TERRITORY SHOWCASED AS INTERNATIONAL OIL AND GAS HUB

January 17th, 2013

The vast opportunities for oil and gas development in the Northern Territory will be showcased at a premier energy conference in North America tomorrow.

Minister for Mines and Energy, Willem Westra Van Holthe, will deliver the keynote address at the 5th Annual Energy Conference of the Australian American Chamber of Commerce in Houston, Texas, on Friday the 18th of January.

“The Mills Government is actively promoting the Territory’s petroleum potential - both on and offshore - and this visit will help build productive relationships with key international petroleum industry players,” said Minister Westra Van Holthe.

“Geological research indicates the possibility of an abundance of oil and gas reserves just waiting to be discovered in the Northern Territory.

“While 89 per cent of onshore and near shore acreage was either granted or under application for exploration in the Northern Territory by the end of 2011, the majority of the NT is still underexplored.

“The visit will also include a meeting between some of the United States’ oil and gas regulators and Northern Territory Government representatives to discuss environmental world’s best practice.

“The Country Liberals will deliver on creating a mining and energy hub; international conferences like this help lay the foundation for development.

“The Territory is at the forefront of unconventional oil and gas resource development in Australia.

“We already have two major LNG projects located in Darwin: the INPEX project and the ConocoPhillips LNG operation which has firmly established our city as a major LNG hub.

“As well, Darwin is already the supply and service centre for much of Australia’s oil and gas exploration and production taking place in our northern waters.

“Our message to these key international petroleum industry representatives is simple: the Northern Territory is a good investment and the potential for discovering oil and gas is huge.”

Media Contact:
Jack Cranwell 0428 574 943