ICHTHYS LNG PROJECT FUNDS HELIPAD UPGRADE

The Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) helipad has undergone a major upgrade thanks to the INPEX-operated Ichthys LNG Project.

The $500,000 upgrade, which includes improved lighting and the helipad almost doubling in size, is a significant boost to RDH’s ability to support critical care in emergency response situations.

Speaking at the helipad upgrade launch, INPEX general manager Darwin Sean Kildare said the team was proud that it would benefit everyone in the Top End.

"The upgrade means the helipad can now accommodate larger helicopters, like ours, with night lighting improvements that allow for landings 24-hours per day, Mr Kildare said.

"The increased capacity means that everyone using the helipad benefits, including emergency services, other industry operations and the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre."

Ichthys Project deputy offshore director Antoine Moreau said the upgrade was initiated as part of important health and safety contingency planning for the Ichthys LNG Project.

"INPEX identified Royal Darwin Hospital as the primary hospital facility for MEDEVAC transfers of the Project’s offshore workers if they were ever faced with a serious medical situation,” Mr Moreau said.

Northern Territory Chief Minister Adam Giles expressed his appreciation to the Ichthys LNG Project for the upgrade.

"INPEX and its Ichthys joint venture participants have again proven themselves to be good corporate citizens, by investing in this lifesaving infrastructure,” Mr Giles said.

"Construction of the Ichthys LNG Project is now at the half way point and is driving massive growth in the Territory economy.

"The upgraded helipad is a great community asset that will improve the medical services available to Territorians and I’d like to thank the Project for this investment in Northern Australia."

The upgrade was fully funded by the Project with works managed by the Northern Territory Government, which included excavation, groundworks, concrete works, painting, electrical works, roadworks, landscaping and installation of a new windsock.
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The upgraded helipad has been in use since April 2014.

RDH provides a broad range of services in all specialty areas to Darwin’s urban population as well as serving as a referral centre to the Top End of the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South-East Asia. The Top End population serviced by the hospital is about 150,000.

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About INPEX

INPEX CORPORATION is a worldwide oil and gas exploration and production company currently involved in more than 70 projects across 27 countries. INPEX is ranked in the top 100 global energy companies and is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. Part of the Australian business community since 1986, we are active in a number of projects in Australia and the Timor Sea, including the large-scale Ichthys LNG Project, Prelude FLNG project, Van Gogh, Ravensworth and Kitan oil projects, as well as the Bayu-Undan condensate development and associated Darwin LNG.

About the Ichthys LNG Project

The Ichthys LNG Project is a Joint Venture between INPEX group companies (the Operator), major partner TOTAL and the Australian subsidiaries of Tokyo Gas, Osaka Gas, Chubu Electric Power and Toho Gas. Gas from the Ichthys Field, in the Browse Basin offshore Western Australia, will undergo preliminary processing offshore to remove water and raw liquids, including condensate. The gas will then be exported to the onshore processing facilities in Darwin via an 889 km pipeline. The Ichthys LNG Project is expected to produce 8.4 million tonnes of LNG and 1.6 million tonnes of LPG per annum, along with approximately 100,000 barrels of condensate per day at peak. Detailed Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) of the Ichthys LNG Project is ongoing and production is scheduled to commence by the end of 2016. With an expected operational life of at least 40 years, the Ichthys LNG Project offers rare multi-generational opportunities to communities, economies, businesses, energy markets and its workforce.