

REFCOMM

ROT TERDAM

30 September–3 October 2019

KNPC

KNPC FCC Revamp Project
Opportunities, Challenges and Lessons Learnt

## Agenda

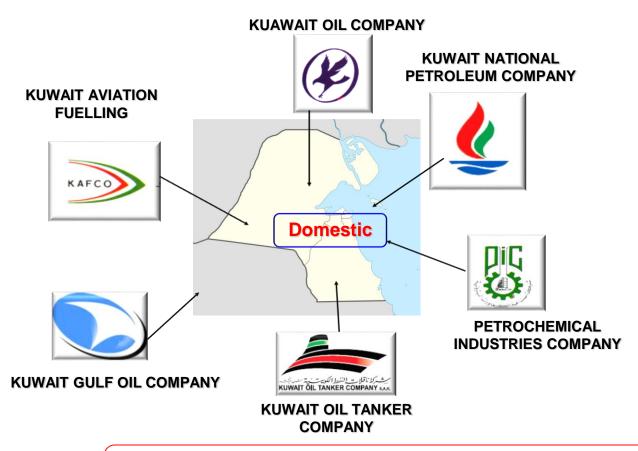
- Overview
- Objectives and Opportunities
- Challenges and Lessons Learnt
- Results and Conclusion





# Subsidiaries of Kuwait Petroleum Co.





**KUWAIT FOREIGN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION COMPANY** 





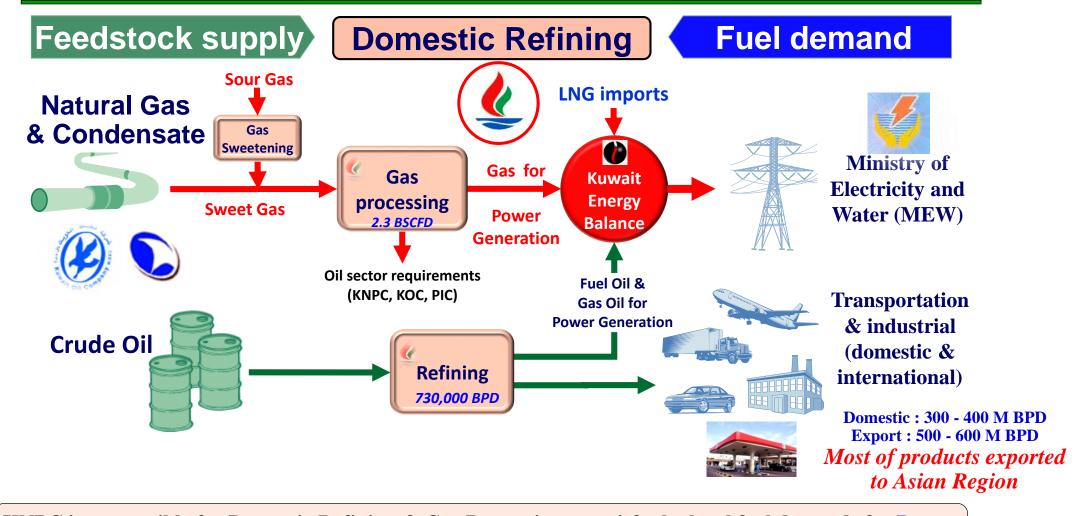
KPC was established in 1980, fully owned by the State of Kuwait



8 specialized Subsidiaries operate in Kuwait and across the world

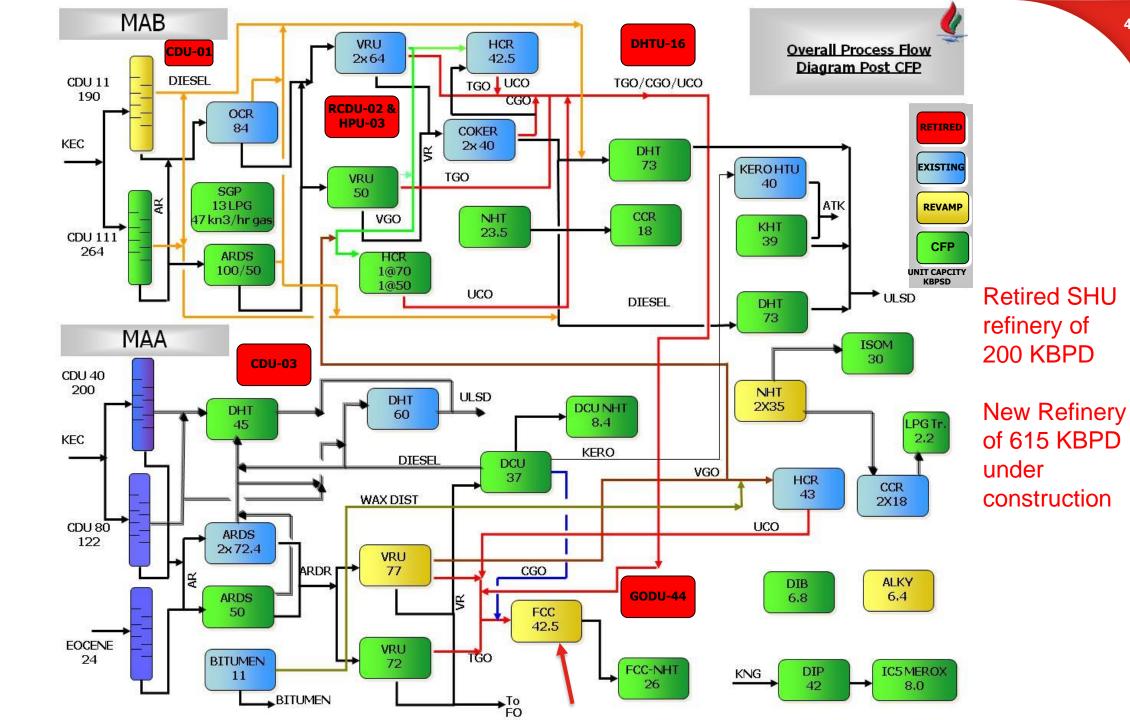


## Position of KNPC in Value Chain of Kuwait





KNPC is responsible for Domestic Refining & Gas Processing to satisfy the <u>local fuel demands</u> for <u>Power Generation</u>, <u>Transportation</u>, <u>Industries & supply products for <u>International market</u></u>



**KNPC** 

### **Overview**

## FCC Revamp - Part of CFP Strategy and Objectives

- Develop KNPC refineries into integrated merchant refining complexes to meet diversified market needs.
- Meet future market demand and specifications for local & international markets.
- Enhance the environmental & safety performance of KNPC refineries.
- Major upgrade of MAA and MAB refineries to convert high sulfur fuel oil to higher value products.
- Respond effectively to KPC / KNPC strategic directives for expanding the refining capacity in Kuwait.
- Provide new employment opportunities for Kuwaitis in the refining sector.





### **Overview**

### FCC Revamp - Part of CFP Strategy and Objectives

- KNPC Mina Al Ahmadi processes about 460000 BPD of crude oil
- First designed by UOP in 1984 and commissioned in 1986 as a 30000 BPSD High efficiency regenerator and riser with down turn arms.
- Revamped by UOP in 1997, increasing from its original nameplate capacity to 40000 BPSD (30000 BPSD VGO+10000 BPSD CGO).
- Current revamp (November 2015) feed capacity at 42500 BPSD processing a mix of CGO/UCO/TGO





### **KNPC** Objectives for FCC Revamp

- Improve unit Reliability & On Stream Factor
- Processing difficult feed stocks & optimize conversion
  - Key to meet local Mogas and Propylene commitments
- Extended operation run length
- Sustained operation at higher capacity
- Improved Environmental Performance (Flare less during start up, SOx & control of Particulate emissions)





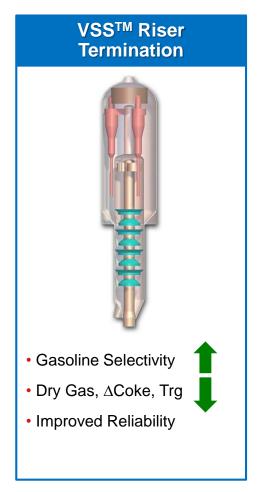
## **KNPC FCC Project Scope**

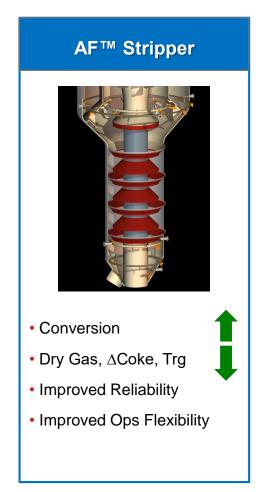
- New Reactor incorporating the following:
  - VSS<sup>TM</sup> G2
  - Optimix <sup>TM</sup> feed distributors
  - AF<sup>TM</sup> Stripper
- Additional auxiliary air blower & New Orifice chamber
- Main Fractionator changes
  - Top four sections (LCN/HCN fractionation, HCN pump around, HCN/Distillate fractionation, Distillate pump around) replaced trays with random packing to save WGC modifications
- Gas Concentration columns
  - Replaced internals in different sections with high capacity trays



### Performance of UOP's Reactor Technologies

Impact of latest UOP's Reactor Technologies included in KNPC's new reactor design.







## **KNPC FCC Challenges & Solutions**



- High Sulfur → from FCC Unit
- High Aromatics → from CCR units
- High Olefins → from FCC
- KNPC Mogas pool currently meets Bz spec as two existing CCR Units at MAA Refinery are designed to meet the Bz spec of < 1 Vol. %</li>



### **Technology Solutions:**

- FCC Light and Heavy Gasoline Selective desulfurization, Cap.: 26 KBPSD to meet future sulfur spec
- Isomerization unit of 30 KBPSD for reducing olefins/aromatics
- DIP unit of 42 KBPSD to produce iso-pentane as Mogas component to reduce Aromatics/Olefins
- Alkylation unit revamp for higher production to reduce Aromatics/Olefin



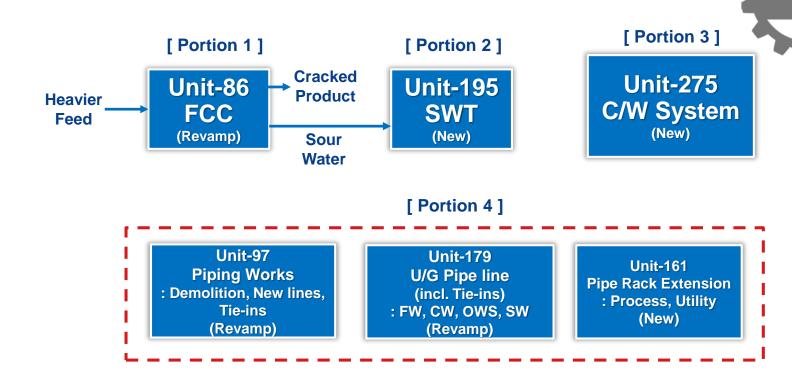
- Scope Growth at FEED stage
- Split scope from CFP
- Avoid scope overlap between FCC and CFP contractor
- Raise DCN to include appropriate scope to FCC to avoid additional FCC shutdowns
- Coordination with Licensor to define specific requirements
- MAA alignment on the final scope
- Execution challenge due to interface during shutdown
- Pre-commissioning
- Commissioning and start up





### **Scope Growth at FEED Stage:**

Sour Water Treatment (SWT), Cooling Water System, Pipe rack and underground piping scope



#### **Coordination with Licensor:**

• FEED completed in year 2008, but EPC awarded in 2013. Technology upgrades incorporated resulted in additional changes.



 FCC FEED was a basic engineering package, not full blown FEED package, required close coordination throughout EPC phase.



### **Utility/tie-in Conditions Changes**

- Actual utility conditions are different than BEDD.
- Wet slops tie-in conditions (cold tie-in to hot tie-in resulted in scope change.
- HSE changes
  - Move from Chlorine injection to sodium hypochlorite





### **Refinery Coordination Challenges:**

- Wet Gas compressor modification
- Regenerator cyclones
- Scaffolding and other works inside vessels
- Scope alignment





### **Construction Stage:**

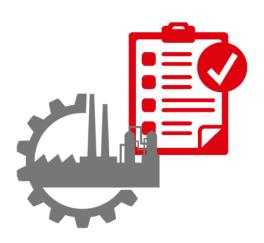
- Lifting of heavy equipment
- Timely Handover of equipment
- Skilled EPC manpower/subcontractor





### **Pre-commissioning Stage:**

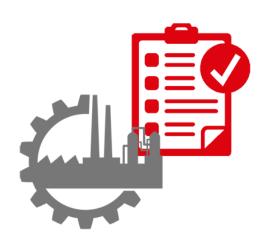
- Punch listing and categorization.
- Instrument Loop Checking
- Effective Communication and Full Participation
- Maintain cleanliness at site to avoid accidents
- Plan in advance for utilities
- PSSR: Pre Safety Start up Review





### **Post-commissioning Stage:**

- Availability of design feed for PGT run of FCC
- EPC/Licensor/Vendor resources, Lab Resources
- Fractionator related issues (Heavy Gasoline EP Vs. Performance Guarantees)
- Hot spot on stand pipes
- Auxiliary Air Blower commissioning





## **KNPC** Revamp Results Summary

- Rx- Regen Section Success!
  - Flawless start-up
  - Excellent catalyst containment
  - Ease of operation
  - Selectivity to  $C_3$ = and Gasoline better than UOP prediction
  - Regen temp on lower side reflects on improved stripper efficiency
- Main Column and Gas Concentration Unit Success with some challenges

	Pre Revamp	Post Revamp
Feed density, API	Base	Base -3
Propylene, Wt-%	Base	Base + 8%
Gasoline, vol-%	Base	Base + 1.5%





## **Economics and Payback**

- Processing of poorer feed (Heavier feed like TGO/CGO)
- Improvement in Gasoline yield
- Improvement in Propylene yield
- Improved OSF

**Total Estimated Financial Benefits** =25-30 MMUS\$/Annum **Payback** of about ... 6 years



### **Conclusions**

- Reactor replacement met unit processing objectives
- Project maximized use of existing assets
- Improve refinery profitability
  - Improved product slate, especially Gasoline and Propylene yield
- Challenge of improved run length from 3 to 4 years and operational availability under assessment and can be addressed after completion of current operating cycle.







