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Gas Strategies Group

10 Saint Bride Street
London UK
EC4A 4AD

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T: +44(0) 20 7332 9900
W: www.gasstrategies.com
Twitter @GasStrategies

Editorials

+44(0) 20 7332 9957
editor@gasstrategies.com

Subscriptions

+44(0) 20 7332 9976
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Carrots and sticks: Nigeria zeroes in on gas flaring

Gas flaring has long been a flashpoint in Nigeria, where around 7.7 Bcm of associated natural gas is flared each year at a cost of around 20 mtpa of carbon dioxide. Over the years, the country has tried many approaches to tackle the problem, ranging from targets to financial incentives, but none have been successful. This month, however, Nigeria signed off a new set of gas flaring regulations that will impose punitive levies on routine gas flaring. With the government's new gas monetisation programme approaching the bidding stage, officials hope the regulations could be the final puzzle piece of its ambition to end routine gas flaring by 2020. Gas Matters examines the new regulations in detail and asks whether Nigeria has done enough to kick its gas flaring habit.

**Consulting**

+44 (0) 20 7332 9900
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+44 (0) 20 7332 9910
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