

By [Daniel Onyango](#)

Time to read
1 minute



[Print](#)

[a-](#) [a+](#)

Published
Apr 22, 2025 -
11:47

Last updated

Guerrilla Attack Shuts Down Key Colombian Oil Pipeline

🕒 Tue, 04/22/2025 - 11:47 📍 Posted in: [PIPELINE BUSINESS](#), [POLITICS & REGULATION](#)

💬 0 comments



Colombia on the map (© Shutterstock/EBPhoto)

A major crude oil pipeline in northeastern Colombia has been shut down following an explosion that the state oil company [Ecopetrol](#) attributed to a guerrilla attack.

[Cenit](#), an [Ecopetrol](#) subsidiary, announced Thursday that the Bicentenario pipeline was struck by an explosive device in a rural area of the Fortul municipality, within the Arauca department. The attack forced the suspension of oil pumping operations, with no fatalities reported.

[Ecopetrol](#) indicated that the National Liberation Army (NLA) was responsible for the attack. The NLA, considered the largest guerrilla organization in Colombia, is designated as a terrorist group by both the United States and the European Union.

This is not the first time the state-owned company has experienced such attacks. It's part of a well-calculated sabotage strategy by the suspected groups, which they have followed over the years, stepping up their attacks on oil infrastructure.

Last year, [Ecopetrol](#) reported multiple attacks on the Bicentenario and Cano Limon-Covenas pipelines, with as many as [five attacks reported at one point](#).

In response to the escalating threats, the government deployed the army to safeguard the pipelines and protect [Ecopetrol](#) personnel involved in repair efforts.

The attack comes as Colombia struggles to reverse a five-year decline in oil production. The country has set an ambitious goal to increase its daily average output to over 1 million barrels, up from approximately 800,000 barrels in 2024.

[Ecopetrol](#) is contributing to this effort through enhanced oil recovery techniques aimed at improving extraction rates from existing reservoirs. Energy Minister Andres Camacho stated last May that Colombia's average oil recovery rate in 2024 was 27 percent.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date: 16 June 2025
Focus topic: Safety & Monitoring

[Submit an Abstract](#)

[full editorial calendar](#)

Subscribe to our free Newsletter and the E-Journal

[Subscribe](#)

Get the printed Journal

[Subscribe to our printed Journal](#)

MOST POPULAR NEWS



Alaska's \$44B LNG Pipeline Project Attracts Asian Investment Interest, Governor Says

Apr 9, 2025 - 11:03



Michigan Environmental Groups Protest Fast-Tracking of Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline Tunnel

Apr 22, 2025 - 09:52



UK Government Approves £200M Viking Carbon Capture Pipeline

Apr 10, 2025 - 14:34

[More »](#)

EVENT CALENDAR

Despite these efforts to boost oil production, the current administration of President Gustavo Petro is pursuing an ambitious agenda to expand wind and solar energy, seeking to reduce Colombia's reliance on oil, gas, and coal revenues.

Hydrocarbons, however, remain a significant contributor to the national budget and are seen as a primary source of funding for the government's \$40 billion green energy transition plan.

Since assuming office in 2022, President Petro has pledged to shift Colombia's economy away from fossil fuels towards lower-carbon alternatives.

Source / More Information

[OilPrice](#)

a- a+

Published
Apr 22,
2025 - 11:47

Last
updated
1 min ago

Read so far
100%



20th Pipeline Technology Conference

5 May 2025 - 8 May 2025

Berlin, Germany



Pipeline Technologie Seminar - Pipelineinspektion

1 July 2025 - 3 July 2025

Essen, Germany



Rio Pipeline

9 September 2025 - 11 September 2025

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



SPT Congress 2025

23 September 2025 - 24 September 2025

London, United Kingdom



ADIPEC

3 November 2025 - 6 November 2025

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

[more »](#)

LATEST PTJ ISSUE



Pipeline Technology Journal 1/2025

About ptj

The Global Knowledge Hub for Pipeline Operators and Industry Professionals

The Pipeline Technology Journal (ptj) is the premier open-access publication dedicated to advancing innovation, sharing knowledge, and connecting professionals within the global pipeline industry. Published quarterly, the ptj Journal serves as a vital resource for pipeline operators, engineers, researchers, and decision-makers, delivering high-quality technical insights, industry trends, and real-world case studies.

With a reach of over 15,000 subscribers and additional distribution at leading international pipeline events, ptj bridges the gap between cutting-edge research and practical application. The journal is supported by a distinguished international editorial board, ensuring content that is not only authoritative but also relevant to the challenges and opportunities facing the pipeline sector today.

Readers can benefit from a seamless experience through digital and printed formats. Each issue, along with the weekly ptj Newsletter and the ptj Website, provide exclusive access to the latest advancements, expert commentary, and pipeline-related developments. By fostering a global exchange of ideas, ptj empowers the pipeline community to drive innovation, enhance safety, and shape the sustainable future of energy infrastructure.

Subscribe in order to get the next issue of Pipeline Technology Journal and the weekly ptj Newsletter directly into your mailbox. You could unsubscribe at any time.

ptj Topics

MEDIA

CO₂ • Bio Methane • District Heating/Cooling • Electricity • Hydrogen • Natural Gas • Oil • Petrochemicals • Slurry • Wastewater • Water • Others

FIELDS OF WORK

Automation • Bending • Cathodic Protection • Certification • Cleaning • Climate Adaption • Coating • Compressor Control • Cyber Security • Decarbonization • Decommissioning • Digitalization • Direct Assessment • Geohazards • GIS • Illegal Tapping • Inline Inspection • Integrity Management • Leak Detection • Line Pipe Materials • Logistics • Maintenance • Management • Materials • Measurement • Methane Emissions • Monitoring • Offshore Technologies • Operational Improvements • Pipe Manufacturing • Planning & Design • Public Perception • Pumping Stations • Qualification & Recruitment • Rehabilitation • Remote Sensing • Repair • Right-of-Way • Safety • SCADA • Security • Simulation • Standards & Regulations • Third Party Impact • Trenchless Technologies • Valves & Fittings • Welding/Joining • Others

CONTACT

[Contact Page](#)

Newsletter directly into your mailbox. You could unsubscribe at any time.

Subscribe to our free Newsletter and the E-Journal

Subscribe to our printed Journal



We're Online!

How may I help you today?

ite to enhance your user experience

or clicking any link on this page, you agree to us doing so. [More info](#)

Accept