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Nigeria lost its crown as Africa's largest crude producer as Angola surpassed the country for the first time in more than five years. Photo: Stock Image / Pixabay

Again? Searcher Seismic reveals plans for offshore oil search in SA

Here we go again... Searcher Seismic revealed its plan to search for oil offshore in South Africa, how did we get back here?



by **Reeshni Chaslyn Chetty**

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218KMS OFFSHORE

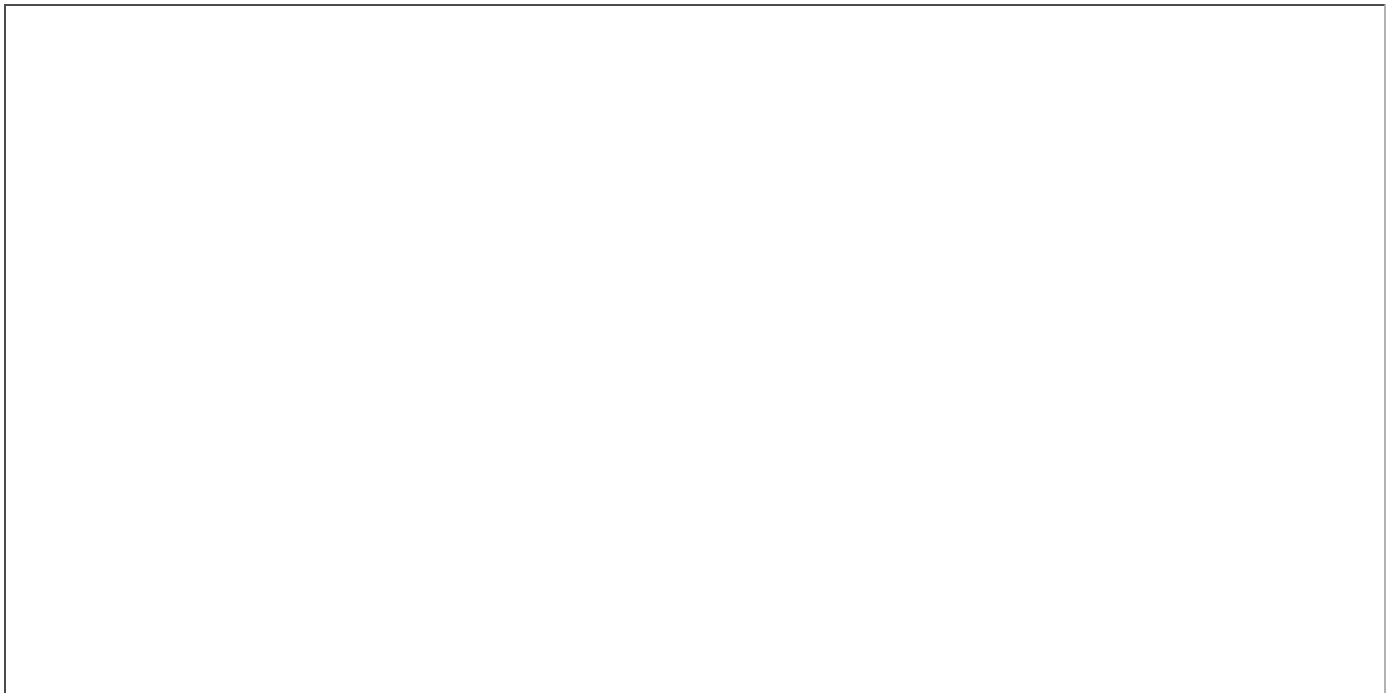
Searcher Seismic is applying for authorisation to go through with the activity. It plans to search multiple oil and gas blocks and ultra-deepwater off South Africa's west coast, says its assessment practitioner.

The survey that they are seeking authorisation for will be as close as 218 kilometres offshore. In March, the company stated that it would leave work incomplete in another area closer to the coast. This followed the High Court's ruling for it to discontinue the activity.

LOCALS AND ORGANISATIONS HAVE WORKED TOGETHER TO STOP SURVEYS PREVIOUSLY

South African communities along with environmental organisations opposed the oil and gas exploration. Many even filed lawsuits in an attempt to stop the seismic surveys. They stated that these surveys are harmful to marine life.

The groups also condemned the process they used to consult those who may be impacted by the surveys. Towards the end of 2021, communities won a case against Shell that temporarily blocked seismic activities in another part of the country's coast, reports [BusinessTech](#).



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