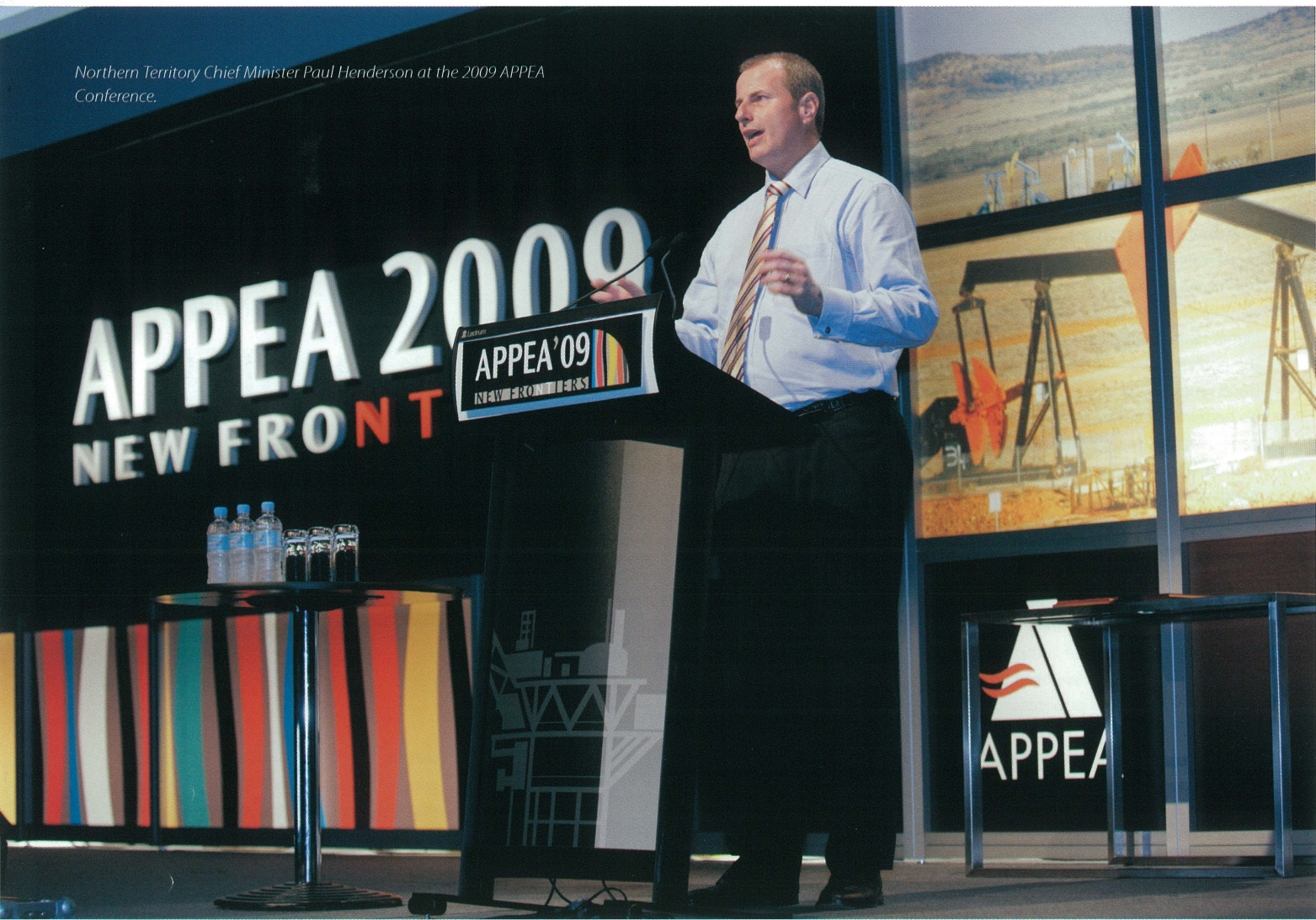


Northern Territory Chief Minister Paul Henderson at the 2009 APPEA Conference.



Northern Territory Overview

At the 2009 APPEA Conference held in Darwin, Northern Territory Chief Minister Paul Henderson delivered a speech titled 'Oil and Gas in the Territory: The Beginning of an Exciting Journey' in which he stated the commissioning of ConocoPhillips' LNG plant in Darwin Harbour was: "the beginning of Darwin taking its place as the nation's newest natural gas processing hub".

The Northern Territory Government has set its sights high; at the beginning of 2009 the decision of Japanese company Inpex to pipe its Browse Basin Ichthys field gas into Darwin Harbour for processing galvanised an already burgeoning industry.

It is estimated the Ichthys project will inject up to \$50 B into the Northern Territory economy over the next 20 years, making it the Territory's

single largest infrastructure project. In the LNG processing facility construction phase up to 2,000 jobs will be created, with 300 people to operate and maintain the plant over the project's 40-year lifespan.

"We are going to build a new city and new infrastructure", Henderson commented at APPEA. "We are building relationships with the region—in China and Japan, of course—but also in Indonesia, Timor Leste, the Philippines, Malaysia and Vietnam. The relationships we are building in our region must be strong, enduring and based on trust and respect.

"What we are planning now will transform and diversify our economy in much the same way that Aberdeen has been changed since the 1960s and the advent of North Sea oil—we have much to learn from their experience", he added.

"We are at the start of an exciting journey."

Ichthys aside, a number of significant projects are being undertaken in the Territory, including the Bayu-Udan, Sunrise and Blacktip developments.

Producing reserves in the Northern Territory include onshore natural gas in the Amadeus Basin and oil in the Meerinie field, with offshore production including the Laminaria, Corallina, Jabiru, Challis and Puffin fields.

Encompassing 1.35 MM km² onshore, the Territorial Waters, the Principal Northern Territory Offshore Area, the Eastern Greater Sunrise Offshore Area, and the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands Offshore Area, the Territory is host to a number of exploration opportunities. ■