

NEWS RELEASE

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BHP BILLITON CELEBRATES FIRST GAS AT MACEDON

BHP Billiton's US\$1.5 billion (100 per cent basis) Macedon domestic gas project in Onslow, Western Australia, was officially opened today by the Honourable Colin Barnett, Premier of Western Australia.

First gas commenced on target in August 2013 at the BHP Billiton-operated facility which commercialises natural gas from offshore production lease WA-42-L located in the Exmouth Sub-Basin.

BHP Billiton Asset President Conventional, Steve Pastor, said the success of the project reflected a deep commitment to environmental protection, economic development and community engagement.

"BHP Billiton is playing an important role in securing a diverse and reliable energy supply for Western Australia.

"Macedon is BHP Billiton's largest operated Australian domestic gas project and is expected to supply domestic gas for the wholesale market in Western Australia until at least 2033. The operation will supply 20 per cent of the State's daily domestic gas supply for consumers and industry.

"For BHP Billiton, this facility builds on our strong oil and gas operations in Western Australia, which includes interests in the North West Shelf and the Exmouth Sub-Basin," he said.

The plant has a production capacity of up to 200 terrajoules of gas per day. The operations include four offshore production wells and an onshore gas treatment plant at the Ashburton North Strategic Industrial Area 17 kilometres south west of Onslow.

Gas from the Macedon plant will be exported to the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline for sale into the Western Australian market.

During construction, more than 600 employees and contractors worked on the project including Indigenous Australians who made up 10 per cent of the workforce. Local businesses also benefited from the project with US\$865 million, nearly 60 per cent of the total project spend, invested locally.

During the productive life of the asset, BHP Billiton will be investing in the future growth of the area through BHP Billiton's State Development Agreement, a community engagement initiative to promote the health and wellbeing of our neighbours.

Macedon is a joint venture between BHP Billiton (71.43%) and Apache Northwest (28.57%).

BHP Billiton Petroleum background

BHP Billiton is one of the largest domestic gas producers in Australia. Globally, the BHP Billiton Petroleum group has exploration, development, production and marketing activities in more than a dozen countries around the globe, with a significant position in the deep water Gulf of Mexico, onshore US and Australia.

Petroleum operates assets in the United States, Australia, United Kingdom, Trinidad and Tobago and Pakistan including:

- Bass Strait, Australia – oil and gas (50 per cent working interest)
- North West Shelf (NWS), Australia – oil, domestic gas, LPG, condensate and LNG (16.67 per cent working interest and 8.33 per cent working interest)
- Minerva, Australia – gas and condensate (90 per cent working interest and operator)
- Pyrenees, Australia – oil (71.43 per cent working interest and 40 per cent working interest and operator)
- Stybarrow, Australia – oil and gas (50 per cent working interest and operator)
- Neptune, Gulf of Mexico, US – oil and gas (35 per cent working interest and operator)
- Fayetteville Shale, Arkansas, US – shale gas (variable interest)
- Haynesville/Bossier Shale, Louisiana, US – shale gas (variable interest; average operated interest is 65 per cent)
- Eagle Ford Shale, Texas, US – shale gas and liquids (12.5 - 100 per cent interest)
- Permian Shale, Texas, US – shale oil (50 - 100 per cent interest)
- Shenzi, Gulf of Mexico, US – oil and gas (44 per cent working interest and operator)
- Atlantis, Gulf of Mexico, US – oil and gas (44 per cent working interest)
- Mad Dog, Gulf of Mexico, US – oil and gas (23.9 per cent working interest)
- Liverpool Bay, UK – oil and gas (46.1 per cent working interest and operator)
- Bruce/Keith, UK – oil and gas (16 per cent working interest and operator and 31.83 per cent working interest)
- Rod Integrated Development, Algeria – oil (45 per cent working interest)
- Greater Angostura, Trinidad and Tobago – oil and gas (45 per cent working interest and operator)
- Zamzama, Pakistan – gas and condensate (38.5 per cent working interest and operator)

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com.

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