

12 August 2025

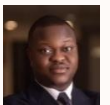
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TEMPLARS Transcripts: Energy & Natural Resources Digest

GHANA

INFRASTRUCTURE

• Ghana Progresses with Landmark Mining Law Reforms

Ghana is finalising major amendments to its mining legal framework, with reforms 85% complete following stakeholder consultations. Key changes under the draft legislation include:

- Shortened Licence Terms: Reduction in the maximum tenure for mining leases (currently 30 years) and an end to indefinite prospecting licences.
- Removal of Automatic Renewals: Renewal of mining rights to be subject to performance on environmental, social, and production obligations.
- Mandatory Local Development Contributions: Abolition of centralised development agreements in favour of direct revenue-sharing with host communities, tied to a fixed percentage of gross mineral sales.
- Reform of Stability Agreements: Future fiscal and regulatory stability agreements to be limited to capital recovery periods only.
- New Licence Category: Introduction of a medium-scale mining licence to bridge the gap between artisanal and large-scale operations.

The reforms will apply only to future contracts, with existing agreements left intact. Ghana expects output to reach 5.1 million ounces in 2025.

OIL AND GAS

- **ENI submits Declaration of Commerciality for Eban-Akoma Discoveries in Ghana**

The Ministry of Energy and Green Transition confirmed on 4 July 2025 that ENI had submitted a Declaration of Commerciality for the Eban-Akoma Oil and Gas Complex, located in the Cape Three Points Block 4. The submission of the declaration was done by ENI with its joint venture partners, Vitol Upstream Tano LTD, Woodfields Upstream Ghana LTD and the state-owned GNPC Exploration & Production Company LTD (Explorco) after a successful appraisal program.

The discovery in the Eban-Akoma wells was made by ENI and its partners in 2021 with preliminary estimates of 500–700 million barrels of oil equivalent (boe). The Eban-Akoma complex constituted one of Ghana's largest offshore discovery in years and the state-owned GNPC Exploration & Production Company LTD (Explorco) after a successful appraisal program.

ENI and its partners have now successfully completed the appraisal program for the Eban-Akoma wells and confirmed the commercial viability of hydrocarbons discovered in the Eban-1X (oil) and Akoma-1X (gas and condensate) wells.

POWER

- **Ghana unveils ambitious renewable energy drive to boost green transition and economic growth**

The Minister for Energy and Green Transition has announced a comprehensive plan to boost Ghana's renewable energy adoption and position the country as a leader in Africa's green economy.

The plan includes deploying 12,000 net-metered solar PV systems for homes, building 35 mini-grids for 47 island communities, and distributing 1,450 solar home systems to off-grid households and institutions. A 200-megawatt solar project is also underway nationwide. Additionally, the country is currently constructing a 25-megawatt floating solar plant at Bui Power Station, with locally made floaters, and a 30-megawatt floating solar facility at Pong Hydro Reservoir by the Volta River Authority (VRA), funded by KfW. These efforts are geared towards the use of solar during the day while conserving hydropower for the night, effectively extending the lifespan of hydropower assets and improving energy efficiency.

A new Electric Vehicle (EV) Promotion Program has also been launched which is driven by the Energy Commission's "Drive Electric Initiative.". The Drive Electric Initiative is set to begin with government agencies, with plans to expand to the public and commercial drivers.

NIGERIA

OIL AND GAS

- **NNPC Resumes Oil Drilling at Kolmani Field in Northern Nigeria**

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC) has resumed drilling operations at the Kolmani Integrated Development Project, located at the boundary between Bauchi and Gombe States. The development follows renewed upstream activity in the region, after initial drilling commenced in 2022.

Kolmani represents Nigeria's first commercial oil and gas discovery in the North-East, situated within the Gongola Basin of the Upper Benue Trough. The field holds estimated reserves of over one billion barrels of crude oil and 500 billion cubic feet of gas. Initial exploration activities were confirmed in 2019 following the discovery of hydrocarbon deposits in the Kolmani River II Well. Drilling at the site was formally launched in 2022, marking a strategic step towards unlocking onshore frontier basins in the North.

The Kolmani project has attracted significant investments already committed to its integrated development, which includes upstream production, a refinery, a gas processing plant, and associated infrastructure.

TEMPLARS advised the technical partners on the project.

- **Nigeria–Morocco Gas Pipeline Nears Final Investment Decision**

The Nigeria–Morocco Gas Pipeline (NMGP) project has reached several critical milestones, with a Final Investment Decision (FID) anticipated by December 2025. Progress includes the completion of feasibility and Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) studies, route finalisation, and the establishment of a regional governance framework. Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for the northern segment have been concluded, with assessments for the southern corridor—stretching from Nigeria to Senegal—currently underway.

Once completed, the pipeline will transport up to 30 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually from Nigeria along the West African coast to Morocco, where it will connect to the existing Maghreb-Europe Pipeline and link into European gas markets.

A new Memorandum of Understanding was signed during the July 2025 meetings between NNPC, Morocco's Office National des Hydrocarbures et des Mines (ONHYM), and Togo's National Gas Company (SOTOGAZ), formally integrating Togo into the project and completing the regional partnership framework.

The NMGP forms part of broader efforts to strengthen energy connectivity across Africa and Europe, enhance regional energy security, and accelerate economic integration.

The project has secured financing support from strategic partners, including the United Arab Emirates and the European Investment Bank. In addition to the 13 coastal transit countries, the pipeline is expected to supply gas to Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali, extending its development impact across landlocked regions of West Africa.

- **NNPC Partners with Zuid Energies on 40 MMSCFD LNG and CNG Project in Kogi**

NNPC Gas Marketing Limited (NGML), a subsidiary of NNPC, has entered into a joint venture with Zuid Energies Limited for the development of a 40 million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCFD) LNG facility and a 6 MMSCFD Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) plant in Ajaokuta, Kogi State.

This follows NNPC's earlier groundbreaking of five mini-LNG projects in Ajaokuta with a combined capacity of 97 MMSCFD. The projects are expected to support off-grid energy supply and reduce emissions. The Ajaokuta-Obajana pipeline will serve as the gas supply backbone. The initiatives

align with the Federal Government's CNG rollout campaign targeting 10,000 commercial vehicle conversions within 10 weeks.

- **Nigeria Sets 100% Local Crude Refining Target and Advances Regional Trading Hub**

The Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning recently announced Nigeria's policy target to refine all domestically produced crude oil as part of Nigeria's wider energy security and economic growth objectives. The initiative includes support for regional refining efforts and aligns with broader goals for industrial expansion and trade competitiveness.

This domestic agenda coincides with ECOWAS and S&P Global Commodity Insights' joint effort to establish a West African benchmark hub for refined fuel trading. The hub will leverage approximately two million metric tonnes of annual offshore fuel trading activity across Lomé, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal.

The Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) has also identified refinery capacity, logistics infrastructure, regulatory alignment, and harmonised market policies as foundational components. Nigeria, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal are expected to lead the integration effort, with additional calls made for development finance and private investment to address infrastructure gaps.

POWER

- **Senate to revive power sector with Electricity Act reforms**

The Nigerian Senate is reviewing the Electricity Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks to refine the Electricity Act, 2023, and address persistent regulatory, financial, and infrastructural challenges in the power sector. The proposed amendments aim to align the legal framework with the devolution of electricity powers to states, following the 2023 constitutional amendment, and to reinforce sector-wide coordination.

The Bill introduces 28 proposed amendment clauses. Key provisions include:

- Enhanced coordination between federal and state electricity regulators;
- Statutory clarification of transitional roles between NERC and state-level regulators;
- Formal establishment of a Forum of Electricity Regulators;
- Recognition of the National Electric Power Policy Council;
- Criminalisation of electricity infrastructure vandalism;
- Restructuring of the Power Consumer Assistance Fund for targeted subsidy administration;
- Introduction of host community engagement frameworks;
- Updates to statutory funding mechanisms for NEMSA and N-HYPPADEC;
- Provisions to support industrial relations while protecting essential service continuity.

The Bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Power for further legislative scrutiny. Upon passage, it is expected to support more coherent subnational electricity market development, address energy access concerns, and provide a foundation for coordinated implementation of power sector reforms across all tiers of government.

- **Lagos Assumes Full Control of Its Electricity Market**

Lagos State has announced the control of its electricity market following the transfer of regulatory oversight from the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) to the Lagos State Electricity Regulatory Commission (LASERC).

This announcement aligns with the Electricity Act 2023 and the amended Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which empower states to regulate intrastate electricity markets. With this transfer, Lagos becomes one of the few states in Nigeria to gain full regulatory control of its electricity market, marking a significant milestone in the decentralization of the country's power sector.

- **Islamic Development Bank to develop first-ever Country Framework for Nigeria's power sector**

The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) is preparing its first Country Engagement Framework focused on Nigeria's power sector. The initiative represents a strategic shift from project-based interventions to a programmatic approach aligned with Nigeria's long-term energy transition and infrastructure priorities.

The proposed framework will serve as the foundation for the IsDB's sustained engagement with the Nigerian power sector, enabling more coordinated financing and policy support across the electricity value chain. The framework will align with national sectoral strategies and the evolving regulatory landscape, particularly in light of recent legislative and constitutional reforms that have expanded state-level roles in electricity governance.

The IsDB currently manages a \$2 billion multi-sectoral portfolio in Nigeria, with investments spanning transport, education, and health. Through the new framework, the bank intends to deepen its exposure to power sector interventions, focusing on improving access, strengthening infrastructure, and supporting institutional reforms.

- **BPE Projects 50% Increase in Grid Supply Capacity Within 18 Months**

The Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) has projected that Nigeria's available grid power supply could increase by up to 50% from approximately 5,500MW to over 8,000MW within the next 12 to 18 months. The projection follows improvements in grid management by the recently established Nigerian Independent System Operator (NISO) and ongoing efforts to optimise transmission capacity nationwide.

According to the BPE, the unbundling of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) and the operationalisation of NISO are expected to enhance the efficiency of electricity wheeling and system coordination in the short term. The structural separation aims to create greater operational independence, enable market transparency, and support grid stability as electricity supply grows.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

- **REA Secures \$1.6 Billion Pipeline to Scale Off-Grid Renewable Energy**

The Rural Electrification Agency (REA) has mobilised a \$1.6 billion funding pipeline to accelerate off-grid renewable energy development across Nigeria. The capital mix includes multilateral financing, climate funds, and public-private partnerships, with notable contributions expected from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the U.S. Department of Justice (via repatriated funds).

A portion of the Federal Government's ₦500 billion capital budget has also been allocated to solarising public institutions. The REA has emphasised the need for state-level collaboration to ensure execution readiness, with a focus on scaling local project pipelines and accelerating implementation through Renewable Energy Service Companies (RESCOs).

- **Nigeria Outlines Hydrogen Export Roadmap Targeting \$50 Billion by 2060**

Nigeria is developing a long-term green hydrogen strategy aimed at generating \$50 billion in hydrogen export revenues by 2060, alongside the production of 4 million tonnes of green ammonia annually. The roadmap is anchored in the draft National Hydrogen Policy and Strategy prepared by the Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN) in partnership with West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) and the German government.

The strategy identifies green hydrogen as a catalyst for industrial decarbonisation, fertiliser production, power generation, and hydrogen-powered transport. It is supported by planned investments in renewable infrastructure and focuses on domestic value chain development, including electrolyser manufacturing and hybrid mini-grid integration.

A proposed National Hydrogen Council, chaired by the Vice President, will coordinate implementation. Pilot projects under the plan include a 50MW solar-hydrogen plant in Kano and rural solar-hydrogen mini-grids. The policy targets include \$10 billion in hydrogen revenues by 2035, 500,000 new jobs, and a 20% reduction in industrial emissions.

If you require any further clarification, do not hesitate to contact us.