



BLACKTIP PROJECT

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED

As operator for, and on behalf of the Blacktip Gas Project, Woodside Energy Ltd is proposing to develop the Blacktip gas field located in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf approximately 245km southwest of Darwin in the Northern Territory. The Blacktip Field lies in Commonwealth waters near the Western Australian and Northern Territory border. The proposal is for an unmanned wellhead platform and 107.5 km export pipeline to shore, which will transport both condensate and gas. Once onshore the gas and condensate will undergo processing at a plant located 2.5 km onshore and approximately 10 km from Wadeye. Once processed, the gas will be exported by an onshore underground pipeline, which is subject to a separate environmental review process, to the Alcan Gove alumina refinery. The condensate will be exported by seaborne tankers via a subsea export pipeline approximately 3km in length. The plant will have the potential to process additional gas volumes and supply other NT customers subject to supply and demand requirements.

As part of the development process and in accordance with the provisions of the Northern Territory *Environmental Assessment Act (1982)* and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*, this Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared and is now available to the public for comment. In terms of the EPBC Act the matters protected for the Blacktip Project (EPBC reference 2003/1180) under Part 3 of the Act are Sections 18 and 18a Listed threatened species and communities, Sections 20 and 20A Listed migratory species, and sections 23 and 24A the Marine environment

The Draft EIS describes the project proposal, and addresses the potential environmental impacts and how these impacts will be mitigated. This document will be available for review from **2nd November 2004** until **18th January 2005** at the following locations:

- Darwin Public Library, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin, NT
- Casuarina Public Library, Bradshaw Terrace, Casuarina, NT
- Palmerston Public Library, Civic Plaza, Cnr University Avenue & Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston, NT
- Litchfield Shire Offices, 7 Bees Creek Road, Bees Creek, NT
- Environment Centre, 3/98 Woods Street, Darwin, NT
- Thamarrurr Regional Council Offices, Wadeye, NT
- Wadeye Knowledge Centre, Wadeye, NT
- Palumpa - Nganmariyanga Community Inc, NT
- Daly River - Nauiyu Nambiyu Community Government Council, NT
- Peppimenarti - Peppimenarti Community Council, NT
- Northern Land Council Offices, 9 Rowling Street, Casuarina, NT

- Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage Library, John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace, Parkes, ACT
- State and Territory Libraries:
 - Northern Territory Library, Parliament House, Cnr Bennett & Mitchell Streets, Darwin
 - Wyndham Library, Koolama Street Wyndham
 - Kununurra Library, Mangaloo Street, Kununurra
 - State Reference Library of Western Australia, Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre, Northbridge Perth

To support the public review process the Draft EIS will also be on display at Casuarina Shopping Centre on the 6th November between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm and at Palmerston Shopping Centre on the 20th November between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm. Members of the project team will be available at these times to address any questions that may arise relating to the Draft EIS.

The report can be examined for the duration of the public review period either on the Office of Environment and Heritage Internet site at: www.lpe.nt.gov.au/enviro/ or on Woodside's Internet site at www.Blacktip.woodside.com.au. The Executive Summary of the Draft EIS is available free of charge and Volume 1 of the Draft EIS is available at a cost of \$40. These are available from the Woodside Darwin office at: 8th Floor, NT House, Mitchell Street, Darwin, NT, Fax No; (08) 8980 2710.

Persons wishing to comment on the Draft EIS are invited to make written submissions by close of business on **18th January 2005** to:

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