



## Media Release

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### **ANZ, HGDC and Esso Highlands Limited sign agreement to commence banking services in Hides**



**Caption:** Esso Highlands Limited Senior Project Manager Mark Hackney, Hides Gas Development Company Limited Chairman Tuguyawini Libe Parindali and ANZ PNG Chief Executive Officer Vishnu Mohan at the signing ceremony in Port Moresby

ANZ PNG CEO, Vishnu Mohan, Hides Gas Development Company (HGDC) Chairman Tuguyawini Libe Parindali and Esso Highlands Limited (EHL) Senior Project Manager, Mark Hackney signed a joint agreement on Thursday 28 June 2012 to construct a new bank branch which will provide access to banking services for people living in and around the Hides area in Hela Province.

At the signing ceremony, ANZ PNG CEO, Vishnu Mohan, said: "ANZ is committed to further investment in our business in Papua New Guinea and we're pleased to be partnering with HGDC and be supported by EHL to provide the local business community and residents of the Hides area with better access to banking services.

"With a number of international companies based in the Hides area, we're now able to provide critical banking services and connect customers to our main branch in Port Moresby and to expertise across our regional network in Asia Pacific, Australia and New Zealand," said Mr Mohan.

HGDC Chairman, Mr Parindali said: "Greater Hides Area is a critical resources hub in PNG and with the Highlands' unique geographic location, we need a developed banking solution which will provide the area with a full service branch that is easily accessible. ANZ is

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providing our community with a critical banking service which we previously haven't had access to before."

"This branch of ANZ will provide an important benefit to the people of the region and a convenient way to begin to save for the future. EHL constantly looks for ways to bring value and improve the lives of the people of the communities in which we operate, and we're proud to be part of providing access to savings opportunities," Mr Hackney of EHL said.

The ANZ Hides area branch will be housed in a converted shipping container. ANZ opened its first 'banktainer' branch in March 2012 in Lihir for employees of Lihir Gold Mine in New Ireland Province.

ANZ commenced operations in Papua New Guinea in 1910 and has 15 branches, more than 55 ATMs, nearly 1,000 EFTPOS terminals and 600 staff.

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