

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TOURISM

Minister for Information

Min ID: B09/2116

KIMBERLEY LAND COUNCIL (KLC) BRIEFING SESSION

Purpose: To provide you information on the work that Commonwealth Agencies have been undertaking with the KLC on the proposed Kimberley Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) precinct.

Background: Commonwealth Agencies (Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism; Department of Families Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations; Department of the Environment, Water Heritage and the Arts; and the Department of Health and Ageing) established an Australian Government LNG Precinct Taskforce (the Taskforce) to develop a road map to identify agreed priorities and planning for delivering the social investment measure in the West Kimberley.

Issues: The KLC has requested to be a formal member of the Taskforce. As the KLC is not the sole representative of Indigenous persons in the West Kimberley and the Taskforce is designed to discuss government priorities and program delivery, the Taskforce is proposing to establish a regular dialogue between the Australian and Western Australian Governments, and the KLC through a tripartite communication Forum.

As you are aware, on 16 September 2009, Mr Wayne Bergmann will provide a presentation to all Members of Parliament, Senators and their staff at Parliament House on critical issues for the KLC and the proposed precinct, provide information on the Heads of Agreement and seek life of project commitment (invite at **Attachment A**). Following the briefing session, the KLC and the Western Australian Government (Department of State Development and Department of Indigenous Affairs) have been invited to attend the Taskforce meeting on social investments at the Department. At this meeting the Taskforce will provide an overview of the Taskforce's structure, its relationship with key stakeholders, the work of the group and the proposed Forum.

The Taskforce proposes that the Forum is the most appropriate mechanism for a three way exchange of information between the parties with secretariat services being provided by the Australian Government to manage the flow of information. It is also proposed that Forum meetings be held every three months, in Broome. Under the proposed Forum each party will pay its own costs, if any, associated with participation in the Forum. A set of brief terms of reference will be developed between the KLC, the Australian and Western Australian Government on how this Forum will operate. Additional information on the Forum is at **Attachment B**.

The Department will keep you and your office informed of the outcomes from the Taskforce meeting.

Slipstream Version 15 September 2009

Sue Kruse (0402 350 778)
General Manager
IRD&T Branch
Resources Division
14 September 2009

Consultation:
DEEWR, FaHCSIA
DEWHA

NOTED/PLEASE DISCUSS



Contact: Jo Bell (+61 2 6213 7143)

Activity Info: 1.1

Martin Ferguson 15/9/2009



Kimberley Land Council
PO Box 2145 BROOME WA 6725
Phone: (08) 9194 0100 Facsimile: (08) 9193 6279

To all Members of Parliament, Senators and their staff,

You are invited to attend a briefing on the Kimberley Land Council and its work to represent Traditional Owners and closing the gap for Aboriginal People in the Kimberley.

The briefing will include information on the development of Browse Basin gas reserves and proposed industrial hub at James Price Point, 60 kms north of Broome.

KLC will present the critical issues and provide information on the Heads of Agreement between the KLC, the State of Western Australia and Woodside Energy Limited.

The briefing will be presented by Mr Wayne Bergmann, KLC Executive Director and senior men and women Kimberley Traditional Owners, and hosted by Senator Louise Pratt, Senator for Western Australia.

The development of a rich oil and gas reserves in the Kimberley off-shore region is significant on a world scale. The proposed James Price Point development alone will contribute more than \$1 trillion to Australia's GDP.

Development of this scale will mean significant and permanent impacts for the local area and broader Kimberley region. The Kimberley is an area with a rich and live Indigenous culture and the region contains many cultural, environmental and natural heritage areas that are significant to Traditional Owners, Australia and the World community.

The Browse Basin oil and gas development raises serious issues around appropriate environment assessment and management, protection of Aboriginal culture and heritage, as well as management of social, environmental and economic impacts. Experience proves that Aboriginal people will be further marginalised as a result of the development unless life of project commitments are made and implemented.

The KLC is the elected representative body for Traditional Owners in the Kimberley and has a broad mandate to deal with these issues, to make sure that development impacts are minimised, and to ensure that Aboriginal people benefit over the **life of the project**.

Details:

Wednesday 16 September 2009

10.30am-11.30am

Committee Room 2S1

Please RSVP to erin@essentialmedia.com.au by Friday 11 September 2009

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Bergmann', written in a cursive style.

WAYNE BERGMANN
Executive Director

Communications forum between the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments and the KLC regarding the Browse basin gas hub development

- The aim is to provide a mechanism for regular dialogue between the two governments and the KLC on the progress of the proposed Browse basin gas hub development.
- The Forum would provide an opportunity for a three way exchange of information between the parties. This might include information on government social investments in the West Kimberley which may impact on the progress of the gas hub development.
- The KLC would be invited to identify its key areas of interest for information provision and/or exchange.
- The Commonwealth would be prepared to provide secretariat support to the Forum to manage flow of information.
- Meetings would be held every 3 months, either face to face in Broome or by teleconference.
- Each party would pay its own costs, if any, associated with participation in the Forum.
- There would be an agreement between the KLC, the Commonwealth and the WA government on how this forum would operate – a set of brief terms of reference would be developed.
- The forum would not replace other forms of consultation with other stakeholders.