

# Northern Territory Government

## Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines

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### Gas Is The Future - Helium Leads The Way

[ 24/09/2007 ]

The Northern Territory Government has welcomed the signing of a contract to build the first helium plant in Australia.

Chief Minister Clare Martin said the deal between BOC and Darwin LNG was a significant step forward for the Territory.

“Gas is the future for the Territory – and this helium plant in Darwin shows why it has so much potential,” Ms Martin said.

“This \$33 million project will create jobs during the construction phase and also when the plant is up and running.

“The plant will meet all of Australia’s helium needs – and still have enough capacity to meet export demands.”

The Chief Minister has been pushing for some of the gas piped into Darwin to be used in other downstream industries. The Government is urging other companies to follow BOC’s lead.

“Our deep port, rail line and potential gas supplies in the Timor Sea area make Darwin an attractive option for investors,” Ms Martin said.

“Darwin is now established as Australia’s second international gas hub with the LNG plant at Wickham Point in production and exporting to Japan.

“The helium plant is another step towards establishing the city as a gas manufacturing base.

“Other projects could be based on ammonia, methanol, olefins and their derivatives. These can be used to produce everything from garden furniture to the casings for mobile phones.”

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