

## **Azeri Central East (ACE) project briefing paper**

*For 13 December 2022 event*

### **Project general info**

The ACE project is a \$6 billion development which includes a new offshore platform and facilities designed to process up to 100,000 barrels of oil per day. The project is expected to produce up to 300 million barrels over its lifetime.

The ACE sanction is the first major investment decision by the ACG partnership since the extension of the ACG Production Sharing Agreement (PSA) to 2049 was agreed in 2017. Around \$42 billion has been invested into the development of the ACG area since the original PSA signed in 1994.

The ACE project is centred on a new 48-slot production, drilling and quarters platform located mid-way between the existing Central Azeri and East Azeri platforms in a water depth of approximately 140 metres. The project will also include new infield pipelines to transfer oil and gas from the ACE platform to the existing ACG Phase 2 oil and gas export pipelines for transportation to the onshore Sangachal terminal.

In addition, there will be a water injection pipeline installed between the East Azeri and ACE platforms to supply injection water from the Central Azeri compression and water injection platform to the ACE facilities.

### **ACE Jacket**

The ACE jacket weighs 16,000 tonnes and stands 153 metres high. It contains three risers - one water injection, one oil export and one gas export. The jacket will be installed in a water depth of 137 metres.

The jacket was constructed by BOS Shelf with all fabrication completed in country at the Heydar Aliyev Baku Deepwater Jacket Factory (BDJF). The construction activities have taken three years to complete. Over 2,000 people including sub-contractors and specialist vendors were involved in the construction works and it was delivered without a single day off from work case throughout the site total of 3 million work-hours to date.

The transportation, launch, positioning and pile installation activities of the ACE jacket structure have been carefully planned and are expected to take around 40 days to complete.

The construction of the jacket was completed in July 2022. It will be loaded out onto the transportation barge STB-1 at the quayside of BDJF in preparation for the sail-away.

### **ACE Topsides**

ACE topsides unit has a design weight of 19,600 tonnes containing oil & gas process facilities, an integrated drilling rig, a gas compressor and living quarters.

The topsides unit is constructed in the Bayil fabrication yard by Azfen. Construction and commissioning works are in the final stages.

At its peak, the topsides construction project involved up to 4,400 workers with over 90% of them being Azerbaijani nationals.

The safety record at the site has been outstanding - the topsides team recently celebrated 20 million hours worked without injury.

Construction and commissioning works are expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2023 when the facility will be loaded out onto the transportation barge STB-1, transported to the field and installed onto the jacket. Following completion of the offshore scope of the construction & commissioning works, the drilling of the first well will commence allowing first ACE production achievement.

ACE will be the first platform in the ACG fleet to be controlled remotely from the onshore control room at the Sangachal terminal. The control room has already been constructed and is operational allowing testing to take place.

### **ACE Subsea Pipelines**

ACE has gas, oil and water injection pipelines and all of them are now installed on the seabed. ACE pipelines range between 6 and 12 kilometres and tie into the existing ACG pipelines. Subsea tie-in activities have already been completed on the gas line while on the oil and water injection lines tie-in works are still ongoing with expected completion in the third quarter of 2023.