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Army Engineers Rebuild Two Rumaylah Gas Compressor Stations

By A. Al Bahrani



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative Ray Gonzales, center with beard, completes the project completion paperwork with the contractor and Southern Oil Company members at Compressor Station 5 in Rumaylah, Iraq. [ARMY PHOTO]

BASARA, Iraq -- To bolster the economy of Iraq in the global marketplace, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) recently modernized two compressor stations in Basrah.

"The new project increases the gas production capacity and removes moisture from the gas before it enters the North Rumaylah Natural Gas Processing Plant and the Khor Az Zubair Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) production plant," said Bob Tillisch, oil program manager with the Basrah Area Office.

The CS-2 and CS-5 compressor stations, built by the South Oil Company, were built in the 1980s.

Tillisch noted that the \$5.5 million project will allow more gas to be processed from the two gas processing stations at four pressure levels with a total capacity of 2.2 million standard cubic feet per day.

"The CS-2 and CS-5 are two of nine compressor stations refurbished in southern Rumaylah," Tillisch explained. "Five of them are located in Rumaylah and the remaining four are located in south Rumaylah. Those nine compressor stations experienced varying degrees of damage after the war." He added that most of the equipment at those stations were in fair mechanical condition, however, the facilities had aging equipment, obsolete technology and lacked adequate spare parts for repairs.

The electrical systems repairs ranged from minor fixes, to major refurbishment, to replacement of transformers and switchgear.

"This effort is part of an overall refurbishment package to support the production of 3,000 metric tons per day of liquid petroleum gas, to meet Iraq's cooking and heating needs through the winter."

season,” Tillisch said. “Improvements at CS-2 and CS-5 aid in the recovery of flared gas and contribute 188 and 164 metric tons of LPG per day, respectively.”

Tillisch said that, according to the *Oil and Gas Journal*, Iraq has 110 trillion cubic feet of proven natural gas reserves and roughly 150 trillion cubic feet of possible reserves.

“Currently, Iraq burns about \$10 million of natural gas per day (because of the lack of refinement ability). By increasing Iraq’s natural gas production, oil can be freed up for other purposes such as petrochemical production and export,” he said.

Ray Gonzales, a Basrah Area Office construction representative, said, “The renovation of CS-2 and CS-5 will increase the refurbished stations reliability and capacity to produce more gas, which will stimulate Iraq’s economy and support Iraq’s needs of the LPG for domestic use.”

The Corps has repaired and started up the compressor stations and the dehydration train projects, he added.



Sgt. 1st Class David Adland with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the construction and installation of an in-line moisture analyzer at Compression Station 2 near the North Rumaylah Natural Gas Liquefaction plant in the Al Basrah Province, Iraq. [ARMY PHOTO]

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