Chief Minister, Clare Martin, today officially inspected the construction site of ConocoPhillips’ $1.6 billion Wickham Point LNG Plant announcing that almost $230 million worth of contracts and spending have already been awarded to Territory based companies.

"Construction of this facility is the culmination of hard work by Government, business and Territorians and will mark a turning point in our economic history," she said.

"Fourteen major subcontracts have been awarded to NT companies and in excess of 500 Field Purchase Orders have been issued to more than 100 NT vendors at a value in excess of $4 million.

"Just five months after Bechtel, the project builders, were given access to the site, a total of almost $230 million worth of business has gone to Territory based companies.

"And the economic benefits do not stop there as spill-over benefits occur with project personnel renting housing, shopping, dining and enjoying other attractions in the Territory.

"This will only increase as the project ramps up over coming months and years - it has a 32 month construction cycle so new opportunities will be open up on almost a monthly basis."

One of the big winners to date is Thiess Ptd Ltd - with 40 years civil works experience in the NT including Stage 2 of the East Arm Port - securing a number of contracts worth over $150 million.

The company has won contracts for site clearance, tank infrastructure and a wharf and require more than 200 employees. Importantly, Thiess has committed to providing jobs for Territorians.

Ms Martin said that there is a 3-year construction phase for the ConocoPhillips LNG Plant as part of their overall $6 billion Bayu-Undan development.

"In total, more than 1000 jobs will be created during construction, which will be made up of a mix of local and interstate workers," she said.

"Total employment to date, including non-manual and tradespeople, is 333 people.

"Currently, the number of tradespeople is 280, of which 200 are Territorian, so the project is already creating many jobs and new business opportunities for locals.

"High pay, high skill jobs will continue to be awarded to Territorians and training continues to ensure locals are job ready as more work
arises."

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