

Hope for Aboriginal LNG link

Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley will be given a chance to seize the potential for developing onshore processing facilities on the back of the region's multi-billion-dollar liquefied natural gas industry.

Alan Carpenter warned yesterday that the communities could risk losing the opportunities of developing the onshore facilities but said Aboriginal residents would not be forced to accept the processing facilities.

Mr Carpenter told State Parliament that Brendan Hammond, who heads the Government's Office of Development Approvals Coordination, would canvass Aboriginal communities to assess support for onshore LNG projects.

He said the Government wanted to start consultations to find a suitable site to develop onshore LNG facilities.

Mr Carpenter said in addition to onshore facilities, offshore islands and processing on the Burrup Peninsula or in the Northern Territory were options for LNG processing.