Long-time Territory company Henry Walker Eltin has secured a lucrative contract - in excess of $50 million - as part of the Vopak Terminal Australia project to build a new bulk liquids terminal at East Arm.

The project will see BP, Mobil and Shell move their operations from the Stuart Park tank farm to the new terminal, freeing up 25 hectares of valuable land inner city.

Chief Minister, Clare Martin, said that her Government had worked hard to see this project finally happen after 15 years of discussion adding that a local company was the big winner.

“While the concept had been around for more than a decade, this Government’s previous investments of $20 million for a bulk liquids berth at East Arm and $10 million for a receipt manifold and pipelines system, helped make it happen” she said.

“This project will employ hundreds of people and which mean good jobs for Territorians.”

The $50 million plus contract will see Henry Walker Eltin design and construct a joint user terminal for the transfer of fuel at East Arm Port in Darwin.

Vopak provides independent tank terminal capacity around the world to the chemical and oil industries for the storage of liquid chemical and oil products, and has signed a contract with Shell, BP and Mobil for terminal operation in Darwin.

Ms Martin said that construction of the facility is now underway and has an estimated completion date of July 2005, ready for full operation the following month (at which point the tank farm will be cleared over nine months and rehabilitated for a further nine months).

It will consist of a bulk liquid storage and delivery terminal comprising:

• a tanker (ship) berth with three discharge pipelines and associated fire fighting facilities
• a tank farm located approximately 2.5 kilometres from the tanker berth.

The scope of the contract with Henry Walker Eltin includes design and construction of a 113 million litre fuel farm consisting of fuel tanks, pipe work, roads and pavements, associated buildings and landscaping works.

“The relocation of the tank farm to East Arm Port will cleaner result in a cleaner more visually pleasing environment, less road train traffic and enable redevelopment of land adjacent to the CBD in Darwin greatly benefit the Darwin community and beautify the area,” she said.

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