

PRESS RELEASE

HIDES GAS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED TAKES COORDINATED APPROACH IN DEMOBILISING EMPLOYEES ATTACHED TO PNG LNG PROJECT CONTRACTORS

PORT MORESBY (21/08/2012): As the construction phase of the PNG LNG Project starts to scale down, various EPCs Contractors are commensurately scaling down their Hides Gas Development Company (HGDC) contracted workforce .

The demobilising of the HGDC workforce is an emotional and personal issue that requires enormous planning and logistical support to ensure that staff are treated with respect and dignity. With a project of this magnitude, HGDC has a big challenge ahead as more and more employees become redundant as the project slows down on the construction phase.

General Manager Andrew Pitman said, “Many of our employees are unskilled labourers who have no formal educational qualification and were employed straight from their village to work on this project. The PNG LNG Project has provided these workers the opportunity to up skill , gain valuable experience and hopefully transfer these newly acquired skills to other projects across Papua New Guinea .”

“With construction activities declining, many of these people will not be required on the project and as a responsible employer, HGDC has to ensure that our workforce has every opportunity to secure employment on other PNG Projects or resettle back into village life.”

To prepare them for life after the PNG LNG Project, HGDC has organised a “Demobilisation Pack” which contains a Certificate of Service, a Letter of Appreciation, Nasfund Statement and a small gift that the employees take away. The employee data is also kept by HGDC so that the employee can be immediately contacted in the event an employment opportunity comes up in any project throughout the country.

“We are talking to companies within the project area if they have immediate vacancies that can be filled by people who are being demobilised,” Mr Pitman said.

He said that HGDC’s experience in supplying and managing such a large labour workforce for the PNG LNG Project and having access to a significant pool of employees now opens a commercial window of opportunity for HGDC to supply manpower to other large projects in the country.

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For further information contact Eric Tapakau- Media & Public Affairs Coordinator on +675 321 4360 or +675 7190 3083 or etapakau@hgdcpng.com