13 January 2012

The Territory’s economic future secured

Chief Minister Paul Henderson today welcomed the final investment decision for the Ichthys Project made by INPEX and Total, securing the $34 billion project for the Territory.

“The Territory has secured its economic future and is on the way to becoming the oil and gas capital of Australia,” Mr Henderson said.

“This is an historic day for the Territory and the culmination of a significant amount of foresight, planning, work and effort.

“It will provide 3000 jobs during construction and the resources growth will underpin our economy for the future providing training, employment and business opportunities for Territorians.

“Four years on, since we began chasing the Ichthys project, we are now just weeks away from the start of construction.

“In the planning stages, we joined INPEX in signing an Industry Participation Plan to ensure local businesses could achieve their share of the economic growth.

“We’re using all arms of the Territory Government to continue to support businesses to help them get the most out of the Ichthys project and the expected growth of the resources sector.

“We’ve invested heavily into attracting resource investment into the Territory, including building a Marine Supply Base to help make us the oil and gas capital of Australia.

“There are a number of real opportunities for Territorians and students who are at school now will be able to capitalise on these in years to come.

“It means today’s Year 12 Students, apprentices and trainees could be working as engineers, tradesmen and project managers when the Blaydin Point gas plant begins operating by the end of 2016.

“The North Australian Centre for Oil and Gas at Charles Darwin University and the Larrakia Trade Training Centre will skill up as many workers locally as possible supported by INPEX and Total.

At the peak of construction a workforce of about 3000 will be required to build the onshore gas facilities, which includes two LNG trains, a liquefied petroleum gas plant and condensate separation plants, product loading jetties and a 300-megawatt power station.

For more information visit www.growingnt.nt.gov.au

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