17 July 2012

Peak oil and gas conference begins in Darwin today

Minister for Business and Employment, Delia Lawrie, today welcomed key representatives of the Oil and Gas industry to Darwin for the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association’s (APPEA) Conference on workforce development and productivity.

“This is the first time an APPEA conference has been held in Darwin, and represents a major step in the Territory’s aspirations of becoming Australia’s oil and gas hub,” Ms Lawrie said.

“This week the eyes of the oil and gas world are firmly focused on the Territory; our abundant resources, our capacity to deliver certainty for major projects and our bright future as our nation’s oil and gas hub

“A hallmark of the Henderson Government is our focus on training our own workforce, and over the next three days, hundreds of key industry and government leaders and training specialists from across Australia and the world will share their strategies on workforce development and productivity in the oil and gas sector.”

Speakers from leading companies including Deloitte Access Economics, INPEX, Shell, Woodside, Worley Parsons, Chevron and the Charlie Perkins Trust will hold sessions on productivity, diversity, design, labour markets, attraction and retention Indigenous employment and the challenges and opportunities of LNG skills.

“As well as an opportunity to sell the merits of the Territory as a dynamic investment location, the conference provides a chance to position the Territory as a national leader in workforce development.” Ms Lawrie said.

“Having the peak oil and gas conference, APPEA, in Darwin for the first time is another chapter in the Henderson Government’s vision for the Territory’s future.

“We have fought for and secured the second biggest major project in Australian history, and are now building a Marine Supply Base which will make Darwin a resource hub for our nation and the Asian region, in this the Asian Century.

“Along the way we continue to train thousands of Territorians to take advantage of the huge opportunities these developments will bring.”

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