



Premier of Western Australia

Our Reference: 59-169227
Your Reference: Petition No. 141

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Mr  Swinbourn

I refer to your letter of 14 February 2020 addressed to the Hon Bill Johnston MLA in relation to Petition No. 141 – North West Shelf Extension which was tabled in the Legislative Council on 5 December 2019. As the *North West Gas Development Agreement Amendment Bill 2019* (Bill) falls within my portfolio, your letter has been referred to me for response.

A number of proposals relating to gas projects at the Burrup have been referred to the Environmental Protection Authority for its assessment under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), including the North West Shelf Extension. The Bill does not allow Woodside Energy Limited (Woodside) and its Joint Venture partners to implement proposals prior to obtaining approval under Part IV of the EP Act.

I am advised that an economic assessment by Acil Allen Consulting, on behalf of Woodside, has estimated that the potential benefits to Western Australia resulting from the NWS Extension and the Browse Liquefied Natural Gas Project includes a peak construction workforce of over 1800, around 720 operational jobs and an average operational expenditure of \$493 million per annum.

In addition, the State will also receive royalties from the Browse project for that component of the project in State waters.

In relation to the Community Development Plan and the Local Participation Plan, Woodside has made a commitment to publish a summary of the plans, as well as publically report on progress in relation to the relevant plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark McGowan', with a long, sweeping tail.

Mark McGowan MLA

PREMIER; MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT, JOBS & TRADE

- 5 MAR 2020