

15th February - Nigel Grazia (Assistant Director, APPEA, Perth)

“A Healthy Outlook Amid Policy Puzzles”

The Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association has represented the petroleum industry at government levels since its establishment in 1959. Formerly located in Sydney, APPEA has taken steps to move closer to ‘where the action is’. This culminated in its relocation to Canberra and the recent establishment of its first State based office in Perth.

These developments are well justified. Both the State and Commonwealth Governments exercise their authority over the industry which produces some 45% of the nation’s oil and 50% of its gas from Western Australian based projects. During the past year Western Australia became Australia’s leading petroleum producer and for the first time, petroleum emerged as the State’s most valuable resource commodity.

This increased activity has not gone unnoticed. The policy makers have been busy and their expectations are high. 1996 promises to be an exciting year...but are we ready for it? Marine access, drilling approvals, DEP licenced premises and local content are all in for a shake up.

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