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MEDIA RELEASE

\$19.8 million Bundaberg Port Gas Pipeline achieves new milestone – first pipes laid

The ambitious \$19.8 million Bundaberg Port Gas Pipeline has achieved another significant milestone.

Initial construction of the 28 kilometre major infrastructure project – forecast to provide a major economic boost for the broader Bundaberg region – commenced yesterday with the first of the piping laid.

To mark the occasion, Australian Gas Networks – the country's largest gas distribution business and the company contracted by the Queensland Government to build and operate the pipeline – organised a tour of the project with the Member for Bundaberg, Leanne Donaldson.

"Australian Gas Networks is delighted to be playing an integral role in delivering such a significant infrastructure project to the broader Bundaberg region," Australian Gas Networks Chief Operating Officer, Mr Andrew Staniford, said today.

"The Bundaberg Port Gas Pipeline – which is expected to deliver a major and much needed economic boost for the area – is progressing well," he said.

"Construction of the pipeline is now well and truly underway, and will take about six months to complete followed by tie-ins to facilities and gas commissioning.

"Everything is on target for the pipeline to be commissioned and fully operational in December.

"Importantly, construction of the pipeline is creating much needed jobs for the region."

Mr Staniford said a key function of the much-anticipated pipeline will be its support of the development of the new \$70 million Knauf Plasterboard facility.

Further, at the peak of the pipeline's construction up to 50 jobs will be created, including from the local workforce.

"Crucially, not only will the pipeline have the capacity to deliver a further 0.7 terrajoules of gas per day above that required to meet Knauf's needs, it also has the potential to fuel new business and industry, and create further new jobs in the area – and that is exciting news for the region."

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