PRESS RELEASE
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45-8 ENERGY signs Memorandum of Understanding with the Ras Al Khaimah Department of Energy to advance natural hydrogen exploration in RAK South area

The 24-month programme will focus on Areas 4 and 5 of Ras Al Khaimah (RAK) South, combining geological studies and fieldwork to identify and prioritise future drilling targets.

45-8 ENERGY, pioneering company in natural hydrogen and helium exploration, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ras Al Khaimah Department of Energy (DoE) to advance the exploration of natural hydrogen in the RAK South area of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The agreement covers Areas 4 and 5 of RAK South and launches a 24-month programme of geological studies and fieldwork aimed at evaluating the area's natural hydrogen potential and identifying priority targets for future exploration drilling. The programme represents an important step towards assessing the resource potential of one of the world's most promising natural hydrogen settings and establishing the technical and economic foundations for 45-8 ENERGY and the DoE to negotiate a future exploration and production agreement for either Area 4 or Area 5 of RAK South.

A highly prospective geological setting

Located along the northern edge of the Semail Ophiolite, one of the largest exposed ophiolite complexes in the world, RAK South offers a geological setting with demonstrated potential for natural hydrogen generation and accumulation. Multiple high purity natural hydrogen seepages have been reported in the area, evidence of active hydrogen-generating processes that supports further investigation of the subsurface.

Through the programme, 45-8 ENERGY will leverage its expertise and proprietary technologies to integrate existing datasets, acquire additional geophysical data and identify the most promising drilling targets.

> *"Ras Al Khaimah combines compelling geology, valuable datasets and a clear long-term energy vision. We are proud to partner with the Department of Energy and bring our international exploration experience to define and prioritize promising natural hydrogen drilling targets."*
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> **Benoît HAUVILLE - CEO and Co-founder, 45-8 ENERGY**

Building on a strong local foundation

45-8 ENERGY welcomes the opportunity to work with the Ras Al Khaimah Department of Energy and acknowledges the significant efforts to establish a clear regulatory framework for natural hydrogen exploration and recognises the substantial technical work undertaken by the Department, alongside RAK Gas, in recent years.

This existing foundation, combined with 45-8 ENERGY's specialised exploration expertise, provides a strong basis for the further evaluation of RAK South and translating its geological promise into defined exploration opportunities.

About 45-8 ENERGY

45-8 ENERGY, a company of Ad Terra Group, is a European pioneer in natural hydrogen and helium exploration and production, with nearly a decade of experience in developing this emerging low-carbon resource. Since 2017, the company has been advancing natural hydrogen projects worldwide and has secured exploration licences in France, Germany, the Balkans and the United States, with a new project now underway in the United Arab Emirates.

Combining strong geoscience expertise with proprietary technologies, including PB-1, its subsurface hydrogen monitoring system, 45-8 ENERGY has developed hands-on operational expertise across the entire project lifecycle. Its experience spans geophysical surveys, drilling operations, well testing, and the design and construction of production facilities, enabling the company to progress from subsurface exploration to actual production. Its activities also extend to helium, where the company is developing a circular approach through recycling. Since 2024, 45-8 ENERGY has operated Western Europe's first helium production site in France, demonstrating its ability to bring projects into operation and contribute to the development of Europe's helium industry.

Press contact

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