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Marine Supply Base Budget Boost

As part of Budget 2011-12, the Territory Government has allocated $5 million to the Marine Supply Base (MSB) project to ensure it is delivered on time and with maximum benefit to the Territory.

Three companies – Toll Holdings, ShoreASCO and POAGS – were shortlisted in December last year and asked to provide detailed proposals on how they would build, own and operate the MSB, which will sit adjacent to Darwin’s East Arm Wharf.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson said the companies have until 10 June to submit their proposals, and the preferred tenderer is expected to be selected in August.

“Construction of the Marine Supply Base is scheduled to commence early in 2012, subject to approvals,” Mr Henderson.

“The $5 million allocated in this budget will ensure the Territory Government gets the best advice and support when it comes to implementing the MSB.”

The MSB will provide facilities for oil and gas supply ships, known as rig vessels, to service offshore oil and gas rigs.

The existing activity in the Timor Sea, combined with likely demand from projects such as the proposed Ichthys LNG Project and Prelude Floating LNG Facilities, indicates that now is an opportune time to establish such a dedicated facility.

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