

## ENERGY

## Electricity grid bounces back at 4,000MW after pipeline fire

By Simon Echewofun Sunday & Daniel Adugbo

The latest data on electricity generation obtained on Thursday from the NSO shows that the national grid bounced back to 4,623MW peak electricity generation on Wednesday. This was about two days after Fashola announced the restoration of gas supply to the six GenCos affected.

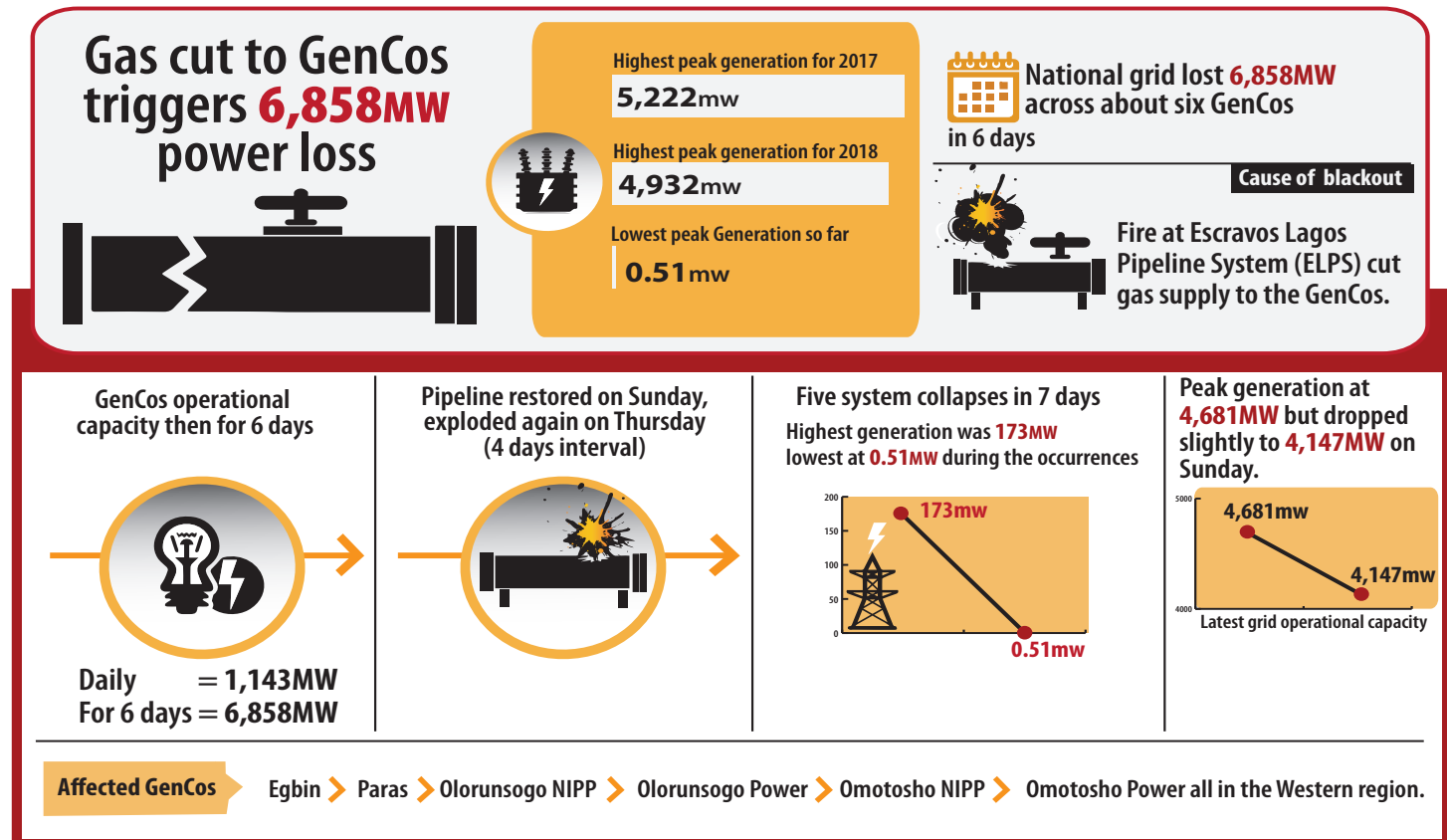
The peak generation as at Thursday morning stood at 4,372 which was a far improvement from the 3,600MW attained the previous week when the first pipeline fire occurred.

The latest 4,372MW peak generation was recorded earlier before NNPC announced the fresh explosion to the pipeline. However, the record of Friday generation shows that peak generation rose to 4,817MW with lowest generation at 3,776MW.

Except for the Olorunsogo NIPP which was still down around the Western region, the other five GenCos which were previously affected were operating last Friday but at low level, the record shows.

Ten days after the ELPS was burnt by bush fire and restored on Sunday, NNPC on Thursday reported that the same pipeline has been ruptured again by an explosion.

A statement by its



Infographic UKEOMA MODESTUS

spokesman, Ndu Ughamadu said the fresh incidence occurred along Egbokodo-Omadino, in Warri South Local Government Area of Delta State.

NNPC said, its Group Managing Director, Dr. Maikanti Baru, has directed that repair works should be executed immediately on the pipeline.

The GMD further directed that gas supply from other

sources like Oben, Oredo, Sapele, Ughelli and Utorogu be stepped up to augment any shortfalls as repair works have commenced on the pipeline.

The Escravos pipeline supplies gas to power plants, in addition to feeding the West Africa Gas Pipeline System (WAGPS).

The spokesperson of TCN, Mrs Ndidi Mbah said the second electricity system collapse occurred in the

afternoon after the Odukpani-Ikoto Ekpeni 330 kilovolt (KV) line transmission line tripped off and stopped power generation from Odukpani Generation Company (GenCo) near Calabar in Cross River state.

The *Daily Trust* reports that the two system collapses occurred at less than 24 hours interval. Independent data obtained from the Nigeria Electricity System Operator

(NSO) shows that the peak generation of electricity was at 4,710MW on Tuesday being the first day of work in 2018, before the system collapsed after the frequency rose to a high 50.75 Hertz (Hz).

Officials at the transmission section of the power sector said the national electricity grid would have withstood the Odukpani GenCo trip off if generation along Western region were available.

## FG to involve more Nigerians in meter manufacturing - Fashola

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

The Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola has said that the Federal Government has concluded plan to involve more Nigerians in meter manufacturing.

Fashola stated this in Lagos recently during an official inspection of the National Meter Test Station in Oshodi.

According to the Minister, metering is a big issue and government hope to address it more vigorously this year with regulations that will open up the business to many more Nigerians.

He said that this would reduce the pressure on Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOs) on meter supply.

"The core business of DISCOs is to transport energy, their business is not to supply meters. The government will address metering more vigorously this year with regulations which will open up business in metering to more investors. This will reduce

the pressure on DISCOs so that they can concentrate more on their core business. So, we will open up the business to other people who want to play in the sector once the meter regulations are completed this year," he said.

The Minister said that Nigeria's meter journey from 1950 showed that consumers depended on meters from foreign countries adding that now the nation is beginning to see meters from local manufacturers like Mojec and Moman, which he said, is a good development.

"Presently we have over 100million telephone subscribers in Nigeria, but let me ask you, how many telephones are made in Nigeria? We spent millions of naira to buy telephones from China and still we will go back and borrow money from China. So, we want to change that in the meter industry, we are happy that some Nigerians are manufacturing meters here and we promise to support them," he said.

## NPDC raises crude oil production by 7000b/d - NNPC

By Daniel Adugbo

**O**il production by the Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC), the flagship upstream subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), has grown following the successful drilling and completion of wells in Oil Mining Lease (OML) assets operated by the company.

Data obtained from the corporation showed that the recent drilling and completion of five horizontal wells in OML 26 and other completed projects in 2017 have led to an additional 7,000 barrel per day (bpd) crude production by the company.

NNPC's operations report

### Petrol: NNPC deploys facility to enforce N133.28/litre ex-depot price

By Daniel Adugbo

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) said it has deployed more of its depots and other throughput facilities to enforce the N133.28 Ex-Depot price of Premium Motor Spirit, otherwise known as petrol, to marketers directly.

NNPC spokesman Mr. Ndu Ughamadu in a statement quoted the Managing Director of PPMC, Mr. Umar Ajiya as saying that the measure became necessary

for October showed that production by the NPDC within the third quarter of 2017 spiked from 3.9 million barrels in July to 4.6 million barrels in September.

Turnaround operations on OML 40 jointly owned and operated by NPDC and OML 65 contributed immensely to the rise, the data showed.

NPDC Managing Director, Mr. Yusuf Matashi, disclosed recently that the successful turnaround of the OML 40 asset from 0 bpd to 12,000 bpd underlined the company's rising profile as the fifth largest oil producer in Nigeria.

Mr. Matashi added that NPDC also carried out some intervention activities which

to resolve the price differentials between some of its stakeholders.

PPMC is the fuel supply arm of the NNPC.

Mr. Ajiya noted that the throughput facilities along with some of its coastal depots would go a long way in ensuring that marketers access PMS at the approved government price.

He maintained that the corporation had adequate supply of petrol, advising against panic buying.

The MD PPMC called on

marketers to desist from hoarding and diversion of petroleum products to neighbouring countries, stressing that the corporation was working hand-in-hand with the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and other security agencies to sanction defaulting marketers.

He enjoined motorists and other consumers of PMS to report any infraction by marketers or any NNPC Retail outlets to any of the under-listed numbers for speedy action.