Dr Chris Burns
MINISTER FOR BUSINESS

24 March 2009

Protecting Territory Jobs

The Northern Territory Government has participated in the first of the Major Project Forums – with INPEX General Manager Sean Kildare the guest speaker at the Convention Centre.

Minister for Business Chris Burns said the forums which deliver on an election promise, will assist small businesses to identify potential opportunities from major projects.

“This is about jobs for Territorians – INPEX is an exciting project and we want locals to be able to make the most of this opportunity,” Dr Burns said.

“About 300 people attended the forum to hear what they need to do to bid for work on the $12 billion project.

“I’d like to congratulate INPEX on engaging with the community and committing to holding regular information sessions for businesses.

“I’d also like to thank the Northern Territory Industry Capability Network for helping to make this forum happen.

“The impact of a project of this scale can not be underestimated – it’ll be the largest single private sector investment in Australia’s history.

“This Government has always believed INPEX will help secure the Territory’s economic future for many years to come.

“In these uncertain economic times the project has become even more important to the Territory and offers protection for Territory businesses.

“We are not immune from the Global Financial Crisis but we are well placed to ride out the storm.

“An INPEX gas plant in Darwin will mean work for Territory businesses and jobs for Territorians.”