australian news

Gorgon Moves On With Clough Deal

hevron has let a \$300 MM contract to Clough and its partners with a view to finishing front-end engineering and design (FEED) for the massive Gorgon liquefied natural gas project offshore Western Australia next year.

This is the first formal announcement on the FEED process, which started in early 2005, since 2006. It also comes a month after Gorgon partners Chevron, Shell and ExxonMobil committed an extra \$1 B to getting the project to an investment decision.

Project operator Chevron has not delivered a cost estimate for Gorgon, which would be Australia's biggest resources project in years, but industry estimates run as high as \$30 B. The project aims to tap Australia's biggest gas resource in the Greater Gorgon field by building a three-train, 15 MM tpa LNG plant on Barrow Island.

Clough and its partners, Kellogg Brown & Root, JGC Corp and Hatch were awarded the initial FEED contract in early 2005.

Chevron plans to make an investment decision after the FEED is completed and after state and federal approval is gained for its recently announced third train.