IRAQI PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE: OIL SMUGGLING COSTS IRAQ BILLIONS IN LOSSES

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Yousef al-Kilabi (a member of the Iraqi parliamentary committee established under Order 198 to investigate oil smuggling, and also a member of the parliamentary Finance Committee) confirmed on Monday that oil smuggling is costing Iraq billions in losses.

Al-Kilabi told the Iraqi News Agency (INA) that "Iraq has 10,000 kilometers of oil pipelines, and installing sensors on them would require no more than 350 billion Iraqi dinars □□□□□□□□□□ to 200 million dollars." He then posed the question: "What is 200 million dollars compared to smuggling operations that amount to billions?"

He noted that "the installation of sensors on the pipelines was proposed in 2019; however, disregarding recommendations and shifting responsibility onto others is unacceptable, He pointed out that "two days ago, the Director General of the Pipelines [Company] and several other officials were dismissed by a decision from the Prime Minister—a positive step."

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