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BAHRAIN LNG TERMINAL READIES FOR COMMISSIONING

Katie McQue, Dubai

Bahrain's LNG import terminal is almost ready for commissioning, with its first cargo expected to arrive soon, said Bahrain Petroleum Co.'s board director, Dawood Nassif.

Bahrain is set to join a growing list of Mideast gas importers with its \$1 billion LNG import terminal. It had been targeting a mid-February 2019 startup, and later said the terminal would take its first cargo at end March. The terminal could also be used for exports, Nassif said while speaking at the Middle East Petroleum and Gas Conference in Dubai.

Last year, Bahrain announced a gigantic offshore discovery of 80 billion bbl of tight oil and up to 20 Tcf of gas in the Khaleej al-Bahrain Basin. However, several industry experts have said they expect only a small fraction of the discovered resources to be recoverable. Bahrain has not released any further details on the nature of the discovery since the initial announcement. More details may be known in six months, upon the completion of drilling exploratory wells, Nassif said.

Earlier this month Chevron said it signed a letter of intent covering a joint evaluation study of the Khaleej al-Bahrain Basin and exploring potential LNG procurement opportunities. However, Nassif told Energy Intelligence on the sidelines of the event that the terms of an agreement, including any milestones or work obligations for Chevron, have not yet been decided.