20 March 2012

Minister Addresses Major Oil and Gas Conference

Resources Minister Kon Vatskalis today spoke at the Excellence in Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition in Sydney.

The conference is East Coast Australia’s largest event focused on investment and financing for the oil and gas sector. It attracts well over 400 delegates and nearly 40 exhibitors each year.

The conference is a chance for industry, governments and experts to network and discuss ongoing oil and gas developments across Australia and the world.

“Darwin is quickly becoming a major oil and gas hub with work starting on the multi-billion dollar Ichthys project,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“There will be significant opportunities for local businesses with a required workforce of 3000 to build the onshore facilities.”

Macmahon Contractors Pty Ltd and John Holland have been awarded a $340 million site development civil works contract by the JKC Joint Venture (JGC Corporation, KBR, Chiyoda Corporation) for the onshore facilities of the Ichthys LNG Project near Darwin in the Northern Territory.

“To support Ichthys and the many other gas projects in the region, a multi-million dollar Marine Supply Base will be built next to East Arm Wharf,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“The base will be built by the end of 2013 and will support Oil and Gas developments in the region – including during their exploration, construction and operational phases.

“Major gas companies, including INPEX, ConocoPhillips and Shell, have already confirmed they will use the base. These are exciting times for the Territory.”

The education sector will benefit too, with the new North Australian Centre for Oil and Gas at Charles Darwin University and the Larrakia Trade Training Centre at East Arm.

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