



Deals Today
The latest Reuters articles on M&A, IPOs, hedge funds and more
Subscribe Now

Come and explore UBS, the #1 European M&A Financial Advisor >

UBS Investment Bank
REPLAY

You are here: Home > Business & Finance > Industries > Energy > Article

DJIA : 12307.35 | Nasdaq : 2454.5

- HOME
BUSINESS & FINANCE
Markets
Deals
Industries
All Industries
Financial Services & Real Estate
Technology, Media & Telecommunications
Healthcare
Consumer Goods & Retail
Energy
Industrials, Materials & Utilities
Industry Summits
Stocks
Stock Buzz
Funds
ETFs
Currencies
Commodities
Options
Bonds
Analyst Research
Portfolio
NEWS

UPDATE 1-Nigeria to give Shell Ogoni oilwells to another firm

Wed Jun 4, 2008 2:28pm EDT

Email | Print | Share | Reprints | Single Page | Recommend (0) [-] Text [+]

MARKET NEWS

- Stocks rally as tame CPI calms inflation fear
Wachovia shares fall to lowest since 1992
Dollar caps best week since 05 as inflation looms
More Business & Investing News...

(Adds Shell comment para 7-8)

By Felix Onuah

ABUJA, June 4 (Reuters) - Oil fields abandoned by Royal Dutch Shell (RDSa.L: Quote, Profile, Research, Stock Buzz) in Nigeria's Ogoniland in the Niger Delta 15 years ago will be given to another oil company this year, President Umaru Yar'Adua said on Wednesday.

Shell closed its operations in the area in 1993 due largely to popular protests over pollution and lack of development.

The protests were spearheaded by a rights group, the Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP), whose leader Ken Saro-Wiwa was executed by the then-military government in 1995.

"There is a total loss of confidence between Shell and Ogoni people," Yar'Adua, who is on a state visit to South Africa, said at a meeting with the Nigerian community in Cape Town.

"Another operator acceptable to the Ogonis will take over. Nobody is going to gain from the conflict and stalemate, so this is the best solution," Yar'Adua said in a statement.

A deal has already been reached with Shell to compensate the Ogoni people for degrading their environment, Yar'Adua said.

Shell said it was yet to receive any official communication on the government's decision to transfer the Ogoni oil wells to another energy company.

"We have seen media reports today ... about government's decision over our interests in Ogoni. We can confirm that we have not received any formal notification about this development and are therefore unable to comment further at this time," a Shell spokeswoman in Nigeria said.

MOSOP had accused Shell of trying to resume oil and gas production without Ogoni consent after a government-backed peace process failed to reconcile the two parties.

The Anglo Dutch firm had denied the charges and said it only wanted to secure wells that have been dormant since 1993 and its oil pipelines that crisscross Ogoniland.

Shell had been trying in vain to mend ties with MOSOP and the wider Ogoni community ever since Saro-Wiwa's execution, which portrayed it in a bad light to many environmental and human rights groups around the world.

Hundreds of placard-carrying villagers staged a protest against Shell in March when MOSOP said the company was trying to force its way back to Ogoniland.

Protesters in the village of K-Dere attacked a major oil pipeline that feeds Shell's Bonny export terminal twice in May 2007, forcing the company to close about 170,000 barrels per day.

MOSOP said then that the attacks were staged by local youths angry with Shell over what they said were unfulfilled promises of jobs and benefits.

EDITOR'S CHOICE Pictures Video Articles



A selection of our best images from the past 24 hours. View Slideshow

TRADE CURRENCIES
LEARN TO TRADE WITH A FREE DEMO ACCOUNT
START TRADING RISK-FREE NOW
GFT ONLINE CURRENCY TRADING
COMPLETE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY TRADING STYLE - ESPECIALLY YOURS

- Do More With Reuters
RSS
Widgets
Mobile
Podcasts
Newsletters
You Witness News
Partner Services
CareerBuilder
Affiliate Network
Professional Products
Support (Customer Zone)
Reuters Media
Financial Products
Find a financial adviser
About Thomson Reuters

MOST POPULAR ON REUTERS

Articles Video Searched Recommended

- 1. Exxon to exit U.S. retail gas business
2. They had sex WHERE?
3. Zimbabwe's Mugabe says war vets ready to fight
4. Researchers confirm age of "Methuselah" tree
5. Tornado hits university's research reactor in Kansas
6. Manners still matter when you're poking on Facebook
7. Ireland rejects treaty in blow for EU | Video
8. Iraq says talks with U.S. on pact deadlocked
9. Jail break foiled by air vent
10. Power back in Washington after outage

Most Popular Articles RSS Feed

(For full Reuters Africa coverage and to have your say on the top issues, visit: africa.reuters.com/) (Additional reporting by Nick Tattersall; writing by Tume Ahemba; editing by Nick Tattersall and Jim Marshall))

© Thomson Reuters 2008 All rights reserved

SHARE: [Del.icio.us](#) [Digg](#) [Mixx](#) [My Web](#) [Facebook](#) [Newsvine](#)

MORE ENERGY

[MGM Energy in deal to explore Canadian north lands](#)
[Minister gave privileged info on Petrobras-report](#)
[US Cash Products-small moves in dull trade as NYMEX slips](#)
[Reliance Ind: acting in good faith on ADAG, MTN](#)
[More Energy News...](#)

RELATED BLOG POSTS

[Ogoni people welcome Nigerian move against Shell](#)
 Royal Dutch Shell plc.com
[Nigeria: Mosop in Solidarity Procession Over Shell Sack](#)
 Royal Dutch Shell plc.com
[Nigeria's Ogoni hope Shell ouster brings prosperity](#)
 Royal Dutch Shell plc.com
[Nigeria to give Shell Ogoni oilwells to another firm](#)
 Royal Dutch Shell plc.com
[Nigeria: Ogoni People Jubilate Over Sacking of Shell](#)
 Royal Dutch Shell plc.com

powered by  **BlogBurst**

Views in these blog posts are those of the author and not of Reuters.

ENERGY NEWS

[MGM Energy in deal to explore Canadian north lands](#)
[Minister gave privileged info on Petrobras-report](#)
[US Cash Products-small moves in dull trade as NYMEX slips](#)
[More Energy News...](#)

ALSO ON REUTERS



Health Matters: The dirt on popular detox diets



Rich and fabulous: Forbes 2008 Celebrity 100 Power List



Japan unveils eco-friendly car that runs on nothing but water

Reuters Business & Finance

[Get the latest industry news](#)
[Track your portfolio](#)
[Read market reactions](#)
[Purchase analyst research reports](#)
[Join the Stock Buzz community](#)

Ads by [Career Builder](#) [What's This?](#)

Reuters.com: [Help and Contact Us](#) | [Advertise With Us](#) | [Mobile](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [RSS](#)  | [Interactive TV](#) | [Labs](#) | [Reuters in Second Life](#) | [Archive](#) | [Site Index](#) | [Video Index](#)

Thomson Reuters Corporate: [Copyright](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Professional Products](#) | [Professional Products Support](#) | [About Thomson Reuters](#) | [Careers](#)

International Editions: [Africa](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Argentina](#) | [Brazil](#) | [Canada](#) | [China](#) | [France](#) | [Germany](#) | [India](#) | [Italy](#) | [Japan](#) | [Latin America](#) | [Mexico](#) | [Russia](#) | [Spain](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [United States](#)

Thomson Reuters is the world's largest international multimedia news agency, providing investing news, world news, business news, technology news, headline news, small business news, news alerts, personal finance, stock market, and mutual funds information available on Reuters.com, video, mobile, and interactive television platforms. Thomson Reuters journalists are subject to an Editorial Handbook which requires fair presentation and disclosure of relevant interests.

NYSE and AMEX quotes delayed by at least 20 minutes. Nasdaq delayed by at least 15 minutes. For a complete list of exchanges and delays, please [click here](#).