Decision makers from one of the world’s biggest companies will travel to Darwin after successful talks on day one of Chief Minister Clare Martin’s trade mission to Japan.

Ms Martin met with the President of Dow Pacific Jim McIlvenny - who now wants to investigate gas manufacturing opportunities in the Northern Territory.

“The top bosses of Dow in our region are impressed by our potential – and now want to see the facilities for themselves,” Ms Martin said.

“This is a really positive outcome for this trade mission and the people of the Northern Territory.

“We have plenty to offer in the Territory – a deep port linked to a rail line connected to the rest of Australia – and an abundance of gas.

“Darwin is now established as a gas centre with the LNG plant at Wickham Point in production and exporting to Japan.

“We are pushing to establish a gas manufacturing base in Darwin with new projects based on ammonia, methanol, olefins and their derivatives.

“These can be used to produce everything from the ingredients for paints to the casings for iPods.”

President of Dow Pacific Jim McIlvenny and Dow’s Business Director of Hydrocarbons Donald Chen will visit Darwin later this year to inspect our facilities and look at possible manufacturing opportunities in the Territory.

Chief Minister Martin also met with the Senior Vice Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry Hiromichi Watanabe and Tokyo Gas.

Those talks included discussion about buying LNG and investing in gas industries and the development of the emerging technology of gas to liquids.

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