

Abraj completes first well stimulation on Block 61

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- Collaborative partnership and commitment to in-country value leads to successful execution and well productivity

MUSCAT, Sultanate of Oman – bp today announced the successful completion of the first well stimulation on Block 61 by Abraj Energy Services, marking a significant milestone in its relationship with the Omani well services contractor. The well, located in the Ghazeer field, also represents one of the largest stimulations completed by Abraj.

bp Oman president Yousuf Al Ojaili commented: “We’re delighted to reach this important milestone with Abraj. This is the first time the company has worked with us on a well stimulation. It’s great to see what can be achieved when working collaboratively and with a commitment to in-country value.”

Abraj was initially awarded 30% of the stimulation scope for Block 61, with the opportunity to potentially increase this based on performance.

Abraj managing director Abdullah Al Hady commented: “We’re delighted to have worked with bp to deliver this well stimulation, proving the capability of a local company to perform one of the most complex services in well engineering and in one of the most challenging reservoirs. We’ve been grateful for bp’s continuous support, technical advice and for providing us the opportunity to demonstrate our capabilities.”

The gas in Block 61’s Khazzan and Ghazeer reservoirs is known to be ‘tight’. This means that the hydrocarbon – gas and condensate – is tightly held within the reservoir formations and will not flow naturally to economic rates without stimulation. To do this, fluids and proppant are pumped into the formation at high pressures and rates which opens the reservoir’s rock – creating a ‘super-highway’ that allows the hydrocarbons to flow.

The well was stimulated late November and started to flow shortly thereafter with productivity better than expected.

Once wells flow, residual chemicals and proppant must be removed before they reach the central processing facility. Historically, hydrocarbons produced during well testing would be flared. bp Oman has pioneered the green completions concept where hydrocarbons are routed to the production facility instead, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Since adopting this approach in 2019, 201,000 tonnes of CO₂e emissions have been saved – equivalent to removing 44,000 cars from the road for a year.

bp Oman has worked to increase its well construction spend with Omani companies. This has significantly increased with the Abraj contract and is set to grow further in 2021 with the recent award of a highly challenging well test contract to local company FOS.

Notes to editors

- bp has had an upstream presence in Oman since 2007.
- Block 61 is one of the Middle East's largest tight gas accumulations, in which gas lies at depths of up to five kilometres in narrow bands of hard, dense rock. bp is a pioneer in tight gas and has applied its technology and expertise to develop this resource.
- **Development:** the development of Block 61 (Khazzan and Ghazeer) comprises a three-train central gas processing facility; a water treatment plant; 400km of gas and condensate export pipelines; a waste management area; an electricity substation; almost 500km of roads; and over 60km of water pipelines. 132 wells have been drilled, with more planned over the lifetime of the project.
- **Distribution:** gas from Block 61 is distributed for domestic consumption via Oman's national gas grid, while also boosting availability of feedstock supply for Oman LNG. bp Trading and Shipping purchases 1.1 million tonnes a year of LNG from Oman LNG under a seven-year deal that started in 2018.