

# Henderson promises no danger to fishing from Inpex plant

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The Chief Minister Paul Henderson has given an "absolute assurance" that the proposed Inpex gas plant will not affect recreational fishing in Darwin Harbour.

The twelve billion dollar project is proposed for Blaydin Point on the harbour's Middle Arm.

Mr Henderson says the development will go through a rigorous approval process.

"LNG is not a polluting industry. The gas plant is not polluting Darwin Harbour and certainly that type of scaremongering will not be bought out by the environmental process - the very strict environmental process - that Inpex will have to go through if they choose to do their development in Darwin."

The Government's proposed location for the plant remains under attack from independent member Gerry Wood.

Addressing a group of 30 protesters last night, Mr Wood accused Planning Minister Delia Lawrie of having a conflict of interest over the proposed development.

"The minister in a small notice in the gazette said 'I will be the Development Consent Authority', so here you have a government who says 'We want Inpex here, we'll pick a point for it at Blaydin Point, we now have a minister who decides if that should go ahead'.

"Well, talk about a conflict of interest."

The minister has responded by saying the Government has a thorough and transparent planning process, and the chairman of the Development Consent Authority will conduct a public hearing into the site of the proposed plant.

She says Mr Wood often labels those who disagree with him as having a conflict of interest.