

Ichthys LNG Project — moving to the next phase

INPEX, operator of the world-class Ichthys LNG Project, is making significant progress towards developing the Ichthys Field located 450 kilometres north of Broome.

The Project is moving into the next phase, heralded by the tow of the two major offshore facilities, the central processing facility (CPF) ('Ichthys Explorer') and then the floating production storage and offloading facility (FPSO) ('Ichthys Venturer'). These floating giants will journey 3000 nautical miles from South Korea before arriving 200 kilometres off Western Australia's northern coastline. The two facilities will be moored and subsequently connected to hundreds of kilometres of subsea infrastructure now installed.

Broome is a vital logistics hub for the Project, supporting the development drilling campaign, transporting Project workers to offshore facilities and supplying construction and installation vessels. The Project is three mega projects in one, with some of the world's biggest and most advanced offshore facilities, joined by an 890 kilometre gas export pipeline to a state of the art onshore LNG processing facility located near Darwin, in the Northern Territory.

The Project is forecast to produce up to 8.9 million tonnes per annum of liquefied natural gas and up to 1.6 million tonnes per annum of liquefied petroleum gas, along with 100,000 barrels of condensate per day at peak during its 40 year life.

More than 35 local Broome businesses have been involved with activities required to support the Ichthys LNG Project.

The Project contributes to the community through a series of sponsorships and programs that support Broome and the wider Kimberley region.



Hook-up and commissioning of offshore facilities

The central processing facility (CPF) and the floating production storage and offloading facility (FPSO) will arrive in the Ichthys Field, with the hook-up and commissioning phase of the Ichthys LNG Project commencing later this year.

During the hook-up phase, facilities will be moored and connected to more than 133,000 tonnes of subsea equipment that have been installed on the seabed of the Ichthys Field over the past three years. This will be followed by the final commissioning of the facilities before hydrocarbons are introduced in preparation for first production.

This hook-up and commissioning phase of the Project will be the most intense period of activity in the Ichthys Field, with approximately 2000 workers and up to 20 vessels required offshore at peak to complete various scopes of work.

To provide accommodation for offshore workers, two floating hotels named the 'Jascon 25' and 'Floatel Triumph', will be positioned alongside the CPF and FPSO to accommodate more than 1300 workers, with remaining workers spread between vessels and the mobile offshore drilling unit, the ENSCO 5006.

The majority of workers will be transported to the offshore facilities from Broome via helicopters, with other personnel changes occurring when vessels are in port.

To service and supply the facilities and fleet of vessels, offshore contractors will use both the Ports of Darwin and Broome.







The INPEX-led Ichthys LNG Project is currently the biggest user of Broome International Airport, which serves as a transit point for personnel travelling to and from the Project's offshore facilities by helicopter.

Every day, workers travel to and from Broome on commercial flights, then connect with the Project's helicopter services to travel to offshore facilities and vessels located 450 kilometres north of Broome.

In 2017, a fleet of up to eight helicopters operated by Bristow and PHI-HNZ will transport Project workers daily to the Ichthys Field. The helicopter journey time between Broome and the Field is approximately two and a half hours, with a refuelling stop en route at the Djarindjin-Lombadina Airport located on the Dampier Peninsula.

The Djarindjin-Lombadina Airport is operated on behalf of Djarindjin Aboriginal Corporation by Broome International Airport, which has employed and trained a team of refuellers from the local communities to support helicopter operations.

At peak, there will be up to nine return flights to and from the Ichthys Field every day. A majority of the flights will depart early in the morning, commencing at first light, to allow workers to make connections with commercial flights from Broome in the afternoon. To accommodate the early morning departures, up to 70 rooms will be used overnight for workers in Broome.

At times, helicopter pilots will be required to undertake training flights including night flights, which will comply with Broome International Airport's 'Fly Neighbourly Policy' which sets guidelines on how and when helicopters may operate.

The Ichthys LNG Project is working closely with the airlines and Broome International Airport to ensure helicopter operations and commercial flight demand has minimal impact on the community.

CASE STUDY

OTS a local business supporting the Project

Broome-based family-run business Oilfield Transport Services (OTS), which has been operational for more than 16 years, is an important contractor to the Ichthys LNG Project.

The OTS fleet of trucks and trailers transport drilling materials between the various contractor sites in Broome to the Port of Broome, and all the way to Perth and Darwin.

"OTS operates a safe, reliable and efficient operation supporting the Ichthys Project drilling campaign, as a local business partner for our drilling logistics operations," said INPEX's Drilling Logistics Superintendent Mark Andrich.

OTS employs 18 locals and operates a fleet of 17 trucks with an additional 78 trailers and tankers across Western Australia. The INPEX-operated Ichthys LNG Project and related subcontractor work scopes provide about 80 per cent of the business undertaken by this local company.





Broome – port of call for the Ichthys LNG Project drilling program

Broome is a 26 hour sail from the Ichthys Field and is the home base for the Ichthys LNG Project drilling program. The Project is the biggest user of the Port of Broome, with approximately 260 port visits in 2016.

A number of local businesses have been working to service and supply our mobile offshore drilling unit – ENSCO 5006 – including Toll Supply Base, MI-SWACO, OTS and other logistics businesses, who work all year round to support Project operations.

GE Oil and Gas has established a custom built facility in Broome employing seven locals. This facility services, tests and maintain a wide range of subsea production systems for the Project. A fleet of three supply vessels calls to the Port of Broome at least once a week. Since the commencement of drilling in 2015, over 100,000 tonnes of cargo has been safely lifted and loaded by workers at the port.

A number of wells are now complete as part of the first phase of drilling. Beyond the first phase, drilling will continue to provide up to 50 wells over the life of the Project, to allow full development of the Ichthys Field in the years ahead.





Supporting your local schools

The Ichthys LNG Project has been working with local schools including Cable Beach and Roebuck Primary School to fund initiatives including a reading program, minor school improvement works and development of a nature play area.

The INPEX-led Ichthys LNG Project, in collaboration with Shell Prelude LNG Project, has also run the 'Work Inspirations Program' with Broome Senior High School and St Mary's Catholic College. The program aims to inspire Broome school students to complete schooling to the highest level and consider employment pathways into service sectors supporting the oil and gas industry.

The Project also works closely with North Regional TAFE and other training organisations in Broome.

For further information on sponsorships contact: sponsorships@inpex.com.au





The Broome **Heliport**

In 2016, there were close to 1800 helicopter movements through the Broome International Airport (BIA) Heliport for the Ichthys LNG Project.

As the biggest user of the airport, INPEX has been working with the BIA to get ready for the next phase of the Ichthys LNG Project, which will see the heliport get even busier.

The heliport is operated by a team of highly skilled local heliport operators. Before every flight, Project workers are taken to the heliport by a BIA bus where

they pass through check-in, security screening and safety briefing procedures. Workers are then served a light refreshment ahead of their helicopter flight out to the Ichthys Field. On their return, workers disembark at the heliport, collect their luggage and are transported to the airport's nearby passenger terminals for their commercial flight.

BIA has been recruiting and training more locals to become heliport operators to meet peak Project demand.



Working with the community

The INPEX-led Ichthys LNG Project has continued to support community organisations as part of our commitment to the local communities in which we operate.

In 2016, INPEX and the Ichthys LNG Project funded a variety of programs in Broome and the wider Kimberley region. This includes programs to support the advancement of educational and training outcomes through North Regional TAFE and Nirrumbruk Aboriginal Corporation.

The Project has also funded cultural events including Shinju Matsuri Festival in Broome, the Ardi Festival at Lombadina and the Kimberley Art Prize in Derby. These events showcase the Kimberley's unique cultures and bring the community together.

The Project continues to work with other organisations to promote the economic development of the Kimberley by participating in the Kimberley Economic Forum, Broome Future and supporting advocacy in the region, together with the Chamber of Minerals and Energy WA.





Contact us

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