

# A Trump Darling, Gas Exports, Set to Gain as Iran Deal Dies



Another darling of the Trump administration is poised to gain from the Iran deal breakup as oil surges: Natural gas exports.

With the move to curb Iran's oil output encouraging more shale drilling, prices for natural gas produced alongside crude in West Texas could crater, falling to zero some days, according to Tudor Pickering Holt & Co. Already, the gas sold at West Texas' Waha hub is down 51 percent for the year.

That's bad for producers selling the fuel in the U.S., but good for companies that export it in tankers. As the market for liquefied natural gas grows in Asia, being able to source gas at its cheapest should give U.S. exports a leg up.

From Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross to the President himself, the White House has long sung the praises of increasing American LNG exports to help trim the trade deficit with Asian countries. Meanwhile, the Permian boom has filled pipelines to capacity, trapping gas in the region and making prices there the cheapest of any major U.S. shale play.

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## بارودي: التوصل الى اتفاق تفاوضي بشأن البلوك 9 قد يعني نصرا اكبر بكثير للبنان



شدد الخبير النفطي الدولي رودي بارودي على "أن التوصل الى اتفاق

تفاوضي جيد من خلال وساطة أو تحكيم طرف ثالث، قد يعني نصرا اكبر بكثير للبنان بدل إسرائيل في النزاع الحاصل حول النفط والغاز في البحر".

واكد بارودي الذي شارك في مؤتمرات دولية عدة آخرها في قبرص "أن هناك عوامل أخرى تبشر بالخير بالنسبة إلى الآفاق القانونية اللبنانية القصيرة والطويلة المدى، بما في ذلك حقيقة أن الجزء من البلوك 9 الذي تهتم به توتال وآني ونوفاتيك، يكمن بوضوح في المياه اللبنانية، وهذا يترك مجالا واسعا لحل وسط وقصير الاجل، على الأقل يسمح بالاستكشاف في المناطق غير الخاضعة للنزاع مع ترك أسئلة أكثر صعوبة في وقت لاحق".

ولفت بارودي الى "أن نوعية المعلومات التي قدمها لبنان إلى الأمم المتحدة والأطراف الأخرى المهمة تعطي اهمية كبيرة لموقفه وبأكثر من طريقة".

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## New Energy era for Europe "there for the taking"



ATHENS: Offshore gas from the Eastern Mediterranean could usher in a new era of energy independence and economic renaissance for Europe, a regional energy expert told a high-profile industry conference in Athens on Friday.

"Almost instantly, the flow of East Med gas into Europe would mean additional diversification and flexibility of supply, closely followed by enhanced competitiveness for European industry, accelerated economic growth, and dramatic long-term

improvements for public finances,” Roudi Baroudi, a veteran of more than 36 years in the oil and gas business, told the Athens Energy Conference.

While “East Med gas would be more of a complement than a competitor to supplies already flowing ... from Russia” and other countries, he explained, other factors were also likely to help Europe diversify its energy supply, putting downward pressure on prices and “reducing the potential impact of possible interruptions elsewhere”.

Baroudi, who currently serves as CEO of Energy and Environment Holding, a Doha-based independent consultancy, has advised governments, companies, and multilateral institutions on energy matters, even helping to craft policy for agencies of the European Union and the United Nations. Speaking on the sidelines of the conference, which drew a broad audience including senior figures from both the public and private sectors, he said the timing “could not be better” for Europe.

“Shale gas has made America another energy superpower alongside Russia and OPEC, and liquefied natural gas is now a fully fledged global commodity,” he said. “Plus, the East Med producers will be sitting on Europe’s doorstep, and several countries are already gearing up to start taking massive LNG shipments. Decades of benefits for hundreds of millions of people, all there for the taking.”



And expected producer countries like Cyprus, Greece, and Lebanon, Baroudi added, stand to gain even more. “For a variety of historical reasons, most of these countries have not yet achieved the levels of development enjoyed in most of the European Union,” he told the conference. “Given the potential rewards for their peoples, the governments involved have nothing less than a moral responsibility to take advantage of propitious circumstances by tapping the oil and

gas wealth within their respective social, economic, and geopolitical reaches.” Baroudi also has emphasized some of East Med countries are not party to UNCLOS but all countries are signatories to the UN Charter. Therefore, Baroudi reminded that all these countries are under an obligation to “settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered.”

He also sounded notes of caution, however. For one thing, he stressed the need for producer countries to ensure proper management of the proceeds from gas sales to pay social justice. For another, he reinstated on the same countries to avoid international tensions that might impede development of the sector.

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# Athens Energy Forum 2018: February 15 – 16, 2018



## Overview

2017 has been another year marked by regional geopolitical tensions and rivalries but despite this very high level of volatility, new exploration projects are underway in Greece and Cyprus creating new **potential for investments in the oil & gas industry**. At a global scale, the uncertainties created by **Brexit** and the renewed friction in US-Russian relations continue to mar the possibility for regional stability as US and EU sanctions against Russia remain in full effect. The new

set of challenges that will affect **EU's Climate and Energy Policy** to 2030 and beyond after President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord.

## AGENDA

### THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 15

11.30

PARTICIPANTS ARRIVAL – REGISTRATION

12.00

WELCOME REMARKS:

- **Achilles Tsaltas**, Vice President, International Conferences, The New York Times

12.10

OPENING SPEECH:

- **George Stathakis**, Minister of Energy and Environment, Hellenic Republic

12.25

REMARKS:

- **Konstantinos Skrekas**, MP – New Democracy Party, Head of Energy and Environment Sector, f. Minister of Development and Competitiveness, Hellenic Republic

12.35

REMARKS:

- **Prof. Yannis Maniatis**, MP – Democratic Coalition, f. Minister of Environment, Energy & Climate Change

12.45

PANEL 1: THE GLOBAL GEOPOLITICAL PARAMETERS

– Diversification of energy sources to bring about energy independence for the region

- The impact of Brexit on EU Security & Energy Policy
  - **Geoffrey R. Pyatt**, Ambassador of the United States of America to the Hellenic Republic
  - **Kate Smith**, British Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic
- Energy sector as a leveraging tool despite geopolitical challenges
  - **Nabil Fahmy**, Dean, School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, American University of Cairo, f. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Egypt
  - **Defne Sadiklar-Arslan**, Executive Director, Atlantic Council Turkey

Introduction & Chair: **Athanasios Ellis**, Editor in Chief, Kathimerini English Edition

13.30

NETWORKING BREAK – LIGHT LUNCH

14.30

PANEL 2: STRATEGIC PRIVATIZATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

- **Laurent-Charles Thery**, Director for International Development, GRTgaz
- **George Longos**, Managing Partner, Alantra

14.50

PANEL 3: COMPLETING THE MIDSTREAM PUZZLE: EXPORTING GAS FROM THE EASTERN MED AND THE CASPIAN SEA

- Progress report on IGB and the dynamics of a second LNG imports facility in Alexandroupolis
- TAP: Progress Report and Phase 2
- The feasibility of the East Med Gas Pipeline
- The LNG export option
  - The View from Greece
  - **Dimitrios-Evangelos Tzortzis**, CEO, Public Gas Corporation, Greece\*

- **Sotiris Nikas**, President & CEO, Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator – DESFA, Greece\*
- **Panayotis Kanellopoulos**, Managing Director, M&M Gas S.A., Greece
- The View from the Region
- **Katerina Papalexandri**, Country Manager Greece, TAP
- **Albert Nahas**, Vice President, International Affairs, Tellurian Inc., U.S.A.
- **Theodore Tsakiris**, Assistant Professor, Geopolitics & Hydrocarbons, University of Nicosia, Cyprus & Scientific Adviser Athens Energy Forum

16.45

NETWORKING BREAK

17.00

PANEL 4: THE DOMESTIC AND REGIONAL ELECTRICITY MARKET DYNAMICS

- The continuous need for complete market liberalization
- Progress report on the Inter-connectivity between the Islands and Mainland Greece
- ADMIE's privatization: the day after

### Speeches:

- **Manousos Manousakis**, Chairman and CEO, Transmission System Planning Department, IPTO S.A., Greece
- **Prof. Nikos Chatziargyriou**, Chairman & CEO, Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator S.A.- HEDNO, Greece
- **Stavros Goutsos**, Deputy CEO, Public Power Corporation, Greece\*
- **Dinos Benroubi**, General Manager Electric Power Business Unit, MYTILINEOS, Greece

17.45

END OF THE 1ST DAY OF THE FORUM

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\* TO BE CONFIRMED

# FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 16

09.30

ARRIVAL OF DELEGATES – COFFEE/TEA

10.00

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

- **Konstantinos Skrekas**, MP – New Democracy Party, Head of Energy and Environment Sector, Former Minister of Development and Competitiveness, Greece

10.15

PANEL 5: REGIONAL UPSTREAM DEVELOPMENTS: POLITICAL, REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

- The results of Cyprus' Third Licensing Round and the Onisiphoros Discovery
- Future exploration prospects in Egypt and Israel and Lebanon's untapped potential
- The entry of Exxon and Total in the Greek Upstream market
- **Yannis Bassias**, President, Hellenic Hydrocarbons Resources Management S.A., Greece
- **Yannis Grigoriou**, General Manager Exploration & Production of Hydrocarbons, Hellenic Petroleum S.A.
- **Dr. Constantinos Hadjistassou**, Ass. Professor, School of Sciences & Engineering, University of Nicosia\*
- **Bernard Clement**, Vice President for Caspian and Southern Europe, Total E&P, France
- **Dimitris Gontikas**, Managing Director, Energean Oil & Gas, Greece\*
- **Dr. Carole Nakhle**, CEO, Crystol Energy, U.K.

11.45

NETWORKING BREAK

12.15



## PANEL 6: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

- Making energy technologies cleaner
- Responsible steps to cut carbon pollution
- Winning the global race for clean energy innovation
- **Dr. Dionysia Avgerinopoulou**, MP, f. Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Environment of the Hellenic Parliament
- **Konstantinos Xifaras**, Secretary General, World Energy Council, Hellenic National Committee
- **Dr. Spyros Kiartzis**, Manager New Technologies & Alternative Energy Sources, Hellenic Petroleum S.A.
- **Dionissis Christodouloupoulos**, Managing Director, MAN Diesel & Turbo Hellas Ltd

13.00

## PANEL 7: RES, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION

- RES as a means of energy security
- Energy efficiency technologies as a new area for growth
- Overcoming regulatory hurdles for RES development
- **George Gkiaouris**, Senior Banker, Power & Energy, EBRD
- **Professor Xenophon E. Verykios**, Managing Director, Helbio Hydrogen & Energy Systems, Greece
- **Zisimos Daniil Mantas**, Chief Business Development Officer, Eunice Energy Group, Greece

13.45

END OF FORUM