

Gazprom Gets Tax Break on Arctic Field

By The Moscow Times

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Gazprom moving the Prirazlomnaya platform to Murmansk. The company will use the platform to exploit the Arctic deposit.

Gazprom's Prirazlomnoye oil field will get a 50 percent duty break on its overseas shipments, while exporters of high-viscosity oil will pay just 10 percent of the current rate, a\sum Finance Ministry official said Friday.

Alexander Sakovich said that under new regulations, Gazprom will pay \$173 per ton of oil from Prirazlomnoye, Russia's first Arctic offshore development, which has been plagued by delays.

Exporters of high-viscosity crude will pay \$36.90 per ton starting July 1, he said. The standard oil export duty rate will decrease by 12 percent in July to \$369.30 per ton from \$419.80 a month earlier.

The government officially announces the export duty at the end of each month.

The duty rate for June will be calculated based on seaborne Urals URL-E crude oil prices between May 15 and June 14, inclusively. The average price during the monitoring stood at \$102.65 per barrel, Sakovich said.

Under the 60-66 taxation regime imposed in October, the export rates for refined products, excluding gasoline, will be reduced to \$243.70 per ton from \$277 in June.

The protective rate imposed on gasoline and naphtha to prevent shortages on the domestic market will decline to \$332.40 from \$377.80 per ton, Sakovich said.

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