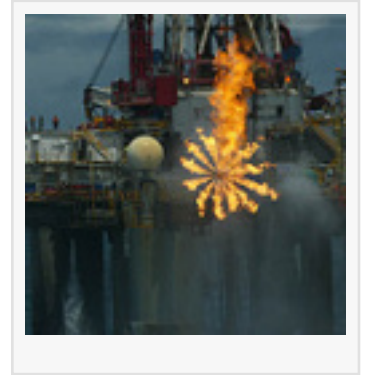


Vague Paris Outcome Means Boost for Taranaki Engineers

Diluted Denouement Allows New Zealand Government to Give Oil Exploration Green Light

NAPIER, HAWKES BAY, NEW ZEALAND, December 17, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The government's allocation of new oil and gas exploration permits represent a shot in the arm for Taranaki's beleaguered heavy fabrication and production engineering sectors under pressure in the form of job losses from the double whammy of the dairy and oil price declines.



The announcement of the licences so soon after the Paris climate conference was skilfully timed. In the event, and after much ballyhoo, the outcome of the immense meet was a collection of well-intentioned pledges.

A problem for the government in seeking to use the licence approvals as a boost for the sagging engineering sector was the possibility, however remote, of the Paris meet propounding specific articles.

This would have meant that the licence approvals had they been allocated pre-Paris could have been vulnerable to being un-picked.

In the event the post-Paris exploration allocation announcement was matter-of-fact. The response from the parliamentary Green Party and its outreach Greenpeace was correspondingly muted.

It was in their interest too to avoid drawing attention to the vague results of the conference billed, for example, as the most significant in Paris since Versailles, the conference in the aftermath of World War 1 and which inadvertently laid the foundation for World War 2.

The government's sense of timing was followed through meanwhile with deft soft-shoeing in the matter of the absence of interest in its deep sea licence portfolio. This negative was explained away as an environmental plus by the notion that applicants for these failed to meet the government's own exacting standards.

Underpinning the entire issues is that of New Zealand's 18 sedimentary basins only the Taranaki one produces oil and gas. This is in spite of heavy seismic that began with Prakla.

Fitzroy Engineering and Tru Test are just two heavy fabrication and production engineering companies that have had to lay off skilled operators in recent times due to the oil/dairy fall-off.

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