

Maret Islands Still An Option: Garrett

Federal Environment Minister Peter Garrett has refused to rule out allowing Japanese gas company Inpex to build a processing facility on the Maret Islands in northern Western Australia.

Garrett recently visited the West Kimberley to further investigate a state and Commonwealth proposal to build a gas processing facility in the region.

Inpex said its preferred option remains the Maret Islands but has not ruled out being part of the multi-user hub, which would process gas from the Browse Basin.

Garrett said the federal government is currently assessing the Inpex proposal.

"Any proponent, including Inpex, who makes and brings a proposal forward for assessment and consideration will be treated with due accordance with the law", he said.

"And that's what's happening at this point in time. It's not appropriate for me to make any comments about its merits or otherwise." ■