

Press Release | January 31, 2021

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Julius Berger to Construct DPR's 10 Floors Building Headquarters in Abuja

Julius Berger Nigeria Plc has been chosen to construct the new Headquarters building of the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR). Located at the Central Business District of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, the iconic 10-storey building design also called "The Barrel", is a challenging foretaste in magnitude and technical standard.

Speaking at the event in Abuja, the Managing Director of Julius Berger Plc, Dr. Lars Richter, said; "The building itself reflects an outstanding barrel design, drawing inspiration from the physical oil barrel itself, saying that it is a modern office building, thoughtfully designed to include and balance the requirements of today's contemporary work environments."

The building, Richter further said; "Features a mix of open floor workspaces, individual private offices, conference rooms and an auditorium... along with additional amenities and social facilities, such as a clinic, restaurant, gym and library", adding that "sufficient space has been allocated for parking to ensure efficiency in every detail."

Speaking to the scope of the project, Julius Berger described the building footprint as spanning 4,150 sqm with the main building itself occupying a total ground floor area of approximately 48,400 sqm. The project, Dr. Richter said, also consists of a basement, ground floor, levels 1-10 and a penthouse, adding that the DPR Head Office Building will stand approximately 60 meters tall to accentuate the growing architectural landscape and skyline of the Abuja Central Business District. Richter assured that, "the finishing's of the building will meet the highest quality standards, and include state-of-the art technical fixtures, which further reinforce the building's stand-out design."

The Julius Berger's Managing Director gave a reassuring insight into company's technical, operational and administrative strategies, which are all targeted towards timely and successful delivery of "The Barrel" project. According to Richter: "...to successfully construct this building, Julius Berger will implement a concrete frame with flat slabs and steel construction for the building shell structure. To meet the required, highly challenging timeframe for construction, the company will partly employ 24-hour shifts and integrate

an equipment plan that makes use of 6 tower cranes working together to accelerate construction. There is no doubt that a building of this magnitude and standard, to be delivered in such a short timeframe, is a challenge, but for Julius Berger, this is a welcome challenge.”

Also speaking at the ceremony, the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Chief Timipre Sylva said, the DPR Headquarters building would be completed during the life of the President Buhari administration. In the words of the Minister: “This project is expected to last for 24 months, which is two years and we hope that it will be inaugurated during the lifetime of this administration. We started it and we hope to finish it before we leave. Julius Berger has given us that commitment and we are standing on that commitment.”

The Director and Chief Executive Officer of the DPR, Mr. Sarki Auwalu, said the building would support DPR’s commitment to enabling businesses and creating opportunities for the industry to thrive, using the agency’s regulatory framework and service instrument. He said it was better to have the headquarters of DPR situated in Abuja where most regulatory institutions operate from, adding that the new DPR Building in Abuja would strategically enhance inter agency collaborations as well as more centrally assist operators in the oil and gas sector.