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Building Refining Capacity in Nigeria: NDPR's Diesel 'Topping Plant' Begins Production

On the 18th December 2010, Niger Delta Petroleum Resources Limited (NDPR), the wholly owned subsidiary of Niger Delta Exploration & Production Plc (NDEP), proudly announced the commencement of diesel oil production.

The mini diesel refinery 'Topping Plant' has been installed to promote self-sufficiency in NDPR's operations and minimise the costs associated with the purchase of diesel. With a capacity of a 1000 bopd, NDPR will benefit from smoother operations, whilst also producing a surplus of diesel, for potential local consumption.

The completion of the Topping Plant is part of a broader initiative, to enhance the Company's revenue and promote shareholder value through diversification, thus becoming a fully integrated oil and gas Company.

NDPR's diesel production is being complemented by a Gas Utilisation Project that will harness the full potential of the company's gas resources and ahead of the Federal Government's implementation of its zero gas flare policy. To date, a gas processing plant is now at an advanced stage of installation at Ogbele while a 20km gas delivery line is nearing completion from Ogbele to the NLNG manifold at Rumuji.

Through its growth, NDPR has progressed from an asset owner to an asset producer and now, NDPR has achieved the unique status of an Integrated, independent Nigerian Oil Company.

Managing Director, Dr Layi Fatona, commented, 'This is yet another milestone for our growing company. In just over a year, we have been able to install the 'Topping Plant' and bring it to production, not only boosting our own capacity, but also contributing to Local Content by adding, in a very small way, towards increasing Nigeria's refining potential.'

'Ending 2010 on such a high note is wonderful and we look forward to many more

achievements in the New Year. I would like to congratulate the Field Operations Team for this achievement, as well as all Company Staff in Lagos and Port Harcourt, for their help and encouragement. To all shareholders and supporters of NDEP, we appreciate your longstanding faith and loyalty.'