

# Pipeline Explosion Kills Man In Eleme

By Odudu Okpongete  
SENIOR CORRESPONDENT,  
Port Harcourt

One man was confirmed dead in Eleme Local Government Area of Rivers State on Monday following an explosion from a vandalised oil pipeline.

Sources told our correspondent that the man, whose name was given as Obo Awala, died in the bid to scoop oil from the pipelines belonging to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) in Eleme.

The explosion came barely

two months after a similar incident in Ogale, where five persons were burnt to death.

According to the source, the man had successfully scooped the fuel and mounted his motorcycle to speed off when the explosion occurred. The culprit was burnt with the motorcycle,

causing the natives to scamper for safety.

Image-maker of the Rivers State Police Command, Mrs Ireju Barasua, who confirmed the incident, said the corpse of the victim had been removed from the scene and investigation into the incident was in progress.