MAJOR OIL AND GAS CONFERENCE FOR DARWIN

A major oil and gas conference will be held in Darwin next month and will attract the leading players in the energy industry.

Chief Minister and Minister for Trade and Major Projects Clare Martin said the 12th annual South East Asia Australia Offshore Conference (SEAAOC) is important for the Territory.

“The timing couldn’t be better – the conference coincides with increasing oil and gas activities in Northern Australia,” Ms Martin said.

"For years, we have talked of our potential as Australia's second gas hub, now we are seeing that come to fruition.

“The 500 km sub-sea pipeline from Bayu-Undan and the construction of the most advanced LNG plant in the world, will help us in become a leader in energy development.

“The huge LNG tankers have become a regular sight on our harbour and we expect to see many more in the coming years.

“This year's SEAAOC conference will be held in Darwin from June 18-21 2006, with record attendance predicted due to booming oil prices and LNG demand.

“The theme of this year's conference is "commercialising gas for the region,” Ms Martin said.

SEAAOC is a joint initiative between the NT Government and the Institute of International Research.

To register and for more information, call IIR on (02) 9923 5090, email: info@iir.com.au; or online: www.seaaoc.com

Media Contact: Richard O’Leary 040111 9586.
Topics and Main Speakers at SEAAOC

- Hon Sir Moi Avei, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Petroleum and Energy for Papua New Guinea
- Iin Arifin Tahyan ME, Director General for Oil and Gas, Department of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia
- ConocoPhillips
- Perth-based Coogee Resources will discuss its floating methanol project at the Timor Sea's Montara Field, the potential restart of oil production at Skua and the recent Swift and Swallow oil discoveries nearby
- Santos will be providing an update on regional developments.
- Nexus Energy will outline the Crux field gas condensate recycle project.
- Inpex will report on its Abadi gas discovery and Browse Basin developments;
- Companies such as Chevron, AGL and Santos will discuss regional developments such as the PNG pipeline project and LNG projects.
- Oil Search will outline its exploration, production and downstream activities in PNG.
- The Itochu/Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Joint Venture will discuss a proposed fuel grade DME plant near Port Moresby.
- LNG is a feature on Day Two of the conference, with key government and LNG buyer representatives from the US, China, Taiwan, India, Thailand, India, the UK, Korea and Japan giving it a truly international flavour.
- Joe Desmond, Chairman of the Californian Energy Commission and Lee Stewart, Senior VP-Gas Operations for key Californian utility, Sempra, will discuss the challenges of importing LNG to the US, regulation and the effects of high gas prices on demand.