Chief Minister, Clare Martin, has welcomed the recommendation by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties to ratify the Timor Gap Treaty.

"Ratification of this Treaty by Australia and East Timor would mean that work on the Bayu-Undan gas pipeline to Darwin can begin," she said.

"Thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in national wealth ride on these two Timor Sea projects going ahead.

"Today’s findings of the Joint Standing Committee are an important step in progressing the development of Timor Sea."

Ms Martin also noted that the Committee had recommended that the International Unitisation Agreement for the Great Sunrise field, which is currently under negotiation, be concluded on or before the day that the Timor Sea Treaty is ratified.

"This now appears to be the largest outstanding issue and I again urge the leaders of the East Timorese and Australian Governments to work together to finalise these arrangements," she said.

"I recently met with East Timorese Prime Minister, Mari Alkatiri and spoke with Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer and stressed the need for these issues to be quickly resolved."

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