Minister for Business, Peter Chandler, said today the gas to Gove package has potential to significantly benefit businesses in Nhulunbuy, the region and beyond.

“Through the Territory Government’s decision to release enough gas to the Gove alumina refinery for the next 10 years we are providing the foundation for a solid future,” he said during a visit to Gove.

“Big industry is in the headlines but there is a huge flow-on effect to the domestic sector that goes right down to the smallest business.

“By providing this security we are setting the scene for small and medium business to seek new opportunities and for the training and upskilling of more workers.

“It is not just businesses directly linked to the mine and the pipeline construction that will benefit, now local champions and outsider entrepreneurs will confidently eye opportunities to expand or set up new businesses.

“Territory-wide benefits will flow. For example, business in Katherine will benefit from the town being the service hub for the $500 million pipeline construction to Gove.

“With the pipeline construction and infrastructure upgrades there will be the need for companies of all sizes to supply services, workers and machinery.

“This could range from a small trucking company through to heavy machinery firms, and all the service businesses in between.

“When a business grows or starts up it needs suppliers, sales people, then adds an accounts person and so it goes - the more jobs there are the more businesses are set up to service the community.

“A business may not seem connected to the investment but it will be part of the downstream services.”

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