Chief Minister Clare Martin will meet with major gas industry players in Perth tomorrow, as part of the Government’s continuing strategy to grow the sector in the Territory.

The Chief Minister said she would meet representatives from Conoco Phillips, Inpex, Woodside and Total Exploration and Production.

“These meetings are part of the Government’s on-going dialogue with major players in the industry,” Ms Martin said.

“We are seeking to establish Darwin as a leading centre for gas development – and secure the consequent economic benefits and jobs for the Territory.

“Importing, processing and exporting natural gas and associated products can kick start a range of industries that use by products and provide services – in addition to the production of liquid natural gas (LNG) itself.”

A number of projects will be discussed during the meetings:

- Timing of the expansion of the Conoco Wickham Pt LNG plant and the company’s exploration activities;
- Progress with the development of Sunrise Gas resources and the studies underway on the site resolution; and
- The benefits of Darwin as an onshore location to develop the large Browse gas field in WA.

Ms Martin said it was important the industry understood the Northern Territory Government was supportive of industry development and that Darwin had many advantages as an on-shore site for the industry, including:

- Available land for industrial development – giving certainty over land availability;
• A defined environmental process – providing clarity for project development;
• Capital city services, such as health, education and lifestyle provision for workforce;
• Capability to develop significant value-adding through downstream industries;
• An existing, established LNG industry;
• An excellent record in delivery of major projects, such as Darwin LNG ($1.6 billion), Bayu-Udan offshore gas development ($5.5 billion), the Adelaide to Darwin Railway ($1.3 billion) and the Alcan expansion at Nhulunbuy; and
• Infrastructure including an international airport, road links, modern sea port and transcontinental railway.

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