



INPEX Australia Pty Ltd
ACN 134 715 254

22/100 St Georges Terrace Perth
Western Australia 6000

Tel +61 8 6213 6000

INPEX.com.au

Ref: C050-IPX----LE-70150

28 January 2026

Ms Marion Scrymgour MP
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

RE: Parliamentary Inquiry into Preparing for Emerging Industries across Northern Australia

Dear Chair,

INPEX welcomes the opportunity to engage with the Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia in its inquiry into preparing for emerging industries across Northern Australia. We commend the Committee and the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, the Hon Madeleine King MP, for their focus on the long-term economic development of Northern Australia.

INPEX CORPORATION is Japan's leading exploration and production company and has been a proud member of the Australian business community since 1986. As the largest Japanese investor in Australia, INPEX operates Ichthys LNG - one of the country's most significant and complex energy developments - and holds interests in Prelude FLNG, Coniston Van Gogh, Ravensworth, and Bayu-Undan/Darwin LNG.

INPEX also has a strong and growing focus on emissions-reduction and low-carbon energy. We are Operator of the Bonaparte Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Project (INPEX Browse E&P Pty Ltd 53%; TotalEnergies CCS Australia Pty Ltd 26%; Woodside Energy Ltd 21%) which was recently granted Major Project Status by the Australian Government in recognition of its strategic importance to national net zero emission objectives, and is expected to be Australia's first large-scale offshore CCS project.

INPEX also holds a 50 per cent stake in Potentia Energy, a joint venture with Enel Green Power, which has grown into one of Australia's largest renewable energy platforms, with substantial wind, solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) operations across Western Australia, New South Wales, South Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria.

Our strategic roadmap, INPEX Vision 2035, commits to expanding our global business by 60% and reducing carbon intensity by 60% by 2035¹. Australia remains a core investment destination for INPEX, and we are committed to maintaining long-term gas production at Ichthys LNG, supported by ongoing exploration and acquisitions, as well as

¹ INPEX Corporation, [INPEX Vision 2035](#), 13 February 2025

decarbonisation through the proposed Bonaparte CCS project and continued growth in renewable energy through Potentia Energy.

A large part of our Australian operations is in Northern Australia, specifically Darwin and the Kimberley. INPEX is committed to being a long-term investor in this region, which plays a key role in our current activities as well as our plans for future growth and decarbonisation.

INPEX believes the north of Australia has substantial untapped potential to host and support emerging industries. Realising these requires strong and sustained collaboration between government and industry, and clear, stable and predictable policy settings.

This includes ensuring the availability of enabling infrastructure, such as ports, energy, transport, logistics, and increasingly CO₂ transport and storage networks. It also requires coordinated approaches to workforce planning, skills development and regional liveability to ensure the people and capabilities needed to deliver and support complex projects can be attracted and retained in Northern Australia.

In line with these, we recommend the Committee consider four key areas to best prepare Northern Australia for emerging industries:

- recognising the important role of natural gas in energy security and the energy transition of Australia and the Indo-Pacific region;
- recognising and providing greater support for carbon capture and storage (CCS) to facilitate emission reductions and Australia's net zero targets;
- driving productivity through policy certainty and regulatory efficiency; and
- strengthening workforce planning.

INPEX has engaged regularly with the Australian Government on these matters and, over 2024 and 2025, made several related submissions. For the Committee's reference, we have attached copies of the most relevant of these, as well as a Maritime Workforce Position Paper commissioned by INPEX in partnership with the Australian Resources and Energy Employer Association (ARREA) and the maritime unions.

Additionally, we have provided input into the Australian Energy Producers (AEP) submission made to the Committee.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide our views on emerging industries in Northern Australia and the settings needed to best prepare for these opportunities. INPEX is proud to be part of these discussions and remains committed to Australia and to Northern Australia's long-term economic development.

For any questions or further discussion, please contact John Williams, Government Affairs and Regulatory Approvals Manager, at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

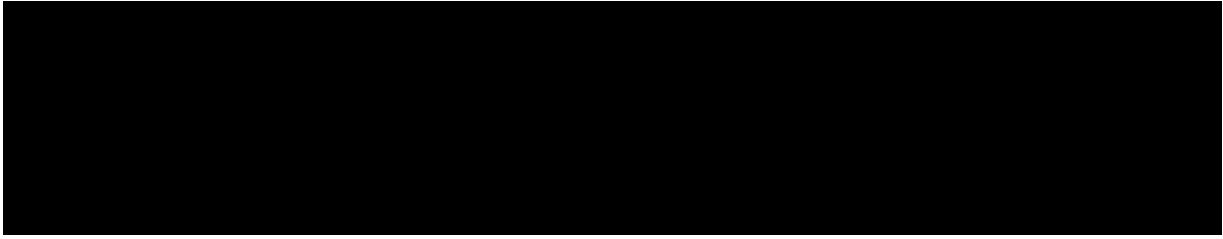
Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Bill Townsend

Senior Vice President Corporate

Attached documents:



- 2024 Maritime Workforce Position Paper