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## Dutch BB Energy preferred bidder for Malta oil co

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VALLETTA, Nov 20 (Reuters) - Unlisted Dutch oil and gas group BB Energy BV has been named preferred bidder in the privatisation of the petroleum division of Maltese state-owned Enemalta Corporation, the government said on Thursday. Enemalta accounts for well over 90 percent of Malta's oil imports and distribution to petrol stations, the airport and the ports. The government is also privatising Enemalta's gas division, which is to be sold to a consortium of Italian and Maltese companies, but it will retain control over electricity generation.

It said BB Energy BV is owned by the Bassatne Group, which is involved in oil trading, storage and distribution in the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean.

No financial details were reported.

(Reporting by Chris Scicluna; Editing by John Stonestreet)

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