



Submission No 55

Inquiry into Australia's Relationship with Timor-Leste

Name: Mr Peter Clough

Organisation: Woodside Energy Ltd

Mr John Carter
Foreign Affairs Sub-committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
PO Box 6021, Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

3 April 2013

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 February 2013, concerning the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (JSCFADT) Inquiry into Australia's relationship with Timor-Leste and the invitation to prepare a public submission.

Woodside recognises the importance of the relationship between Australia and Timor-Leste with regards to bilateral relations and specifically, their joint resource, the Greater Sunrise fields.

Separately and under our role within the Sunrise Joint Venture, Woodside holds regular engagements with both the Australian and Timor-Leste Governments.

Please find enclosed an overview of Woodside's independent activities which may be of relevance to this Inquiry. Should the JSCFADT require further information, please let me know.

This submission should also be read in conjunction with the submission made by Woodside on behalf of the Sunrise Joint Venture. Please note that the other Joint Venture participants may also provide independent submissions.

Yours sincerely



Peter Clough
Government Affairs Manager

Woodside submission

Information relevant to the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Inquiry into Australia's Relationship with Timor-Leste

This submission should be read in conjunction with the submission made by Woodside on behalf of the Sunrise Joint Venture, as information contained within that submission has not necessarily been repeated again here.

Background

Woodside, the Sunrise Joint Venture, and the governments of Timor-Leste and Australia are aligned in their desire to develop the Greater Sunrise fields.

Woodside as part of the Sunrise Joint Venture believe that there is a window of opportunity to reach agreement on the development during 2013. Although recent engagements do not represent any agreement at this stage, we continue to build on dialogue and develop common ground with both governments to agree a way forward. Through ongoing dialogue, Woodside believes there is an opportunity to agree on a development which satisfies the key requirements of the commercial and government parties.

During 2012, Woodside as part of the Sunrise Joint Venture held a number of discussions with the Timor-Leste Government and participated in technical workshops. Woodside and the Sunrise Joint Venture also participated in a workshop with both the Australian and Timor-Leste Sunrise Commissioners in 2012. The workshop covered a range of commercial, technical, legal and political matters related to Greater Sunrise development.

Further engagement with both governments has been agreed and will occur during 2013. Further technical engagements have already taken place in 2013. Woodside and the Sunrise Joint Venture want to continue to work collaboratively and expand our level of engagement on all elements of the development.

More information can be found on our website: <http://www.woodside.com.au/Our-Business/Sunrise>

Woodside Community Relations and Social Investment

Woodside recognises that long-term and meaningful relationships with the communities where we operate are fundamental to maintaining our licence to operate.

We seek to achieve these relationships by understanding and managing the impacts we may have on our communities and through the development and implementation of programs that deliver mutual benefits.

More information on our approach can be found on our website: <http://www.woodside.com.au/Our-Approach/Our-Communities>

In addition to Woodside's involvement in the Sunrise Joint Venture's Social Investment Program, detailed within the submission made by Woodside on behalf of the Sunrise Joint Venture and via the following link:

<http://www.woodside.com.au/Our-Business/Sunrise/Documents/Sunrise%20LNG%20Development%20-%20Social%20Investment%20Brochure.pdf>, Woodside also runs a development program for Timor-Leste nationals detailed below.

Timor-Leste Professional Development Program

The program is a Woodside initiative providing Timor-Leste students with the opportunity to gain valuable technical, business and career development skills through vacation employment.

Woodside commenced the program in 2012, enabling five students currently studying at Australian-based universities to complete 12 weeks of vacation employment. The program demonstrates Woodside's commitment to professional development and capability building in the communities we have an interest in and is consistent with our Summer Intern Program and Indigenous Pathways Program.

NOTE: This submission should be read in conjunction with the submission made by Woodside on behalf of the Sunrise Joint Venture. Please note that the other Sunrise Joint Venture participants, namely ConocoPhillips STL Pty Ltd, Shell Development (Australia) Pty Ltd, and Osaka Gas Australia Pty Ltd. may also provide independent submissions.