



Kimberley LNG Precinct

Factsheet 02



Site selection

James Price Point was chosen through an extensive selection process that initially considered more than 40 different sites in the Kimberley and alternatives such as off shore processing and piping the gas to the Pilbara for processing.

Eleven sites were subjected to more detailed examination and four were short listed. Issues taken into account included:

- the suitability of locations in terms of technical, environmental and Indigenous heritage constraints;
- proximity to the gas fields and to existing infrastructure;
- impacts on existing communities and on community and industry uses.

Independent Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) advice concluded that the James Price Point area was relatively unconstrained and impacts were likely to be manageable.

The location offers:

- flexibility in locating multiple processing operations and their facilities to meet heritage and environmental requirements;
- ease of expansion for two, or more than two LNG processing operators;
- no people living within 10 kilometres of the location.

Approvals required

The studies concluded that James Price Point was the location most likely to work for the Kimberley community, for the environment, for industry and for Western Australia's future economic development.

However, there are substantial Aboriginal title and heritage, environmental, social and economic impacts, including on pearling leases, and engineering issues that will need to be addressed before development proceeds.

There are also significant technical challenges to overcome, in planning for the precinct.

James Price Point is subject to large tidal movements and cyclonic winds and rainfall.

The area is covered in Pindan - a red, clayey sand up to 10 – 20 metres deep, over limestone formations, with distances from the coastline to deep water between 5.2 and 9.5 km.

The location for the precinct must be able to safely accommodate major facilities and offer reasonable access to deep water.

Impacts on the local ecology of excavation, dredging and construction need to be carefully managed.

Decision timeline

The Department of State Development is working towards a target of completing its studies and decisions by late 2010.

However, development of the precinct would require a commitment from a Browse basin operator to LNG processing at the precinct.

Woodside Energy Limited leads the Browse LNG Development joint venture which holds a resource of about 14 trillion cubic feet of dry gas and 370 million barrels of condensate.

The Joint Venture is currently considering James Price Point, or existing Woodside-operated facilities located near Karratha, a further 500km away.

A choice of location is expected by the middle of 2009 and a final investment decision late next year, but even then processing is unlikely before 2015-16.

**For further information
please visit:**

www.dsd.wa.gov.au/KimberleyLNG