



## **DOMGAS ALLIANCE URGES PREMIER TO STAND FIRM ON BROWSE**

The DomGas Alliance says Premier Colin Barnett is acting in the State's best interests in seeking to ensure the Browse gas project is developed as an on-shore project.

The Alliance says reported comments by the Prime Minister and Federal Opposition reveal a lack of understanding of the project's importance to Western Australian industry and jobs.

Alliance Executive Director Matt Brown says Canberra is taking a short-term view that puts Commonwealth tax revenue ahead of long-term job security for Western Australians.

"The latest public comments unfortunately show that the corporate spin of upstream producers is largely accepted as gospel in Canberra," Mr Brown said.

"Both the Federal Government and Opposition are wrong to suggest that it's a choice of having Browse as a floating LNG project or risk losing the project all together.

"The current WA Parliamentary inquiry into floating LNG has been told that the on-shore option for Browse would deliver a return on investment of 11.5 per cent. In other words, it works as an on-shore project.

"The inquiry also repeatedly challenged the project proponents on whether they would walk away from the project if they were forced to bring it on-shore. It was a challenge they refused to take up.

"In short, the inquiry did what Canberra refuses to do – it called the proponents' bluff.

"Talk of a floating LNG 'centre of excellence' in Perth is just embarrassing when compared to the thousands of WA jobs which rely on domestic gas supplies.

"Both the Federal Government and Opposition need to explain where Western Australia will source the reliable, competitively priced gas supplies needed for local economic development and local jobs if Browse goes ahead as a floating LNG project.

"Is Canberra seriously suggesting Western Australia should 'import' shipments of LNG from projects located just off our own coastline?"

Mr Brown said the Premier had shown he was a strong supporter of oil and gas development in WA but was taking a long-term view for the benefit of the State.

"Canberra has its eyes fixed firmly on the taxation revenue from individual projects, leading to a short-term project-by-project fixation," Mr Brown said.

"In contrast, the Premier is seeking the best long-term outcome in terms of regional development, indigenous job opportunities and ensuring the full potential of our off-shore and on-shore gas resources is realised."

**For further comment contact Matt Brown on 0419 813 171**