INPEX Given Green Light for Onshore Exploration Acreage in Northern Territory, Australia

Tokyo, Japan - INPEX CORPORATION (INPEX) announced today the government of the Northern Territory (NT) in Australia announced INPEX’s successful bid to pursue an exploration permit for the onshore petroleum exploration acreage EPNT14-1 situated in the highly prospective Beetaloo Basin, around 500km southeast of Darwin.

The acreage area consists of 50 blocks totaling approximately 4,000km², with the nearest town being Daly Waters. Access to this acreage would provide INPEX with additional potential oil and gas resources for development.
“We are very pleased with today’s announcement,” said INPEX Director Australia Ventures, Tony Pytte. “While INPEX’s primary focus remains the delivery of the flagship Ichthys LNG Project, this announcement opens the door to possible greater INPEX investment in the Northern Territory.”

INPEX tendered for the right to pursue exploration following the NT Government’s release of acreage in June and July 2014.

“This is a successful first step in which INPEX was assessed on work programs, expertise and financial capacity,” Mr. Pytte said. “INPEX is proud its experience and record of responsible and safe exploration and development has helped earn it the right to pursue access to this acreage.”

Following this first step, INPEX expects a highly detailed and very closely monitored process of Native Title negotiation, overseen by the Department of Mines and Energy. The process, which is required for any future offer of an exploration permit, will also involve consultation with pastoral land lease holders and could take up to two years.

“As a global oil and gas exploration and production company, we actively pursue new opportunities to fulfil our growth aspirations. We will work hard to see this NT opportunity succeed,” Mr. Pytte said.

About INPEX
INPEX CORPORATION is a worldwide oil and gas exploration and production company based in Tokyo, Japan, with more than 70 active projects across 25 countries. Since 1966, INPEX has steadily expanded its business in Japan and in other parts of the world, from its core business areas in Australia and Indonesia to the Middle East, the Caspian Sea region, the Gulf of Mexico and North and South America. For more information, visit www.inpex.co.jp/english/index.html.

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