

## Young highlights local energy projects

ON THE heels of bpTT announcing the delivery of first gas from its Cypre development off the southeast coast of Trinidad, Prime Minister Stuart Young outlined several other energy projects under way locally to counter claims that the country has put all its eggs in the cross-border gas basket.

Speaking at yesterday's post-Cabinet news conference at Whitehall, Young highlighted the 'good news' announced by bpTT regarding the Cypre development.

'Why I am using the opportunity to speak to the population about this today is because unfortunately those who like to mislead the population of Trinidad and Tobago keep singing this song that all of our eggs are in cross-border gas,' Young said.

Young said the Cypre project was sanctioned in 2022 during a meeting he and then Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley had with bp's former CEO Bernard Looney at the energy giant's London headquarters.

'And what you have seen is a record turnaround from that autumn 2022. Less than three years later, first gas is being produced here in Trinidad, and it is a significant amount of gas from within our domestic waters. At its highest level, it will reach about 250 million scuffs (standard cubic feet) of gas a day, which is significant,' Young said.

'So I am asking the population-take note of the facts,' he said, Young said that just last week, bpTT also announced it had sanctioned the Ginger gas development and discovered gas at Frangipani, both of which are also local projects.

Cypre is bpTT's third subsea development locally, following Juniper and Matapal.

'Very shortly you should hear an announcement from bp and EOG on gas production from Mento. All projects here in Trinidad,' he said.

Young said on Wednesday that he re-ceived a courtesy call from Shell's president of Integrated Gas Cederic Cremers, during which they discussed, among other things, the Manatee project.

'The Manatee project is proceeding full speed ahead; we expect that first gas by 2027,' Young said.

'Part of the platform is being fabricated right here in Trinidad in La Brea at TOFCO (Trinidad Offshore Fabricators Unlimited), the largest fabrication that has ever taken place here. The other part in Mexico. All that is needed to be done has been done and we expect that first gas production,' he said.

'And he came with very exciting news along with Mr Adam Lowmass (Shell's country chair for T&T) with respect to Manatee and what are the possibilities, so I am hoping that those discussions will lead to what they are saying can happen-because it will only mean more gas production than we initially predicted from the Manatee project,' Young said.

Loran-Manatee is a cross-border field between Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago, with an estimated resource of 10.04 trillion cubic feet (tcf), including 2.712 tcf within the Manatee field.

In 2007, the governments of the two countries executed a Framework Treaty regarding the unitisation of hydrocarbon reservoirs that extend across the delimitation line between them.

In October 2019, the Loran Manatee Unitisation Agreement was terminated, delinking the development of the Manatee field from the Loran field.

Young said Manatee will also increase T&T's production from 2027 and keep it stable.

But apart from these local developments, Young said negotiations are ongoing with respect to Dragon Gas.

'I am happy to say that NGC (National Gas Company) and Shell are continuing full speed ahead with our plans, understanding that we live in a world of uncertainty, but all is progressing, and if everything goes according to plan, that will also assist us significantly with our production,' he said.