MUST ADD VALUE TO GAS

The Northern Territory and Federal Governments have agreed a gas manufacturing industry is an important national priority and will work together to make it happen.

Chief Minister Clare Martin met with Minister for Energy Ian Macfarlane in Canberra today to push for a national approach to make the most out of our rich gas reserves.

“Australia can’t afford to have every molecule of gas end up overseas,” Ms Martin said.

“ My talks with the Minister have been productive and we’ve agreed to work together to encourage down-streaming of gas.

“ We have a wonderful opportunity to develop new projects based on ammonia, methanol, olefins and their derivatives.

“ These can be used to produce everything from explosives for mining, to the plastics used to make black polypipe and garden furniture.

“ We both know there are challenges and we’ll work co-operatively to overcome them.

“ I’m a big supporter of LNG production and export, but it needs to go hand in hand with a gas manufacturing industry.

“ We must encourage companies to add value to gas, gas must be more than LNG.

“Australia has about 150 trillion cubic feet of gas with a potential value of $500 to $750 billion,” said Ms Martin.

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