Northern Territory Businesses and job-seekers are being encouraged to harness the power of the $800 million North East Interconnector (NEGI) Pipeline to be constructed between Tennant Creek and Mt Isa.

Minister for Business Peter Styles said the Chief Minister’s announcement yesterday that Jemena Northern Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd had been selected to build the NEGI had sparked excitement within the Territory business community.

“Yesterday’s announcement was effectively the on switch for a wave of opportunity across the Northern Territory,” Mr Styles said.

“As Minister for Business it is my absolute aim to ensure this major infrastructure project translates into the utmost benefit to the Northern Territory community.

“I encourage all Territory businesses to register with the Industry Capability Network NT (ICN NT) and ensure their full capabilities are detailed in their ICN profiles. Jemena has committed to working with the ICN NT and use the ICN Gateway to identify local businesses.

“The Department of Business will also work with NT organisations and industry associations to maximise local benefits and support local businesses to win work.”

The NEGI will create more than 900 jobs, 600 of which for locals and will result in $112 million in contracts for local businesses.

The ability to generate local jobs and business opportunities was a major part of the selection process for this project.

The Northern Territory Government’s Department of Business services are designed to assist local businesses to start, run and grow and include; the Business Growth Program, training initiatives, the Aboriginal Employment Initiatives program and access to a qualified team of Business Development Officers.

Future onshore gas royalties will also be injected into the education sector and Vocational Education and Training.
“The NEGI is a major achievement in line with the Country Liberals Government commitment to ensure the future prosperity of the Northern Territory,” Mr Styles said.

“Not only will this project literally power the nation and the Northern Territory economy via generating local business activity and jobs, but it will empower future generations through education and training.”

Media Contact: Rebecca Barr: 0407 284 066