Mines Minister Kon Vatskalis has given official consent for Conoco Phillips to operate the Bayu to Darwin pipeline, ushering in a new era for the Territory with one of the most important infrastructure projects in recent years.

The pipeline has been constructed under licences issued by the designated authorities for the Joint Petroleum Development Area, including the Northern Territory Government.

“This is another important step in getting gas onshore,” Minister Vatskalis said.

“My department is satisfied that Conoco Phillips has the necessary checks and balances in place to ensure the safe and environmentally friendly operation of the pipeline.

“This is a positive step forward for the project and an important milestone in the longer term development of the Territory,” he said.

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines has also accepted the management plan proposed by the operators and will continue to work with Conoco Phillips on the next phase of the project.

Contact: Fred McCue 0401 119 792