

LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE - ECONOMIE (TUNISIA) · TUNISIA · UPSTREAM

EXXOIL SA wins 100% of Tunisia's El Menzah concession

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Tunisia's Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy has authorised the full transfer of rights and obligations in the El Menzah hydrocarbon exploitation concession to EXXOIL SA. The transaction consolidates 100 percent ownership in the hands of EXXOIL SA, following the cession of stakes previously held by the Tunisian state oil company, Entreprise Tunisienne d'Activités Pétrolières (ETAP), and Ecumed Petroleum Grombalia Limited.

The ministerial authorisation represents a formal block award of transferred rights rather than a new licensing round or exploration permit. EXXOIL SA now carries full operational and financial responsibility for El Menzah, a producing hydrocarbon concession in Tunisia. Neither the production volumes associated with the concession nor the financial terms of the transfer are disclosed in the announcement.

The consolidation of ownership under a single operator typically signals intent to accelerate field activity — whether through workovers, infill drilling, or enhanced recovery — although no specific development programme has been announced at this stage. El Menzah sits within Tunisia's established hydrocarbon-producing geography, and the change of operator marks a meaningful shift in the asset's commercial trajectory. ETAP's exit from the joint interest removes the complexity of state co-participation, potentially streamlining future contracting and financing decisions for EXXOIL SA.

For Norwegian oil and gas service companies, the transition to a single, privately held operator at El Menzah is worth monitoring. A newly consolidated operator

inheriting full field responsibility often initiates a review of existing service contracts and procurement frameworks, which can create entry points for specialist well services, production optimisation, and integrity management providers. However, given that this instrument is a rights transfer rather than a signed development contract or open tender, direct procurement outreach is premature at this stage.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a rights-transfer and consolidation event, not yet a signed development contract or open tender, so the appropriate posture is monitoring and relationship-building with EXXOIL SA rather than procurement outreach. Norwegian well-services and production-technology firms should track whether EXXOIL SA publishes a field-development update or issues an EOI, at which point direct engagement becomes warranted. Establishing introductory contact with EXXOIL SA now — to position Norwegian technical expertise in mature-field optimisation — is a reasonable preparatory step.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Monitor EXXOIL SA for any workover or infill-drilling campaign at El Menzah that would require rig and well-services procurement.
- **Service:** Well-integrity and production-optimisation specialists should track EXXOIL SA's operational plans, as a newly sole-operated mature field often triggers a service-contract review.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Limited near-term relevance unless reservoir data indicates offshore or subsea infrastructure requirements — monitor for field-development disclosures.
- **Pipeline:** If EXXOIL SA pursues increased offtake capacity from El Menzah, pipeline tie-in or flow-assurance services could become relevant; watch for infrastructure announcements.

[Original source: La Presse de Tunisie - Economie \(Tunisia\) →](#)

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