Chief Minister, Terry Mills says the Commonwealth Government has agreed to back the construction of a proposed gas pipeline to Gove.

Federal Resources and Energy Minister, Martin Ferguson, indicated support for the proposed project during a meeting with Mr Mills in Canberra today.

“My meeting with Martin Ferguson went very well and was extremely positive,” Mr Mills said.

“There is a commitment of cooperation from the Federal Government on getting gas to Gove and securing the future of Pacific Aluminium’s Gove operation.

“The Commonwealth agrees with my Government that this issue is of upmost importance, not just for the people of Gove, but for the benefits of the wider Northern Territory.

“This afternoon I also met with gas producer Eni in Sydney. In my discussions with them, the company committed to provide and invest in infrastructure to accelerate gas supply.

“They have expressed a willingness to work with operators in the Bonaparte Gulf to bring gas to market using existing infrastructure.

“In securing their own plans, Eni are also looking to explore regions near Black Tip that have the potential to tie-back to the existing pipeline that may eventually service Gove.

“There is still much work to be done and I will continue to fight hard on behalf of the East Arnhem community and negotiate with all stakeholders in an attempt to secure gas to Gove.”

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