

[REDACTED]

From: Treiber, Laird D (NEA/I-ASSIST)
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 11:45 AM
To: [REDACTED] (IRAQ/ERBIL/DOS); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Baghdad)
Cc: [REDACTED] (Baghdad); [REDACTED] (Baghdad); [REDACTED] (IRAQ/ERBIL/DOS); [REDACTED] (IRAQ/ERBIL/DOS); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: (SBU) Hunt Oil to Sign Contract with KRG

[REDACTED] -
Many thanks for the heads up; getting an American company to sign a deal with the KRG will make big news back here. Please keep us posted. Thanks again, Laird

From: [REDACTED] (IRAQ/ERBIL/DOS) [mailto:[REDACTED]@usaid.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 10:37 AM
To: [REDACTED] (Baghdad); [REDACTED] (Baghdad)
Cc: [REDACTED] (Baghdad); Treiber, Laird D (NEA/I-ASSIST); [REDACTED] (Baghdad); [REDACTED] (IRAQ/ERBIL/DOS)(APO); [REDACTED] (IRAQ/ERBIL/DOS)(APO)
Subject: (SBU) Hunt Oil to Sign Contract with KRG

[REDACTED] - want to get this in the O/I channel as it won't go out in a cable today.

[REDACTED]

Sensitive but Unclassified

Hunt Oil General Manager for Europe, Africa and Middle East David McDonald told Erbil RRT Leader [REDACTED] September 5 that Hunt is expecting to sign an exploration contract with the KRG for a field located in the Shekkan district - an area under KRG control (inside the Green Line) but technically in Ninewa Governorate. Hunt would be the first U.S. company to sign such a deal. Hunt's CEO Ray Hunt will travel to Erbil on September 7 for one or two days as a guest of KRG President Masoud Barzani.

The company plans to set up an office on or about October 1 and might have a contract signed before then. They would begin seismic studies, probably with vibrator trucks. He thought production for export could begin before 2012. He called the potential reserves in the field "significant" and speculated that the Kurdistan region could be producing one million barrels a day in 10 years. Asked about concerns over potential conflicts between the recently passed KRG hydrocarbon law and an national law, he said the "significant opportunity" outweighs the legal ambiguity. Unlike the large players, Hunt is not looking at the entire Iraqi market. He also thought that it may take years to pass a national law. McDonald told [REDACTED] he will stay in touch about Hunt's plans and be back at the end of September.

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