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Israel Discontinues Crude Oil Imports From Mexico

by LADB Staff

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In late January, Israel's Energy Ministry announced that imports of crude oil from Mexico have been discontinued due to rising transportation costs. The decision became effective upon expiration of the most recent contract between Israel and Mexico's state-run oil company PEMEX, on Dec. 31, 1993. According to Israeli government statistics, Israel acquired about 1.5 million metric tons of crude oil from Mexico last year, or roughly 15% of its total imports of 10 million MT.

In recent years, Israel has accounted on average for less than 2% of PEMEX's total crude oil export revenues. Yosef Kolitz, director of the Israeli Energy Ministry's petroleum division, told Agence France-Presse the share of the country's crude oil needs previously purchased from Mexico will now come from other oil-producing countries that are closer to Israel, such as Norway and Egypt.

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