

Ogaden rebels warn Indian firms prospecting for gas in southeast Ethiopia

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HornAfrik

The Ogaden National Liberation Front [ONLF] which operates in the Somali Region of Ethiopia has warned foreign companies prospecting for natural gas there.

The ONLF in its warning said it would not tolerate any investment that benefited the government of Ethiopia to which they were opposed.

The ONLF described as fantasy a plan to construct a pipeline to transport natural gas through the Somali Region of Ethiopia.

Two companies based in India - Gas Authority of India and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Ltd - are currently busy prospecting for gas in the region.

The ONLF urged the companies to think twice before embarking on anything.

A managing director, Guide [name as published] Jignesh Vasavada, said he was unaware of the ONLF warning.

This dispute began last month when the Ethiopian minister in charge of mining unveiled a tender awarding the gas exploration project in the Somali Region to the companies.