



Anthony Roberts
Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT WELCOMES NORTHERN TERRITORY GAS PIPELINE

The NSW Government today welcomed the announcement by the Northern Territory Government for Jemena Northern Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd to construct and operate the North East Gas Interconnector (NEGI).

The new pipeline will link the Northern Territory to the East Coast Gas Market, from Tennant Creek to Mt Isa, making the territory's vast gas supplies available to east coast customers.

Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy, Anthony Roberts, said 1.3 million households, 33,000 businesses and more than 500 heavy industrial users in NSW will benefit from the new gas supplies.

"Increasing the supply of natural gas available to the market puts downward pressure on prices, increases security of supply and boosts competition in the wholesale gas market," Mr Roberts said.

"At present, NSW only produces 5 per cent of its gas needs, which is why diversifying and securing our gas supply is so crucial for the state's households and businesses.

"Action 14 of the NSW Gas Plan highlighted the government's commitment to support the construction of pipelines to deliver additional sources of supply, particularly from the Northern Territory."

Jemena, which owns and operates the NSW gas distribution network, was the successful bidder.

The Northern Territory Government found Jemena's proposal offered cheaper tariffs, cheaper gas processing costs and the option to increase the capacity of the pipeline prior to the laying of the first pipe if market conditions support increased capacity.

Jemena expects construction of the NEGI to be completed by 2018.