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BpTT completes Cypre project

ENERGY giant bp Trinidad and Tobago yesterday announced that it safely completed the Cypre seven-well drilling programme following the delivery of first gas seven months ago.

The Cypre development, located 78 kilometres off the southeast coast of Trinidad within the East Mayaro Block, is made up of seven wells tied back into bpTT's existing Juniper platform.

Four wells were drilled and completed at the end of 2024 with the first gas delivered in April this year.

'The project team has now drilled, completed and commissioned the remaining three wells. At peak, Cypre is projected to deliver approximately 45,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day (approximately 250 million standard cubic feet of gas a day). Cypre is bpTT's third subsea development,' a release stated yesterday.

BpTT president David Campbell said the completion of the wells, along with the first gas now flowing, represents a safe and successful delivery for both the company and Trinidad and Tobago. 'This achievement underscores our commitment to maximising production from the Columbus Basin and reflects a significant investment and bpTT's continued dedication to the country's energy sector,' Campbell said.

'This is the latest achievement in a year of strong delivery for bpTT, including the bp-operated Frangipani gas discovery and working with our joint venture partner, EOG, to deliver first gas from the Mento major project. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Government and other stakeholders to unlock T&T's energy future,' he said.

Minister of Energy and Energy Industries Dr Roodal Moonilal extended congratulations to bpTT on this accomplishment.

'Today we're glad to see the additional three wells for Phase 2 are now online, significantly ahead of schedule. In fact, 'ahead of schedule' is the new norm under this second administration of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar.'

Moonilal added that even though the wells were originally planned to come online in 2026, bpTT was able to accelerate first gas for Phase 2 into 2025 in collaboration with the ministry.

'This efficiency augers well for our natural gas supply,' said Moonilal.

Moonilal said this development is particularly pleasing at this time since the BP Cypre project is the result of the incentives provided by the Peoples Partnership (PP) Government in 2014.

'Cypre is based on natural gas discovered by the Macadamia-1 well, drilled in 2017, combined with the South East Queens Beach (SEQB) gas reservoirs. Significant volumes of natural gas that will be produced from Cypre are from the Macadamia discovery,' Moonilal said.

'Drilling of Macadamia- 1 commenced on 25th March 2017. BP's investment in the Macadamia- 1 exploration well arose because of the accelerated capital allowance for exploration which was passed into law in April 2014 by the passage of the Finance Bill, 2014. This exploration incentive had a sunset clause meaning that it expired on December 31, 2017. It was for that reason BP drilled the Macadamia exploration well in March 2017 and the Savannah exploration well (started on 28th December 2016). The Savannah exploration well resulted in the Matapal project which has been in production since September 2021. If the exploration incentive was not provided in 2014, these two projects would not have materialised and our natural gas production would be much worse than it currently is,' he said.

Moonilal said the energy sector remains integral to this country's economy and resources from the Cypre project play an important role in strengthening T&T's natural gas supply.

'We look forward to continued investment as we advance our energy sector together,' Moonilal said. 'I have also taken note of the hastily posted statement of the former Minister of Energy. When we speak of establishing the legal framework for attracting and incentivising investment, his claim to fame to this project is that he went to visit the pipes,' he said.

Moonilal's comments came after former prime minister and energy minister Stuart Young weighed in on bpTT's Cypre announcement via social media.

'Congratulations to bpTT on the latest phase of Cypre being completed safely. This augurs well for Trinidad and Tobago's gas production replacing some of the on-going natural gas decline taking place,' Young stated.

Posting five images, Young stated that 'as can be seen from the independent timeline, this was negotiated and a final investment decision taken between 20172023. We negotiated this project with BP and thankfully we were able to ensure it with first gas production starting on April 3, 2025.'

'It was a proud day when we visited the ships that came to lay the pipelines for Cypre in November 2024,' Young posted.

The Cypre gas field lies in approximately 80 metres of water and is 100% owned by bpTT, which is owned 70% by bp and 30% by Repsol.

BpTT's core operations are located off Trinidad's southeast coast, where the company operates 12 offshore platforms, three subsea installations, and two onshore processing facilities.