

## GAS TALKS IN JAPAN



A Japanese gas carrier loads at the Darwin LNG Plant at Wickham Point.

**IN JAPAN**, Chief Minister Clare Martin met with the President of Dow Pacific Jim McIlvenny - who now wants to investigate gas manufacturing opportunities in the Northern Territory.

"The top bosses of Dow in our region are impressed by our potential – and now want to see the facilities for themselves," Ms Martin said.

"Darwin is now established as a gas centre with the LNG plant at Wickham Point in production and exporting to Japan and we are pushing to establish a gas manufacturing base in Darwin with new projects based on ammonia, methanol, olefins and their derivatives."

Mr McIlvenny and Dow's Business Director of Hydrocarbons Donald Chen will visit Darwin later this year to inspect our facilities and look at possible manufacturing opportunities in the Territory.

Chief Minister Martin also met with the Senior Vice Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry Hiromichi Watanabe and representatives from Tokyo Gas.

Those talks included discussion about buying LNG and investing in gas industries as well as the development of the emerging technology of turning gas to liquids.

### Taking Kakadu to the world

**THE NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT** unveiled the first ever global campaign for Kakadu National Park, aimed at re-establishing it as a nature and culture icon.

Minister for Tourism Paul Henderson said the \$1.5 million campaign, which includes \$1 million from the NT Government and \$500,000 from Parks Australia, promotes the World Heritage-listed national park as a "must-do" destination.

The global campaign includes advertising features, online promotions, television advertising and trade activity and is scheduled to run until June.

The campaign aims to attract people to Kakadu all year round rather than just during the traditional peak tourist season.

An eight-page insert reaching more than six million people has been run in National Geographic's Traveller Magazine (US edition) and a Kakadu feature has been inserted into London's The Times newspaper.

### Green light for city development

**A NINE-STORY** apartment building on Darwin's Old Admiralty House site has been approved by the Development Consent Authority.

The Heritage Apartments, developed by Jalousie, will feature six three-bedroom units and three levels of parking.

There will be two penthouse apartments per floor with harbour views.

Construction is set to begin in April and is expected to take a year to complete.

### Satellite communications offered to remote communities

**PLATINUM CONNECT**, created by Territorian Andrew Thurlow, is offering cheap, high-speed satellite communications to the Territory's remote communities.

Every remote community in the Territory can now access high-speed internet connections via satellite, and in some cases for less than it costs in urban areas and major cities.

Customers in remote areas that do not have access to internet capabilities can get a satellite dish installed with no start-up costs and pay about \$30 per month for broadband satellite internet.

### Record Uranium output for ERA

**IN THE** December quarter of 2006, Territory uranium miner, Energy Resources of Australia, produced 1662 tonnes of uranium from its Ranger mine near Jabiru, 220 km east of Darwin.

That was a 51 percent increase on the September 2006 quarter, and a 3 percent increase on the December quarter in 2005.

The yield was welcome news to the miner who earlier had suffered interruptions from heavy rainfall and difficulties in production.