

# Rosneft Oil Giant Discovers New Oilfield in Iraq

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Russia's state-owned Rosneft oil giant has announced the discovery of a new oilfield in Iraq over a year after it began drilling in the unexplored region.

Rosneft [said](#) it planned to test five prospective sites when it began exploratory drilling some 350 kilometers south of Baghdad in February 2017.

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The new oilfield, called Salman, will serve as an important step toward expanding the company's operations outside Russia, Rosneft [said](#) in a press release Wednesday.

Rosneft has struck a number of deals in Iraqi Kurdistan in the past year, including the [purchase](#) of a majority stake in the region's key oil pipeline that runs to Turkey and a deal to

[purchase](#) oil until 2019.

Rosneft, run by President Vladimir Putin's ally Igor Sechin, is a major investor in Iraqi Kurdistan and controls its oil pipelines.

*Reuters contributed reporting to this article.*

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