

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & MINERAL RESOURCES - NEWS (EGYPT) · EGYPT · LNG

Cyprus Energy Minister Tours Damietta LNG Plant

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Cyprus Minister of Energy visited the Damietta LNG plant in Egypt during his attendance at the Mediterranean Oil Conference (MOC) 2026, according to Egypt's Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. The visit signals continued bilateral interest between Egypt and Cyprus in Eastern Mediterranean energy cooperation, with the Damietta facility serving as a focal point for regional LNG export ambitions.

The Damietta LNG plant, located on Egypt's north coast, is one of the country's two operational liquefaction facilities and has been a strategic asset in Egypt's effort to position itself as a regional natural gas hub. Cyprus, which holds significant offshore gas resources in its Exclusive Economic Zone, has long explored options for monetising those reserves, including potential pipeline and LNG export routes through Egyptian infrastructure. The ministerial visit, timed to coincide with MOC 2026, underscores the ongoing diplomatic and commercial dialogue between the two governments on cross-border gas value chains.

The Mediterranean Oil Conference (MOC) is an established forum for energy stakeholders operating across North Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean basin, attracting operators, investors, and government officials engaged in upstream and midstream activity. Egypt has used such platforms to reinforce its credentials as a transit and processing hub, particularly as European buyers continue to seek alternatives to Russian pipeline gas and Mediterranean suppliers gain strategic relevance.

No specific agreements, contracts, or project announcements were disclosed in connection with the ministerial visit. The engagement remains at the level of diplomatic relationship-building and facility familiarisation rather than a formal commercial commitment. Nevertheless, the visit reflects the sustained attention that Cyprus is directing toward Egyptian LNG infrastructure as it evaluates export pathways for its own gas resources, including the Aphrodite field development, though that project was not referenced in the source material.

For energy service companies tracking Eastern Mediterranean LNG developments, the Damietta plant's role in regional gas diplomacy reinforces the facility's relevance as a potential processing and export node. Any future expansion or increased utilisation of Damietta capacity tied to Cypriot or other Eastern Mediterranean gas imports would require upstream development, pipeline interconnection work, and potentially plant upgrades — all of which represent service and supply chain opportunities. At this stage, however, no procurement activity has been announced and the appropriate posture is monitoring.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian LNG and pipeline service companies should monitor the Egypt-Cyprus bilateral energy dialogue, as any formalisation of gas export arrangements through Damietta could eventually trigger plant upgrade, interconnection pipeline, or upstream development procurement. No tender or contract has been announced, so the immediate action is relationship-building at forums like MOC and tracking regulatory developments in both Egypt and Cyprus. Companies with LNG plant servicing or subsea pipeline capabilities are best positioned to engage early if this corridor advances.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Monitor Damietta plant utilisation and any announced capacity upgrades tied to Eastern Mediterranean gas import arrangements, as increased throughput would require technical servicing and potentially liquefaction train work.
- **Pipeline:** Track feasibility studies for any sub-sea or onshore pipeline connecting Cypriot offshore fields to Egyptian processing infrastructure, which would open engineering and construction procurement.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Cypriot offshore gas development upstream of any Egypt export route remains undeveloped at scale; monitor block award and FID timelines for potential subsea equipment and installation opportunities.
- **Service:** MOC 2026 presence offers Norwegian service firms a direct networking channel with both Egyptian and Cypriot energy ministry officials ahead of any formal tendering process.

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Saga Advisory

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

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