Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

**Inpex set to explore onshore in the NT**

13 February 2015

INPEX has been given the green light to pursue its first Territory permit for onshore oil and gas exploration in the Daly Waters area.

“I can confirm INPEX as the successful applicant for this acreage in the Beetaloo sub-basin which is one of the Territory’s most prospective areas for onshore petroleum,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“This is the first time INPEX has become involved in onshore exploration in the Territory and we welcome this new major player in the onshore industry.

“INPEX's multi-million dollar, five year exploration proposal promises to deliver huge economic benefits and job opportunities for Territorians, adding to extensive onshore exploration that’s already underway in the region.

“The acreage release attracted a strong field of candidates reflecting the huge interest that currently exists in investing in the Territory.”

The release covers 4000 square km of land near the Stuart highway in the Daly Waters area, approximately 500 km south east of Darwin.

The acreage is crossed by the Amadeus gas pipeline.

“The acreage became available as a direct result of the Government’s ‘use-it or lose-it’ policy which is aimed at stimulating active exploration of granted land across the Territory,” Mr Giles said.

“This is the first onshore Petroleum Exploration acreage release in the Territory under the Government’s new competitive tender process.

“This policy is designed to ensure there’s a streamlined approach to accessing land for petroleum exploration and promotes open competition in the industry.”

The assessment process saw applicants submit detailed work program bids and supporting documentation.
Department experts and an independent probity auditor assessed the applications based on their technical and financial resources and performance evaluations.

INPEX Oil and Gas Australia have now agreed to proceed to the next phase of the application process which includes advertising for objections, registration/completion of all legislative requirements and negotiations to reach agreement with Native Title holders.

The grant is dependent on the successful completion of these negotiations.

***Please see map attached***

Media Contact: Danielle Parry 0413 081 801

[Acreage Map](#)