

Oil shale investment opportunity, An-Nadiya Deposit in Jordan

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Aqaba Petroleum for Oil Shale company recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Natural Resources Authority (NRA). The MOU area (450 km²) is located in central Jordan area, 135 km south of Amman. JSC- Krzhizhanovsky Power Engineering Institute (ENIN) in Russia as a partner possesses exclusive rights for the oil shale retorting technology utilizing UTT-3000 installation tailored to the Jordanian oil shale. A thorough exploration program was carried out for this area and included geochemical remote sensing, surface geophysical surveys, borehole drilling, in-hole logging, topographical and geological mapping, hydrological studies, mining study, organic, chemical and physical analyses and tests. Based on the positive results, the company managed to select a potential oil shale deposit in an area of 35 km². The selected area has been allocated as the new MOU area for the Company. Subsequently, a detailed investigation program was conducted on this area. The results of the detailed study in the selected area revealed four rich oil shale layers at total thickness of 35.7 m and stripping ratio of 1.8. The weighted average oil content is ranging between 8.3 to 13% with an overall average of 9.71%. The Selected area comprises a reserve of about 1244 million m³ or 1,930 million tons of oil shale. The quantity of oil content in place is calculated at 187 million tons or 1,235 million barrels of shale oil. The mining study has allocated a mineable reserve of very good quality and mining conditions in an area of about 3 km² (first mining site). The deposit in this area with an average stripping ratio of 1.53 and average oil yield of 10% will feed the retorting plant (6 units of UTT-3000) with a total of 158 million tons of oil shale for 30 years as (Phase-I).