it was with the data that the government put the amount together for injection into the distribution sector.

implications of gas flaring to include climate change which leads to increase in temperature which affects the humanskin.

On his part, an environmentalist and coordinator of Stop-The-Soot Campaign, Mr. Eugene Abels, described the rate of environmental pollution in the

Niger Delta as alarming.

Abels, who spoke on the topic, "Human and Economic Cost of Environmental Challenges in Rivers State," regretted that the advent of illegal oil bunkering has set the region backward as the region was witnessing a high level of school dropout.

Power



Kaduna Electric embarks on disconnection, seeks Zazzau Emir's support

SAM IKEOTUONYE

Lagos -- Kaduna Electric says it has embarked on the disconnection of some customers in Zaria city and environs due to refusal to settle their huge electricity debts. The debts, it further said, is causing a strain on the company's operations.

Officials of the company stated this when they visited the Emir of Zazzau, Alhaji Shehu Idris, in his palace.

The officials, led by the Chief

Engineering and Technical Services Officer, Engr. Bello Musa, disclosed to the emir that those disconnected were customers who have defaulted in the payment of their electricity bills and also their outstanding debts over the last six months.

"Before embarking on this exercise, we sent every defaulting customer a notification letter informing him of how much he/she is owing and our plan to disconnect if payment is not made. In

addition, we also called community leaders to a meeting where we presented them with data regarding the poor payment pattern of their members and the adverse effects such is causing on our business", Bello said.

He disclosed that due to the huge debt incurred as a result of non-payment by some customers, the company had been unable to service its obligations to the electricity value chain.

He added that Kaduna Electric



● Kaduna Electric office, Engr. Haruna Garba (inset)

was ready to reconnect those customers that have shown some commitment to settling the bills by offsetting their current bills, adding that there was a detailed list of all defaulters whose supply had been disconnected and that such list would be made available to the palace.

In his response, the emir urged government to come to the aid of distribution companies who were suppliers of essential service to the public by providing them with subsidies to cushion the effect of non-payment by some customers.



Total strike: Gabon oil union says 'mission accomplished'

SAM IKEOTUONYE,
with agency reports

Lagos -- Gabon's oil workers union has described as 'mission accomplished' its recent strike over the layoff of several Total workers.

The union, called ONEP, began what it said would be a three-day strike on Tuesday last week because only four of six fired workers had been reinstated despite demands that they all return to work.

But, it called off the strike on

Wednesday, with Sylvain Mayabi Binet, ONEP's secretary general, saying: "Our objective was to get the attention of the government. Mission accomplished. The prime minister is in (economic capital) Port-Gentil. We believe he will address our situation after that".

Gabon, an Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, member nation produces about 200,000 barrels per day of crude, but output from the country's mature fields has plummeted from a 1997 peak of 370,000 barrels per day.



● Total workers



● Miner at work

News Wires — Gecamines, the Democratic Republic of Congo's state mining company, is to increase its stake in its Boss Mining joint venture with ENRC Africa Holdings to 49 percent after the two companies renegotiated terms.

The state miner is moving to

increase its take from joint ventures with international miners such as Glencore and China Molybdenum, which it accuses of not bringing enough money to the country.

Congo is Africa's biggest copper and cobalt producer and also mines gold and diamonds, but it is one of the world's least developed countries with an annual budget of roughly \$5

billion.

Gecamines said its share in Boss Mining would rise to 49 percent from 30 percent, while ENRC's stake would fall to 51 percent from 70 percent.

A Boss Mining debt of \$1.5 billion towards ENRC — a subsidiary of Kazakhstan's Eurasian Resources Group — has been canceled, and the signing bonus payable by ENRC to Gecamines was

raised to \$165 from \$35 per tonne of copper and copper equivalent, the company said in a statement.

ENRC will also pay Gecamines \$30 million to settle an arbitration case pending before the International Chamber of Commerce, Gecamines said.

The payment is one of a series the heavily-indebted state company has received in the past two years, including a \$150 million payment in June

by a Glencore subsidiary to settle a dispute over another copper mine's debts.

International activist groups, including the Carter Center and Global Witness, say hundreds of millions of dollars of Gecamines' revenues in recent years have gone missing. Gecamines denies those allegations.

Boss Mining exported over 17,000 tonnes of copper over the first six months of 2018.



Solid Minerals

Congo's state-owned firm to boost stake in mining JV



● Tin Can port

Freight



Only workable inter-agency collaboration will grow maritime industry — PCC

VINCENT TORITSEJU

Lagos -- Without inter-ministerial and inter-agency collaboration amongst institutions in the Nigerian maritime industry, the sector would continue to remain stagnant, the Port Consultative Council, PCC, said.

The chairman of the council, Otunba Kunle Folarin,

disclosed this at a seminar for maritime journalists hosted by a non-governmental organisation, Maritime Industry Advocacy Initiative, MAIN.

According to him, the non-collaborative attitude of supervising ministries and regulatory agencies would continue to deny the industry its potential benefits.

Folarin explained that getting

the port industry to deliver on its mandate would not be possible until a well-coordinated synergy was put in place as he maintained that Nigeria was the only country that had not been able to achieve the United Nations 48 hours cargo clearance time.

He noted that until the Nigerian port industry was restructured, reformed and well regulated, the industry would continue to go round in circles.

"Until we use the means that link every port users, we will never achieve the 48-hour cargo clearance time.

"Automation and inter-connectivity of the various agencies in the port industry will not only ease the current confusion but it will also remove the issue of a human interface which breeds corruption," he said.

Folarin, who explained the laws establishing these agencies needed to be

amended as most of them had conflicting laws, held that the single window project would drastically change the face of cargo clearance in Nigeria.

He also disclosed that there were conflicts in the visions and missions of the maritime agencies and ministries, adding that the inability to collaborate amongst agencies would continue to be an issue.



NIMASA tasks Rivers boat operators on safety



● Boat bay

MKPOIKANA UDOMA

Port Harcourt -- The Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, has advised boat operators in Rivers State to ensure their boats were mechanically sound before boarding passengers.

The coordinator of NIMASA, Eastern Zone, Mr. Heaky Dimowo, stated this at the Marine Base Jetty in Port-Harcourt during a one-day safety sensitisation programme organised by the agency for boat operators in the state.

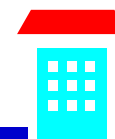
Dimowo also cautioned the boat operators to avoid over speeding and keep accurate records of their

manifest.

Also speaking, the Public Relations Officer of Speed Boat Owners Association in the state, Mr. George Ota, commended NIMASA for the sensitisation programme.

Ota appealed to the agency as well as other corporate organisations and agencies to assist in providing training and safety equipments to boat drivers to cut down the rate of boat accidents on the waterways

He also called on government at all levels to evacuate the debris dumped into the rivers and initiate regular training for boat operators in the state.



Community

Ogoni clean-up: HYPREP urges communities, stakeholders to cooperate with contractors

MKPOIKANA UDOMA

Port Harcourt -- The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, HYPREP, says the standard required for the clean-up of Ogoniland has been set for the contractors and appealed to the oil-impacted communities and Ogoni stakeholders to synergise with the contractors to ensure a successful remediation exercise.

HYPREP's Head of Operations, Mr. Edris Musa, made the call while briefing newsmen after a meeting with Ogoni clean-up contractors in Port Harcourt.

HYPREP, which is the agency saddled with the responsibility of the clean-up, said the commencement of the remediation exercise would begin with the formal handing over of the polluted sites to contractors that will carryout the clean-up.

According to Musa: "The meeting is to acquaint the contractors with the rules of the job, with HYPREP, the communities and project coordination office. We have also informed them of the level of job which is required of them.

"We expect the contractors to move into the field now we have

had the kick off and we want the best practices in the remediation.

"By the grace of God we expect to start the hand over from Monday, 17 December. The first set of four companies would be taken to four local governments. It will continue till the last company goes in on Thursday.

"They will be meeting with the leaders of the communities for them to be aware of those who will be working in the areas before they will commence work. We want to be as transparent as possible to allow us succeed in this project."

Also speaking, the Managing Director of EarthPro Unique



● Ogoni clean-up

Integrated Limited (one of the firms for the clean-up), Mr. Babatunde Bernard, assured that the contractors were ready to commence the remediation of Ogoniland.

Bernard appealed for peace and security in the area during the clean-up, explaining that without peace and security, the clean-up project might not be effective.

Group says ex-minister must account for Ogoni clean-up funds



● Ibrahim Usman Jibrin

Port Harcourt -- The Ken Saro Wiwa Associates has asked the immediate-past Minister of State for Environment, Ibrahim Usman Jibrin, to account for the Ogoni clean-up funds

Recall that the group had before now charged President Muhammadu Buhari to sack the former minister, who resigned his ministerial position last week to become the new Emir of Nasarawa Emirate in

Nasarawa State.

The Ken Saro Wiwa Associates accused the ex-minister of inability to handle the Ogoni clean-up project as well as misappropriating the \$10 million initially released for the Ogoni clean-up.

National coordinator of the group, Chief Gani Topba, while reacting to the minister's resignation, said despite his resigning, the former minister should be made to give account of how the fund was spent.

Topba, who accused the

former minister of being a standing block to the Ogoni clean-up process, said there were jubilation in Ogoniland over the news of the minister's resignation.

According to him, "We have raised the issue before now that the minister was using Ogoni clean-up fund to lobby for a kingship in his village. That is why we have been calling on the president to sack him.

"He must give account of the Ogoni money. Resignation will

not save him. President Buhari who has been fighting corruption should compel him to give account of how he spent the initial \$10 million released by NNPC JV for the clean-up.

"His resignation is a welcome development to the people of Ogoni. In fact, as I am talking to you now, there is serious jubilation in Ogoni over the news of his resignation, because God has answered our prayers."

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