



**Environment minister admits Romania faces serious issue in contaminated sites**

678 words

10 March 2011

14:41

Rompres ROMPES

English

(c) 2011 ROMPRES

Bucharest, March 10 /Agerpres/ - Romania is facing a serious issue of contaminated sites, more than a thousand at the moment, said Minister of Environment and Forests (MMP) Laszlo Borbely in the opening of the 18th edition of the Romenvirotec International Exhibition hosted by Romexpo Exhibitions Centre.

'We face a severe problem with the contaminated sites. There are more than a thousand such sites in Romania and we have to allocate a billion euros to decontaminate them,' Borbely said.

'We will budget more money for decontamination in 2011. We assigned 150 million euros in 2010 to decontaminate several mines. We need to find out how to get the money. We also have to seek the aid of the Government. We will have to find ways to fund the decontamination of the sites in Romania,' Laszlo Borbely added.

In mid-February, the Environment Minister assessed that Romania needed 2.5 to 3 billion euros for the next couple of years to decontaminate the 1000 contaminated sites, money that are not yet available, but which he intends to borrow from the European Union.

'By our preliminary calculations, we need somewhere between 2.5 an 3 billion euros in the near future a least, in order to decontaminate these sites. A research is necessary, research that draws to an end, and now we can single out our priorities for the next 3, 5 or 10 years and we can get the European funds,' the Minister of Environment said.

He admits that Romania is past due date with the contamination and pollution limitation but he puts great faith in the Environment Protection Authority, an institution under his authority, which he commended.

'Since last year, we have enjoyed the privilege to grant money by Government resolution through the Environment Protection Authority and we had a first Government resolution in amount of 120 million euros for four mining decantation lakes that are to be cleaned. We have 100 million euros and are a little behind schedule, we have three contaminated areas to be cleaned, Turda, Frangu and Campina, an operation worth 44 million euros. We will add three or four to make use of all the money but it is still not enough. The Environment Protection Authority fulfilled its duty last year. Both activity and controls increased by 50 percent compared to 2009,' Borbely explained.

Petrom is forced to close and clean 80 oil residues sites, an operation that costs 450 million euros, only 50 million of which is covered by the company, Borbely said late in 2010.

'Many of these sites are included in some private companies industrial areas. We will have to ascertain a legal way. There is no way we can afford to assign money to clean just from the funds granted by the EU. Let us take Petrom, for instance, they have to clean and close more than 80 oil residues sites, an operation that requires 450 million euros. My colleagues negotiated the contract so cleverly back in 2004 that Petrom has to spend only 50 million euros, with the rest of the sum falling to us. That is why we have to find some methods used in other countries. The metals extracted from those sites I mentioned before can be reused and turned into a business,' the MMP leader said.

MMP is sponsoring the 18th edition of the International Exhibition for Environment Protection Technologies and Equipment Romenvirotec 2011, hosted by Romexpo between March 10 and 13.

During the exhibition, the relevant ministry will hold conferences and seminars like 'The Integrated Waste Management System - a billion euros annual revenues, 100,000 jobs and 4 million tonnes of natural

resources saved each year', 'Funded Environment Programs', 'Aspects of the implementation of the European funded projects after EU admission,' or 'Achievements 2010. Investment ideas for finishing the flood defence works, a priority for 2011.'

This year's edition of Romenvirotec hosts more than 80 companies in ten countries, China, Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, the UK, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden. AGERPRES

Document ROMPES0020110310e73a002p9



# KAPITI BEACHES STILL ON ALERT FOR OIL SPILL RESIDUE

CHUG Kiran 462 words

4 December 2010 Dominion Post DOMPOS

17

English

© 2010 Fairfax New Zealand Limited. All Rights Reserved.

MORE oil could still wash up on the Kapiti Coast from a spill off Taranaki in October, Maritime New Zealand is warning.

Three separate investigations into the spill, which has resulted in sand from Kapiti's beaches being removed and dumped at the Silverstream landfill, have begun.

The spill also led Conservation Department staff to check the shorelines of Kapiti Island to ensure oil had not reached the sanctuary.

Austrian oil and gas giant OMV, whose New Zealand arm operates the Maari gasfield, has accepted responsibility for the oil spill first noticed on October 18.

OMV New Zealand managing director Wayne Kirk said the spill happened at the floating production platform, the Raroa, which is permanently moored 80 kilometres off the Taranaki coast.

The company had reported that a second spill occurred on November 20 at the Raroa, although Dr Kirk said the oil spotted then was a result of residual oil from the first spill becoming trapped under its hull.

The company organised a cleanup of beaches where globules of oil had been spotted onshore, which Dr Kirk said involved 2 1/2 cubic metres of sand, about the size of a small skip, being removed.

Maritime New Zealand spokesman Ross Henderson said the agency had recommended further monitoring of the Kapiti Coast.

"It is possible that oil may have been remobilised . . . so the potential for further oiling of areas of coastline exists."

Dr Kirk said there had been no new sightings of oil since November 16, and the company was monitoring the Kapiti Coast beaches "periodically".

He estimated that less than 600 litres of oil had been spilt, but Mr Henderson said Maritime NZ had not yet confirmed the amount.

Greater Wellington regional council harbourmaster Mike Pryce said he was satisfied that all the oiled sand had been removed, and unless further oil sightings were reported, he was happy with the action that OMV had taken.

The council's team leader of environmental protection services Susan Smith said the council had sent away samples of the oil so its source could be proven - despite OMV taking responsibility for it.

Once that had been done, the council would follow up with OMV, which could result in the company receiving an infringement notice or being prosecuted.

Maritime NZ is also carrying out its own investigation into the cause of the spill.

Dr Kirk said OMV had taken a "prudent approach" even though independent experts had indicated the environmental impact of the oil globules washed up on shore would be low. The company restarted production at the Raroa a week ago.

Dr Kirk said the leak occurred because of a faulty joint on a pipe running through the cargo and ballast tanks. Document DOMPOS0020101205e6c400039



Observer Business Pages

# Business: Analysis: COMMENT: BP is just a symptom of a dangerous addiction to oil

Ruth Sunderland 694 words

13 June 2010 The Observer OB

44

English

© Copyright 2010. The Observer. All rights reserved.

President Obama's attacks on "British Petroleum" and its chief executive, Tony Hayward, are deeply unedifying. Not because of the hypocrisy and misinformation involved, though there is plenty of that: BP has not been called British Petroleum for years and its controversial dividend is denominated in US dollars.

Nancy Pelosi, the House Speaker, conjured up images of pound notes flowing into pinstriped pockets in the City when she suggested shareholders had "deeper pockets" than fishermen on the Gulf coast. But recipients of the divi are not all fat cats, and they are certainly not all British. About 40% of BP's dividends are paid to US small investors and pension fund members, including teachers in California and Texas. These are people like Miriam Sullivan, the 74-year-old wife of a retired New Jersey teacher, who told Bloomberg she stands to lose $10,000 a year if the BP dividend is suspended.

US companies have wreaked more than their fair share of environmental havoc and loss of life. There was Exxon Valdez and Piper Alpha. The escalation of the BP row last week overshadowed another story in an Indian courtroom, where seven local employees of the US multinational Union Carbide were convicted of causing death by negligence at its plant in Bhopal in 1984, when a toxic leak killed thousands of people. Union Carbide's American chairman, Warren Anderson, has never been brought to justice and is listed as an "absconder" by the court.

The real problem is not Brit-bashing by US politicians. It is, as US commentator Thomas Friedman has pointed out, that Obama has missed an opportunity to move the discussion on to the underlying issues of climate change and the developed world's addiction to oil.

The horrific effects of this addiction are not confined to the environment. A report published in Sweden last week by the European Coalition on Oil in Sudan (ECOS) went unremarked in the UK but its allegations are devastating.

ECOS claims its research shows that a consortium of oil companies - Lundin of Sweden, Malaysian group Petronas and Austrian concern OMV - should be investigated for complicity in war crimes and crimes against humanity in Sudan. The oil companies, ECOS says, worked alongside the perpetrators of rape, torture, child abduction and forced displacement, and the consortium's infrastructure enabled the commission of crimes. Lundin, the consortium leader, denies the allegations.

Our thirst for oil is inextricably linked to conflict and corruption. Unlike the BP crisis, much of this happens below the media radar in this country and the US, as does an enormous amount of damage to the environment. To take one example, the people of the Niger delta, which supplies 40% of US crude imports, have had their lives blighted by oil pollution for decades.

BP and its bosses richly deserve to be pilloried over Deepwater but this is far too important to be reduced to a puerile slanging match. When the US president speaks to David Cameron this week and meets the BP chairman, Carl-Henric Svanberg, there needs to be a constructive dialogue. There is still time to grasp this opportunity for real change.

To sustain our oil addiction, companies are pushing the boundaries into controversial areas such as tar sands, into conflict zones, and into joint ventures with oligarchs. We have entered the era of Extreme Oil. Deepwater does not tell us much about the sins of British oil companies versus American ones. It tells us a great deal about the huge costs, human, financial and environmental, of being hooked on oil. The US is the world's biggest consumer. Reducing that consumption and moving towards a more sustainable economy would have enormous benefits: it would cut emissions of greenhouse gases, leave the US less vulnerable to oil price spikes and lessen the need to deal with oil-rich countries that may compromise foreign policy.

Obama could have used his political capital to initiate a serious discussion on how to end our dangerous dependency. How saddening that, so far, he has chosen not to.

Document OB00000020100614e66d0001m

# Activists Protest against Crude Oil Pipeline Project in Bratislava

393 words

28 April 2010

13:17

SITA Slovenska Tlacova Agentura SITA

English

(c) 2010 SITA - Slovenska Tlacova Agentura

BRATISLAVA, April 28, (SITA) -- Environmental activists from Greenpeace Slovakia symbolically spilled crude oil on a model of Zitny Ostrov, the largest source of drinking water in central Europe, in front of the seat of the firm Transpetrol on Wednesday. The environmental activists thus protested against the controversial plan to build a crude oil pipeline across the protected territory around the Slovak capital. The Slovak public should know that behind the planned construction of the pipeline is, in addition to interests of the Austrian firm OMV, also the interest of the Slovak firm Transpetrol, in the hands of the state through the Economy Ministry. “We do not want our largest drinking water source in central Europe to yet another potential source of pollution. A crude oil pipeline simply does not fit in Zitny Ostrov. Drinking water is the strategic resource of the 21st century.

Protection of such strategic resources must be an absolute priority for Slovakia,” said coordinator of Greenpeace’s toxic campaign Katerina Ventusova.

According to available information, Transpetrol proposed the disputed route of the pipeline on the Slovak side, explained Greenpeace activists. The company is also the majority stockholder in the Slovak-Austrian company, which is to build and operate the pipeline in Austria. Greenpeace claims it has information at its disposal according to which the Austrian side counts on construction of the pipeline across Zitny Ostrov and connection to the Austrian pipeline near the village of Kittsee. Ms. Ventusova added that the controversial alternative of the pipeline’s construction should be rejected as soon as possible.

The crude oil pipeline connecting the Bratislava-based oil refiner Slovnaft and the OMV refinery in the Austrian Schwechat should have originally started in 2012. Austria is interested in building the pipeline mainly to enable direct import of Russian crude oil. According to the original project, the crude oil pipeline between Slovakia and Austria should have had 62 kilometers with 12 kilometers in Slovakia. Its capacity should be about 2.5-5 million tons of crude oil per year. The construction of the crude oil pipeline should be carried out by the Slovak company Transpetrol and the Austrian firm OMV, which established the company

Bratislava-Schwechat Pipeline. Slovakia’s Environment Ministry issued a negative position on the project within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

qk;dp

Document SITA000020100429e64s0000l



# STOCKS NEWS EMERGING EUROPE-Petrom gains after wind power buy

248 words

15 April 2010

11:33

Reuters News LBA

English

(c) 2010 Reuters Limited

STOCKS NEWS Reuters Regional Stocks Stocks on the move [HOT-RTRS] Real-time Equity News [E] [.CEE]

REGIONAL INDICES

Warsaw WIG20 <.WIG20> Bucharest Beti <.BETI> Budapest SE Index <.BUX> Prague PX <.PX>

Zagreb Crobex <.CRBEX> Sofia Sofix <.SOFIX>

Ljubljana SBI20 <.SBI> Istanbul ISE National 100 <.XU100> Moscow RTS <.IRTS>

0931 GMT 15Apr2010 - Petrom gains after wind power buy

--------------------------------------------------------------

Shares in oil and gas group Petrom gain nearly 2 percent after Romania's biggest listed company says it is buying a planned wind power project as it seeks to diversify into electricity production.

"Overall I think the strategy is a good one to move away from only oil and gas and towards electricity, especially as the gas prices in Romania are regulated," says Erste analyst Thomas Unger.

[rm://sam.cage.reuters.com@reuters.net](mailto:sam.cage.reuters.com@reuters.net)

0915 GMT 15Apr2010 - NWR still gains after upgrades, prices --------------------------------------------------------------

Shares in miner New World Resources (NWR) rise 4 percent in Prague, extending gains from the previous sessions on a string of analyst upgrades after a sharp rise in contract prices.

NWR said on Wednesday it agreed a 87 percent year-on-year price rise on most of its coking coal contracts for the next year, pushing shares to 19-month peaks. [ID:nLDE63D0EN] \* For analysts' recommendations on NWR click <REC14>

[rm://jason.hovet.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net](mailto:jason.hovet.thomsonreuters.com@reuters.net)

MARKETS-EMERGINGEUROPE-STOCKSNEWS (2)|LANGEN|Table|ABN|E|RBN|PX|CZS|HX|RDN

Document LBA0000020100415e64f000sz

# Search Summary

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Text |  |
| Date | 23/03/2010 to 22/03/2011 |
| Source | Major News and Business Sources Or Reuters Newswires |
| Author | All Authors |
| Company | OMV AG |
| Subject | Environmental Pollution Or Corporate Social Responsibility Or Natural Environment Or Sustainable Development/Sustainability Or Natural Disasters/Catastrophes |
| Industry | All Industries |
| Region | All Regions |
| Language | English |
| Results Found | 5 |
| Timestamp | 29 November 2018 15:34 |