INVESTIR AU CAMEROUN - ENERGIE (CAMEROON) · CAMEROON · LNG

Golar LNG books $5.4m staff exit costs on Hilli Episeyo

Saga deep read · 20 November 2026 · Score 63

Golar LNG has recorded charges of 3.23 billion FCFA linked to staff departures associated with its Hilli Episeyo floating liquefied natural gas vessel operating offshore Cameroon. The figure, reported by Investir au Cameroun, represents a material personnel cost item for the floating LNG unit that has been processing gas from the Perenco-operated Sanaga field in the Gulf of Guinea.

The Hilli Episeyo is one of the world's first converted floating liquefied natural gas vessels, having been converted from a Moss-type LNG carrier to an FLNG unit by Keppel Shipyard before commencing operations offshore Cameroon in 2018. Golar LNG operates the vessel under a tolling agreement, liquefying gas on behalf of the field operator. The vessel has a nameplate liquefaction capacity of approximately 1.2 million tonnes per annum and has been central to Cameroon's LNG export programme.

Staff departure charges of this scale on a floating production asset typically arise from workforce restructuring, contract completions, or transitions in operational crewing arrangements. The 3.23 billion FCFA figure — equivalent to roughly 5.4 million US dollars at current exchange rates — will appear as an operating cost item in Golar's accounts associated with the Cameroonian operation. The source article does not specify the nature of the departures, the number of personnel affected, or whether the charges relate to Cameroonian national employees, expatriate crew, or both.

The Hilli Episeyo has been operating under successive charters, and Golar LNG has at various points sought to extend or recontract the vessel's deployment. Any change in crewing or staffing structure on board or ashore in Cameroon would directly affect operational continuity and local content compliance under Cameroonian hydrocarbons law. The timing and character of these personnel movements remain unclear from the available reporting, and no operational disruption to the vessel has been indicated.

For the broader FLNG market, the Hilli Episeyo remains a closely watched reference asset, as it was an early proof-of-concept for converted FLNG deployment in a producing African basin. Cost developments on the unit, including workforce-related charges, are relevant to how operators and charterers price future FLNG tolling arrangements on the continent.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

The staff departure charges on Hilli Episeyo may indicate a crew or workforce transition on the vessel, which could open opportunities for Norwegian marine crewing, vessel management, or operations and maintenance service providers to engage with Golar LNG's procurement function. Norwegian companies with FLNG operations and maintenance expertise should monitor whether this restructuring leads to new service tenders. At this stage, the instrument is a reported accounting charge, not a contract award, so direct procurement outreach is premature — relationship-building with Golar's operational teams is the appropriate step.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Workforce transition on Hilli Episeyo may create openings for Norwegian FLNG operations and maintenance service providers to engage with Golar LNG.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Companies providing marine and floating asset management services should track whether crew restructuring leads to new service or management contracts on the vessel.
- **Drilling:** Limited direct relevance; monitor for any associated well intervention or recompletion activity linked to the Sanaga field supply chain.

- **Service:** Local content compliance shifts in Cameroon could require new training, competency assessment, or HSE service contracts — a niche but concrete angle for Norwegian service firms active in West Africa.

Original source: Investir au Cameroun - Energie (Cameroon) →

Saga Advisory

General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN