

NUPENG WARNS ON PLANS TO SCRAP NNPC, DPR, PPPRA

The Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) has warned the Federal Government to desist from its plans to scrap the NNPC, DPR, PPPRA and other agencies in the oil and gas industry without proper consultation with the Unions.

It stated that it was another attempt by the Government to reduce the workforce in the sector and will be resisted by the Union.

NUPENG added that the current back door policy to retrench workers in the Federal Government Corporations will not augur well for the industrial peace and harmony in the oil and gas sector under the guise of a National oil policy.

The Union reiterated that what is necessary now is to strengthen the companies by granting them autonomy and not to be controlled by red-tapism in Government.

It went on to say that scrapping these bodies and putting them under one umbrella to be known as Petroleum Regulatory Commission (PRC) will be too cumbersome and make the Petroleum Minister too powerful.

The Union calls on the Federal Government to put pressure on the National Assembly to pass the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) which will make the oil and gas industry much more efficient, transparent and accountable and in the long run bring the needed investments in the sector.

NUPENG warns that it will not tolerate what the Federal Government is presently doing in aviation agencies like NAMA, FAAN, NIMET, where workers are being sacked in the name restructuring.

The Union advised the National Assembly not to allow the scrapping of NNPC, DPR, and PPPRA as they were set up by law and cannot be scrapped overnight by Government fiat.

It continued that the workers Union in the sector will resist the plan with all its powers and might.

Com Igwe Achese
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