

GAINING OIL AND GAS INDEPENDENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN IS THE BASIS OF A PROSPEROUS AND PROSPEROUS LIFE

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ABSTRACT

In this article, the gaining of oil and gas independence in the Republic of Uzbekistan during the years of independence, reforms implemented in the field and their results, institutional changes in the field are subjected to a historical analysis.

KEYWORDS: Fuel And Energy Resources, Oil, Gas, "Uzneftgazgazibchikarish", "Uzneftgazgazibchikarish", "Uzbekneftgaz", "Uzbekneftgazgazibchikarish", "Uzbekneftgazgazibchikarish", "Uzburneftgaz" Joint-Stock Company, "Uztransgaz", "Uzneftnitaiishlash", "Uzneftproduct", "Uzneftgazqurilish", "Uzneftgazmash", "Uzneftgazishchita'minot".

INTRODUCTION

As a result of the establishment of state independence in the country, not only national statehood was formed, but also one of the important economic foundations of the country's independence - national fuel and energy resources and industry. During the former union, this sector was completely under the control of the center, and to get even a small amount of gas or oil for local needs, it was necessary to overcome formalities in hundreds of administrative and command offices, and it would take years to achieve any result. Even then, the center did not respond favorably to all requests. In 4-5 years, if any important leader of the union came, even if he accepted a request in various meetings, he had to wander between the central offices for several years to achieve its result.

Summarizing the past period of the country's independence, President I.A. Karimov made the following comments about fuel and energy shortages during the former Soviet Union: however, previously, in order to meet the needs of economic sectors and the population, it was necessary to import 6-7 million tons of oil and oil products per year and to spend a large amount of foreign exchange resources for this[1].

"Today, Uzbekistan has managed to increase the volume of exports, while providing for the growing needs of the country and the population in this regard."

Oil production in Uzbekistan was considered a part of the union's activities in this field, and its material and technical estimation was also carried out by the central authorities. In 1990, 2,810,000 tons of oil products (including gas condensate) were produced. In those days, despite

the fact that the demand for the country's oil products was very high, they were managed by the center.

Also, in 1990, 34.8 bln. Cubic meter of gas was produced, and most of it was taken to Russia and other allied republics on behalf of the center. The center focused on the study of reserves of fuel and energy resources in Uzbekistan, their use, as well as their prospects. During this period, that is, in the years when the former union crisis intensified, the recession had a strong negative impact on the oil and gas industry of Uzbekistan.

Disruptions in the supply of new machinery and technology needed for the oil and gas industry are beginning to occur. The uniform operation of the polishing equipment was not achieved, the cases of equipment stoppages were frequent, and the cases of injuries of workers increased as a result of various emergency incidents due to non-observance of production technological procedures.

However, on the eve of independence, I.A. Karimov was elected as the leader of the country, he boldly started his work, put the satisfaction of the interests and needs of Uzbekistan before the leadership of the center, quickly developed measures for the development of the industry, taking its oil and gas industry under the care of the republic. His firm decision about the oil and gas industry - geologists, prospectors, and oil and gas workers - gave hope.

The feeling of becoming the full owner of the oil and gas products being produced in the country, of being fully interested in the work that is being done almost for free, was awakened. Thus, independence opened up new opportunities for the development of the oil and gas industry. As soon as the independence of the national state was established in the country, significant attention was paid to this area. In particular, the President of the country, I.A. Karimov, included the development and implementation of the state policy in the fuel and energy sector as one of the most important tasks, and began to implement measures to create the basis for radical changes and changes in this field. Establishing oil independence in the country, taking control of gas production was considered as a component of strengthening the economic foundation of independence.

In a short period of time, huge changes were achieved in the field of oil and gas production. Later, President I.A. Karimov said, "Uzbekistan has unique fuel and energy resources. Discovered gas reserves are about 2 trillion cubic meters, coal - more than 2 billion tons, and there are more than 160 oil fields. ... Oil and gas reserves are 1 trillion. It is valued at more than USD. The discovered reserves cover the republic's needs for natural gas for more than 35 years, and oil for 30 years [2].

When the country entered the period of independence, a period of profound changes began in all sectors of the economy. The deep reforms implemented in the economy of the republic also included the oil and gas industry. Because the oil industry is an integral branch of the republic's economy, it could not be separated from the general process of economic reforms. That's why President I.A. Karimov expressed the main goal in this field as follows: "Achieving fuel and energy and grain independence in our country has been put on the agenda as an important strategic task [3].

In this field, the main focus is on integrating the activities of oil, gas, oil refining and other related industries, each separate and scattered, into a single production complex that connects the

activities of each process from drilling wells to selling finished products. was required. For this purpose, in December 1992, by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the concern "Uzbekneftgaz" was established. On the basis of this Decree, the work of radical reorganization of activities in this field has been started [4].

This concern was later transformed into "National Corporation of Oil and Gas Industry". During this period, the composition of the oil and gas industry consisted of state - joint-stock, state, state - production and scientific-production associations, which began to transition to the form of market relations of management. In particular, by 1993, the state joint-stock association "Uzbekneftgaz Production" was founded on the basis of the former "Uzbekgazsanoat" and "Uzbekneft" production associations.

This office includes 28 enterprises and organizations, 8 of which are legally independent, and the rest are part of the company. By 1994, by the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 5 state enterprises of the state joint-stock association "Uzneftgazgazibchikarish" were included in the state program of expropriation and privatization [5]. Also, the state joint-stock association "Uzneftgazgazibchikarish" was included in the "Uzbekneftgaz" concern. Later - in 1998, the joint-stock company "Uzbekneftgazgazchikarish" was established on the basis of the state joint-stock association "Uzneftgazgazchikarish".

Thus, in addition to the state joint-stock association "Uzneftgazgazibchikarish", the "Ozneftgaz" concern includes the joint-stock company "Ozburneftgaz", which carries out drilling work for the exploration and use of oil and gas wells in all regions of the country, as well as owns a package of shares of drilling enterprises of the republic, "Oztransgaz", " Uzneftnikaitaiishlash, "Uzneftmahsulot", "Uzneftgazkurilish", "Uzneftgazmash", "Uzneftgazishchita'minot" joint-stock companies and "Uztashqineftgaz" joint-stock company, "Uzneftgazaloka" management were also included.

The main goal of institutional changes in this field is to adapt the country's oil and gas industry to market economy relations, and it was focused on creating ample opportunities to activate the work on attracting foreign investments to this industry.

This period of institutional changes, based on the gradual transition from the administrative-command methods of management in the country's economy to the management characteristic of market relations, was mainly caused by the solution of the following three strategic tasks defined by President I.A. Karimov in 1992. It mainly consisted of:

Dramatically increasing production of oil and gas condensate in order to achieve oil independence of the Republic;

- deepening the technological processes of oil and gas processing in order to bring the manufactured products to the level of world standards;

- In order to ensure a reliable base of raw materials for the oil and gas network of Uzbekistan, by opening new fields, hydrocarbons, first of all, to increase its liquid reserves.

Tasks in this field, set by the President of the country I.A. Karimov, were implemented in the program for managers and employees of oil and gas industry enterprises. In particular, the "Concept for the development of the oil and gas industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the years 1993-2000" and "The concept of geological exploration for the years 1995-2000"[6]

developed at the initiative of President I.A.Karimov served as the basis for development of production of gas products.

Also, the powers and activities of the National Holding Company "Uzbekneftegaz" are coordinated based on the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan on shareholder organizations and the protection of shareholders' rights, as well as the Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and government decisions.

In accordance with these concepts, the development of the Kokdumalak field, which is rich in oil and gas condensate reserves, was started. During the years 1991-1995, 100 wells were drilled in the Kokdumalak basin itself, and a device for producing oil, gas and gas condensate was built and put into operation there. As a result, oil production in the country increased by 3.5 times, gas production by 2 times [7]. On the eve of the new century, the production of gas and gas condensate products has developed further. In particular, this sector has developed further as a result of the development of the Short on mine, which is rich in gas condensate reserves, and the construction of the Mubarak gas processing plant.

If we compare the situation in this field in the CIS countries during this period with the situation in our country, different scenes could be observed: during this period, the production of energy resources in the CIS countries was significantly reduced, while their production in Uzbekistan developed sharply: if the production of oil and gas condensate in Uzbekistan 2.81 million in 1990. Tons, by 1995 it was 7.60 million. Tons, in other words, this area has increased by 170 percent. Also, 5.7 mln. If tons of oil were examined, this indicator will reach 0.2 million by 1995. It was achieved to decrease to tons. By 1995, gas production reached 48.65 billion. Cubic meter, this indicator was 120 percent compared to 1990. Also, the gas produced since 1995, in addition to satisfying the country's needs, is 6.8 billion. There is an opportunity to sell cubic meters to foreign countries [8].

During this period, the CIS countries that produce oil and gas - Russia, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan - saw a backward movement in this field. For example, in 1995, oil production in the Russian Federation fell from 50% in 1990 to 58.1%. These indicators were respectively: 70.9% and 88.9% in Turkmenistan, 95.7% in Kazakhstan. And 143.3 percent. In Uzbekistan, this indicator increased to 267 and 320 percent [9].

Since the middle of the last century, unprecedented changes have taken place in the field of oil production in the country. Since 1995, Mingbuloq mines in Namangan region and Kokdumaloq mines in Bukhara region have been put into full operation. As a result, starting from this year, the import of oil for processing from Russia and other foreign countries was completely abandoned. The country achieved oil independence. Also, by this time, the efficiency in this field increased as a result of the discovery of the extraction of special fuel from domestic oil based on sophisticated technology. The Bukhara-Khiva region began to develop as a major source of oil.

As a result of the commissioning of the "AT-5" colorless oil product production unit in this association, the types of products produced have increased. Also, the production of "Fersol" and "Ferlita" technical oils was mastered for the first time in Central Asia. These oils began to be highly valued in the foreign market.

In 1997, with the initiative and effort of the President of the country, I.A. Karimov, the modern Bukhara oil refinery, which can meet the requirements of advanced world standards, was put into

operation, not only for fuel, but also for the country's socio-political life. Also, by this time, the repair work was completed with the construction of a new complex of hydrodesulfurization equipment at the Fergana oil refinery [10].

As a result of the economic reforms carried out in the country's oil and gas industry based on the requirements of the market economy, the production of oil and gas condensate in the republic increased from 2,832 thousand tons to 7,891 thousand tons in the period from 1991 to 1997. In other words, the growth in this area has tripled [11]. This was an important result of the reforms of the transition to market relations. In general, the transition to market relations in the country's oil and gas industry was carried out in a specific direction. In the country's oil and gas industry, mainly to eliminate the evils of authoritarian and totalitarian system and management methods based on administrative and command, a management system typical of market economy relations was introduced to this sector. These institutional changes began to produce positive results in a short period of time.

In the first years of the country's independence, state joint-stock companies and joint-stock companies were established in accordance with the process of expropriation of the oil and gas industries and their privatization in a unique way. In order to create broad conditions for the development of this industry, legal frameworks based on democratic principles were also improved. By the present time, the National Holding Company "Uzbekneftegaz" has become the largest multi-sectoral industrial complex. In the following years, the company managed to build large-scale exploration works, production, oil and gas sales and their processing products, construction of production infrastructure and other similar social development objects.

During the economic reforms carried out in the country, the activities of the oil and gas industry enterprises were focused on forming the main priorities of the fuel and energy strategy of the republic. They mainly consisted of:

- to create a reliable and solid base of raw materials for industry by opening new mines and expanding hydrocarbon reserves, providing fuel and energy resources to all sectors of the economy;
- achieving full and complete oil independence, which can guarantee the country's economic security [12].

Of course, new and modern methods of work developed in the field of increasing liquid hydrocarbon production played an important role in achieving these goals. Oil and condensate production reform years in 1991 2.83 mln. t. by 2003 7.13 mln. t., in short, increased by 2.5 times, so as a result, Uzbekistan satisfied the economic demand for oil products and gas.

The gas industry has developed rapidly. During this period, gas production maintained the leading position in the dynamics of export in the oil and gas sector, 41.8 billion. 58.1 billion from cubic m. cube mga, in short, increased by 1.4 times. The increase in production volumes of liquid hydrocarbons and natural gas became the foundation for the creation of the chemical industry and the future development of the oil and gas processing industry.

The introduction of large energy facilities and the reconstruction of the existing facilities caused the continuous development of the export of the main products of the industry. In 1995-2003, the export of gas increased by 1.4 times, oil refining products by 1.35 times, liquefied gas by 4.6

times. The export of oil and gas industry products has become the main source of foreign currency income and income of the state [13].

During the period of reforms related to the development of the country's economy, the foreign and international relations of the National Holding Company "Uzbekneftegaz" expanded. In particular, its cooperation with companies in developed countries is increasing year by year. Trade relations with Russia, Ukraine, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and other CIS countries on the export of oil products and liquefied gas are growing. Also, starting from 2003, relations for export of polyethylene and sulfur to Russia, China, Iran and Turkey began. Also, the company's cooperation with the financial consultant - the bank "BNP-Pariba" (France) is growing. The export capacity of "Ozneftegazmash" joint-stock company, which conforms to the international standards of ISO-9001 products, is increasing. It is developing mutual relations with foreign companies - "Hurricane oil product" (Canada), "Axema" (Latvia), "Technip" (France), "Bentek" (Germany). Since 1997, activities related to attracting investments and cooperation with "Dresser-Rend" aggregate company, "Kellogg" (USA) and "Nisho-Iwai" (Japan) companies have started.

In order to improve the supply of gas to the country's population in the winter season, in cooperation with "VSI Industriez" (USA) company, the gas reserve of the Khojaabad mine was put into operation based on the use of "Dresser-Rend" compressors. Also, a number of cooperation activities were carried out with the companies "Technip" (France), "Marubeni", "DJ-Ji-Si" (Japan).

In order to improve the quality of production of oil products in the country, the first stage of the reconstruction of the Fergana oil refinery was completed in 2001 in cooperation with the companies "Mitsui" and "Toyo Engineering" (Japan). The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development also participated in the financing of this project with its investments.

The construction of the Shortan gas-chemical complex, which is considered the largest in Central Asia, was carried out in cooperation with the consortium managed by "ABB Lummus Global" (USA). In December 2001, the international presentation of this complex took place, with the participation of such companies as "Mitsui", "Toyo Injering", "Nisho-Ivai" (Japan) and "ABB Soimi" (Italy) and other organizations as part of the consortium. Starting from 2000, joint-stock company "Ozneftegazmash" and "Dresser-Rend" company established "UZ-DR Service Center" joint venture, which started to repair compressor and pump equipment and develop their auxiliary parts. It also started cooperation with "UZ-VBM" (in cooperation with the Russian company "Volgaburmash") on the production of round drilling drills for opening wells. There are many more examples of the company's cooperation with foreign enterprises.

Also, during the period of independence, a powerful multi-sector main gas transportation system was formed in the country. This system supplies the extracted natural gas to both the foreign and domestic markets after processing. Central Asia-Central and Bukhara-Ural powerful gas transport networks intended for the transit and export of natural gas pass in the north-west of the country, and they are of interstate importance. Through these networks, natural gas is transmitted to neighboring countries - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, as well as in the northern direction [14].

Modernization of the gas transportation system is planned in 2004-2020 in order to further develop this industry, as well as to improve the supply of gas to the foreign and domestic markets. According to it:

- Construction of 198 km long main gas pipelines, development, reconstruction and restoration of the natural gas transportation system;
- restoration and expansion of main gas pipelines 445 km and 878 km long; as well as completion of the new Sarimoy compressor station;
- expansion and reconstruction of 20 used gas drive compressor stations, 4 compressor stations located in underground gas reserves;

As a result of the reconstruction and restoration of 123.3 km long gas pipelines, by 2014 the volume of gas exports will reach 16 billion. Transfer to cubic meters [15]. "Uzbekneftgaz" national holding company cooperates with scientific centers such as "UzLITneftegaz" open joint-stock company, "IGIRNIGM" open joint-stock company, and "Neftegazkonstruktsiya" open joint-stock company institutions for the purpose of improving the enterprises from scientific and technical aspects and introducing modern technologies. Among them - "UzLITneftegaz" open joint-stock company is the main scientific-research and project-research institute of "Uzbekneftgaz" company. Also, the company is engaged in attracting investments of foreign engineering companies and scientific departments in order to increase production efficiency and expand scientific-technological and design activities in the oil and gas sector. In this field, there is cooperation with "IGIRNIGM" open joint-stock company - Institute of Geology and Exploration of Oil and Gas Fields.

The main goal of the development strategy of the country's oil and gas industry is to reliably provide consumers with fuel and energy resources and to ensure uninterrupted and stable production rates, as well as to sharply increase the export capacity and weight of this industry. The "Concept of development of oil and gas production until 2010" of the National Holding Company "Uzbekneftgaz" includes the following main strategic directions: expansion of geological exploration, development of extraction of hydrocarbon raw materials, development of oil and gas re-production system. Continuously growing demands for fuel and energy resources in developed countries require increasing the production of liquid hydrocarbons and gas extraction, as well as the development of oil and gas processing and gas-chemical industry.

Also, with the aim of creating the legal basis for the country's cooperation with investors in foreign countries, the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Agreement on Product Distribution" (December 2001), "On Underground Mineral Resources" (new revision, December 2002) were adopted. International cooperation forms based on the principles of distribution of products based on the results of cooperation with foreign companies in world practice and the principles of concession for foreign companies - users of potential underground resources began to be coordinated.

By the beginning of the new century, the government of the Russian Federation is also interested in fuel and energy resources in the country. In June 2004, with the signing of the agreement between the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the President of the Russian Federation I.A. Karimov on strategic cooperation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation, cooperation in the field of oil and gas industry began.

On June 16, 2004, between the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and "Lukoil" JSC, an agreement was signed on the MTK (agreement on product distribution) on the development of Kandim group, Khauzak and Shodi fields, and on conducting geological exploration work in the Ustyurt region. The annual volume of gas production under the project is 8.8 billion. Cube it is intended to deliver up to meters. As a result of the implementation of the project, additional 7,000 jobs will be created; the amount of allocated investments will be approximately 1 billion. It was agreed that it will be USD. The validity period of MTK was set for 35 years. It entered into force on November 24, 2004.

In December 2002, an agreement on strategic cooperation in the gas network was signed between Russia's Gazprom OJSC and Uzbekneftgaz MHK. Its purpose is to activate and expand cooperation between the parties. Within the framework of this agreement and in accordance with the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on April 9, 2004, on April 14, 2004, Uzbekneftgaz and Zarubejneftegaz UJSC signed an MOU in Tashkent for the preparation of the Shohpakhta oil and gas field in the Ustyurt region for production. It was also agreed that the most modern gas production technologies will be used to ensure the extraction of residual reserves.

Cooperation in the field of fuel and energy complex is not limited to this; other Russian companies are also involved through mutual relations between Gazprom and Uzbekneftgaz. Russian JSC "LUKOIL" began to operate independently in the territory of Uzbekistan. On June 16, 2004, between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Consortium of Investors, that is, "LUKOIL" OJSC and "Uzbekneftegaz" MHC, an agreement on the sharing of "Candy-Khovuzak-Shodi" products was signed with the participation of the Presidents of Russia and Uzbekistan. Also, other leading Russian companies, ZAO SoyuzNefteGaz, Interstate Oil Company and OAO Sroytransgaz are actively cooperating with Uzbekneftegaz MHK. The raw material base of Uzbekistan's energy industry consists of more than 190 natural gas, oil, gas condensate, and coal deposits, with a total reserve of 2.1 - 5.7 billion. It is estimated in tons (in terms of oil equivalent). Natural gas reserves are 1.8-2 trillion. It is estimated to be in cubic meters. The country ranks second among the CIS countries in natural gas production, and its share is 2.3-2.5 percent of the world's gas production.

Currently, 66 percent of all recoverable gas reserves are embodied in 9 large gas fields, 8 of which are under construction. 5.9 trillion in the country as of January 1, 2005. Cubic meters of natural gas resources have been determined. Ustyurt region in the north-west of the country is one of the most promising regions in this field.

If in 2006 the production of fuel products made up 17.2% of the volume of production of industrial products, within one year, that is, in 2007, this indicator increased to 17.8% [16]. As a result of measures taken for oil independence in the first years of Uzbekistan's independence, unprecedented changes took place in this field. In particular, the production of natural gas, oil and gas condensate has grown significantly. In 1992, gas production was 42.8 bln. Cubic meter, oil production (including gas condensate) was 3.3 million tons; by 2003 58.1 billion cubic meters of gas and 7.2 million tons of oil were extracted. Only in 9 months of 2007, 2.3 mln. tons of oil industry products, including 1056.7 thousand tons of gasoline, 1068 thousand tons of diesel fuel, 541.1 thousand tons of fuel oil, 240.5 thousand tons of kerosene, 225 thousand tons of lubricating oils, 174 thousand tons of liquefied gas, 1.4 mln. Tons of gas condensate products

were produced. If in 2006, 7.9 percent of foreign investments and loans were used in the fuel and energy industry, by 2007, this figure had risen to an unprecedented level - 42.9 percent [17]. If in the country in 1990 34.8 bln. Cubic meter of gas was produced, now the indicator in this field is already 60 billion in 2005. Passed the cubic meter.

Proved oil reserves in the country are 82 mln. estimated as tons. Also, as of January 1, 2005, based on forecasting the future of liquid hydrocarbon resources, 817.7 mln. tons of oil and 360 mln. It is estimated to be equal to tons of gas condensate. It is clear that during the current global fuel and energy crisis, the resources of this sector in the territory of our country have the potential to ensure our oil and gas independence in the future.

It can be seen that independence gave us the right to own our own national resources and wealth in addition to regaining our rights to have our own national state, national freedom, development and advancement of the nation, and having our national human values. The struggle for independence started by the President of the country I.A. Karimov in the late 90s of the last century was supported by our people. In a short period of 17 years, not only the political, but also the economic potential of the country has increased to an unprecedented level.

The important task set as a priority direction of the country's development strategy - the reforms to develop the gas and oil industry in the country at the level of developed countries - has started to bear its results and results. Of course, these huge successes and achievements are due to the fact that we have implemented the policy for the development of our state and society on the basis of correct and fair principles. The advancements in this field prove that every year we have overcome difficulties is equal to hundreds of years. And the prospect will undoubtedly be more honorable and triumphant.

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