



Minister: BHP Broadside well to be deepest drilled in T&T

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If all goes well, the BHP Broadside well will be the deepest ever drilled in Trinidad and Tobago.

That's according to Energy Minister Franklin Khan who said drilling on the well is on track, despite the COVID-19 pandemic and other setbacks.

He made the comment while speaking at a media conference on Tuesday on the return of the Deepwater Invictus Rig and the drilling of the Broadside well.



The Broadside-1 Exploration Well is being drilled in Block TTDA 3 of BHP's Southern Deepwater Acreage in a water depth of 6,624 feet. It's located approximately 32 kilometres to the East of the previously drilled LeClerc-1 Exploration Well which was drilled in Block TTDA 5.

Khan noted that, to date, BHP has expended approximately US\$1 billion in geological, geophysical and drilling work.

He said these exploration successes validate the prospectivity of T&T's deepwater area.

Khan said: "This success will generate added interest in the upcoming deepwater bid-round that is to be undertaken by the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries in 2021."

The Minister noted that the outlook for the productive capacity of the upstream sector is positive, with the sector being "largely spared" from disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Oil and gas production have been maintained at levels required to meet demand, and planned investment as in the case of Broadside well is on stream," he said.

"Both oil and gas production are set to increase progressively in the near term. By 2022 gas production is projected to stabilise at 3.8 bcf per day and oil production is projected to peak at approximately 80,000 barrels per day," the Minister continued.



Khan said he looks forward to the results of the drilling of the Broadside well, and engaging in discussion on the commercialisation of BHP's current exploration successes.