

## Pakistan pipeline blown up

ARMED rebels have yet again blown up gas pipeline infrastructure in Pakistan's Baluchistan province.

This time around the rebels, who claim that other provinces 'steal' their natural resources, blasted a section of a gas pipeline in the Pir Koh area in Dera Bugti district. No fatalities or injuries were reported.

The affected 28-inch gas pipeline runs from the Pirkoh field to the Sui gas plant. As a result of the attack, supplies were suspended from the Pirkoh field to several cities in Punjab province.

ANI news reported that an explosive device was attached to the pipeline and detonated by remote control.

The blast reportedly occurred only a few hundred metres from a Pakistani military base.

The Baloch Republican Army has claimed responsibility for the latest attack.

Earlier this month the Baloch Liberation Tigers, or BLT, bombed a 36-inch gas trunk line near the giant producing Sui gas field, killing four security guards and injuring at least two others.

Sui Northern Gas Pipeline's (SNGPL) gas field operations and infrastructure in Balochistan deliver large volumes from onshore producing fields to Punjab province, while local households are not supplied with gas.

## Three killed in well blast

POLICE have charged two individuals after three people lost their lives due to an explosion at an illegal oil well in Myanmar's Magwe region.

Five others were injured in the blast at the illegal well that was being drilled at the time.

Oil had started to flow from the crudely-drilled well in Yay Kha village when villagers gathered round to watch.

The fatal explosion was caused by a gas escape.

The injured all suffered severe burns and are being treated at Mandalay General Hospital.

Local authorities have charged the landowner and the driller of the well.

Illegally drilled wells, often by hand, are common in parts of Myanmar.

## Amadeus bid

AUSTRALIAN onshore explorer Central Petroleum is expecting a well targeting a large conventional gas exploration prospect in the Amadeus basin to be spudded shortly.

The Dukas-1 well is a frontier sub-salt play with about 520 square kilometres of closure and the potential to hold multi-trillion cubic feet of gas.

The well will be operated by Santos, and Central will be free-carried under the terms of a previous farm-in agreement.

## ASIA



Plan: the Merakes field is being developed as a 35-kilometre subsea tie-back to Eni's Jangkrik FPU

Photo: ENI

# Development drilling for Eni at Merakes

Scarabeo-7 ready to **drill six production wells** at Indonesian offshore project

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ITALIAN energy major Eni has moved into the development drilling phase of its Merakes deep-water gas development off Kalimantan, Indonesia, while major contractors are busy with their project workscopes.

The semi-submersible Scarabeo-7 has been working for Eni for a considerable period of time, and recently completed drilling the Merakes East exploration prospect which hit 15 metres of gas-bearing net sands in two levels of Miocene Age.

The same Saipem-owned semisub is now tasked with the six production wells for Merakes, which holds an estimated 2 trillion cubic feet of lean gas and lies in a water depth of 1500 metres.

The field is being developed as a 35-kilometre subsea tie-back to

Eni's Jangkrik floating production unit.

From there, gas will be transported to the Bontang liquefied natural gas plant via the existing Jangkrik and East Kalimantan transportation network.

The main contractors for Merakes include TechnipFMC, which is tasked with the subsea umbilicals, flowlines and risers; and an alliance of Sapura Energy and Timas Suplindo for the deep-water infield pipelines.

It is understood the Sapura-Timas joint venture is also responsible for the subsea production system.

TechnipFMC and Sapura-Timas bid successfully for their contracts in the fourth quarter last year.

Their commercial bids exceeded the operator's budgets, which

would have prompted a re-bid under the former production sharing contract regime, but sources said Eni elected to award the contracts after taking on a new gross split mechanism contract.

When the final investment decision was made in mid-December 2018, Eni said its East Sepinggan PSC had just been converted to a gross split scheme.

Sources said Asiatic Energi, a sub-contractor to Sapura-Timas, is tasked with the detailed design engineering for the deep-water pipelines, pipeline end terminations and in-line tee.

The pipelines for Merakes will be the deepest water pipelines in Indonesia to date at 1500 metres, said sources.

Asiatic Energi is a Jakarta-

based subsea engineering company growing in stature; sources said it has cut its teeth on projects in the region including Premier Oil's Natuna Sea Block A, Kangean Energy's Terang Sirasun Batur phase two project, and Husky Energy's Lihua 29-1 development in China.

In Eni's Strategy presentation earlier this month, the Italian operator said Merakes is due for start-up in mid-2020.

Project execution is currently at about the 10% stage, and gross plateau output is expected to be 73,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day.

"The Merakes development project is a successful outcome of the Eni near-field exploration and appraisal strategy, which allows us to maximize the synergies with existing nearby infrastructures, such as those of the Jangkrik field which started up in May 2017, as well as reducing the costs and the time-to-market of the project," Eni said when it sanctioned the project.

"This development will also strengthen Eni's technological and operations leadership in the development of deep-water gas fields in Indonesia."

The Italian player operates the East Sepinggan contract area with an 85% interest, while Pertamina Hulu Energi holds the remaining 15%.

## TechnipFMC lands \$1 billion five-well deal

UK CONTRACTOR TechnipFMC was this week confirmed as the winner of the integrated engineering, procurement, construction, transportation and installation contract for Eni's fast-track Merakes field development in the Sepinggan block off Indonesia.

TechnipFMC's contract is worth up to US\$1 billion, encompassing five deep-water wells and their 50-kilometre tie-back to the operator's

Jangkrik floating production unit.

The workscope includes the engineering, procurement, installation and pre-commissioning of subsea equipment such as subsea trees, a manifold, large bore deep-water high-pressure flexible lines, umbilicals and distribution hardware, flexible risers, flowlines and jumpers.

Italian operator Eni last year received the green light from

the Indonesian government to exploit Merakes, which holds an estimated 2 trillion cubic feet of lean gas in place.

Production start-up from the Merakes field, lying in a water depth of around 1500 metres off the East Kalimantan oil town of Balikpapan, is being targeted in 2020.

Initial flows of 150 million cubic feet per day of gas are expected from this satellite gas field project.