



Media Release

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PNG LNG Project *Upstream Early Works Contract Awarded*

PORT MORESBY – Esso Highlands Limited, an Exxon Mobil Corporation (ExxonMobil) subsidiary, as Operator of the PNG LNG Project, today announced that the Project has awarded a construction contract for Early Civil Infrastructure for the Upstream portion of the PNG LNG Project to Clough Curtain JV, a joint venture between Clough Niugini Ltd and Curtain Bros Papua New Guinea Limited.

The contract work scope includes the civil engineering, construction and site preparation work required to upgrade existing infrastructure and construct new infrastructure to enable full-scale construction to commence in early 2010.

The scope of work extends across a significant portion of the intended Upstream worksites including activities at Hides (proposed site of the Hides Gas Conditioning Plant), Kutubu (site of the existing oil project), Gobe (site of an existing airfield), and at Kopi, north-west of Kikori on the Kikori River (site of the existing oil project shore base).

The work scope is generally comprised of bulk earthworks and civil works, site boundary fencing, quarry development, landfill construction, specified road and bridge upgrades, laydown areas and camp facilities.

“It is another milestone for the PNG LNG Project as we approach a Project Sanction and Final Investment Decision. We are very pleased to have awarded this early works contract and look forward to working with the Clough Curtain JV as both companies have extensive experience in delivering infrastructure projects in PNG,” said Mr. Ken Larson, PNG LNG Project Executive.

“The Project will integrate the use of local workers and sub-contractors and we believe lessons and experience gained with this initial contract will be useful when the Project enters full construction.

“In the execution of this contract, the Project team will work with the Clough Curtain JV to ensure proper implementation of all environmental, archaeological, socioeconomic programs, and regulatory compliance measures as outlined in the Project’s environmental impact statement and environmental management plan,” said Mr. Larson.



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It is anticipated that execution planning will commence immediately, with execution activities commencing in the second half of the year.

The PNG LNG Project is an integrated venture including gas processing facilities, pipelines, and LNG plant facilities. Participating interests are ExxonMobil (Esso Highlands Limited as Operator) 41.5%, Oil Search 34.0%, Santos 17.7%, Nippon Oil 5.4%, Minerals Resources Development Company 1.2% and Eda Oil Limited 0.2%. (Participation will change when the PNG State nominees join as equity participants at a later date).

Clough Niugini is a subsidiary of Clough Limited, a publicly listed Australian based engineering, construction and assets support contractor. Curtain Bros Papua New Guinea is a private company and has been one of Papua New Guinea's largest civil construction companies since 1967.

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