2018 Australian Offshore Petroleum Exploration Acreage Release

Ms Lisa Schofield
Offshore Resources Branch
June 2018
Australia’s Offshore Area – The Big Picture

Australian Government (federal)
• National policy and regulation:
  – Allocation of offshore petroleum titles
  – Environmental approvals
  – Fiscal, monetary and taxation policy
  – Foreign investment and trade

State/territory governments (regional)
• Regional regulation:
  – Allocation of petroleum and mining titles onshore and in coastal waters (to 3 nautical miles)
  – Collection of onshore royalties
The *Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006* (OPGGSA) and associated regulations provides the legal framework for the exploration and recovery of petroleum and for injection and storage of the greenhouse gas substances in offshore areas.
The Australian Government continues its efforts to increase the competitiveness of its oil and gas industry:

- Resources 2030 Taskforce
- Review of the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax
- Securing domestic gas supply
- Improving environmental consultation and transparency
- Enhancing innovation and fostering growth through industry growth centres
Pipeline Infrastructure

Extensive gas pipeline network connects east coast basins to east coast population centres and export terminals.

Western Australia and the Northern Territory have their own gas distribution networks.

Plans to connect the Northern Territory network to that of the eastern states.
Oil and Gas in Australia

- Over 50 years since first oil and gas discovery in offshore Gippsland Basin in the south east
- The North West Shelf has previously been the focus of activities
- Northern Carnarvon Basin is now Australia's premier province
- Production from Bonaparte Basin is increasing
- Browse to be next producer
- Vast regions remain underexplored offering frontier opportunities.
With more than 123,241 PJ reserves and 280,000 PJ of identified gas resources, Australia is in a prime position to supply the increasing gas demand from the Indo-Asia pacific region and as a global LNG leader Australia can also lead the development of new market opportunities.
Japanese Operations in Australia

- INPEX
- JERA Co.
- JX Nippon
- Kansai Electric Power Co.
- Mitsui & Co.
- Osaka Gas
- Toho Gas Co.
- Tokyo Gas

Figure: Offshore Permits with Japanese Operators © GPinfo
Bidding Opportunities: 2018 Acreage Release

• The 2018 acreage release was announced on 15 May 2018:
  – 21 areas are available for bidding
• Two bidding rounds are open now:
  – Round one closes 18 October 2018
  – Round two closes 21 March 2019
• Visit www.petroleum-acreage.gov.au for details
Offshore Petroleum Titles

- Exploration Permit
- Retention Lease
- Production Licence
- Pipeline Licence
- Infrastructure Licence
Future Acreage Releases

- Next acreage release expected to occur in July 2019 and involve:
  - A single round, of work program bidding only
  - Bidding closing in March 2020

- Nominate an area at any time:

- Subscribe to the Australian Petroleum News to be kept up to date:
  [website](http://industry.gov.au/AustralianPetroleumNews)
Further Information

- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science: 
  www.industry.gov.au
- 2018 acreage release:
  www.petroleum-acreage.gov.au
- Geoscience Australia:
  www.ga.gov.au
- National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator:
  www.nopta.gov.au
- National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority:
  www.nopsema.gov.au