

China's Ningxia Younglight delays VAM plant start up to Sept

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China's Ningxia Younglight Energy Chemical has again postponed the commissioning of its 450,000 tonne/year vinyl acetate monomer (VAM) plant in Yinchuan to September from August on equipment issues, sources close to the company said on Thursday.

The plant, located in Ningxia province, is now slated to start up in early or mid-September, according to a company source, as well as other sources.

Sources attributed the reason for the delay to concerns on pipeline redesign issues which took longer than anticipated. This however, could not be confirmed.

The company has delayed the VAM plant commissioning several times, the latest of which was to the third quarter from 1 May, owing to unspecified issues concerning the technology, according to sources.

The plant in Ningxia province was originally set for commissioning in end-2013, which was subsequently delayed to March/April/May 2014, according to sources.

Sources said if the plant commissioning fails to take place in September, there would be a postponement to 2015 as winter conditions would not be conducive for start-up operations.

The company is now known as Sinopec Great Wall Energy or Chang Chen Neng Yuan, sources updated.

Ningxia Younglight Energy Chemical is a joint venture company between Sinopec Great Wall Energy Chemical and Guodian Power Development.

SOURCE Icis News