Alkatiri refuses to join negotiation team

Diario Nacional, May 16, 2011. Summarized and translated from Tetun.

Former Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri who is also Fretilin Party Secretary-General has refused to join the country's negotiation team for the Greater Sunrise gas and oil field pipelines. Alkatiri said he does not want to join the team which is led by the Parliamentary Majority Alliance (AMP). "I do not want to join it, it is not the time to discuss about this and it is time to talk about elections," Alkatiri said. Alkatiri was proposed by President Jose Ramos-Horta to join the negotiation team, but the members of the AMP refused him to join it.

Alkatiri: Fretilin will improve negotiation of LNG plant of Greater Sunrise in 2012

Suara Timor Lorosa'e, May 17, 2011 Summarized and translated from Tetun.

Secretary General of Fretilin, Mari Alkatiri, said Fretilin will improve the results of the negotiations regarding the LNG plant from Greater Sunrise in the Timor Sea to Timor-Leste. "When Fretilin gets power in 2012, Fretilin will improve the negotiation process on the LNG plant, because it is too late to improve it under this administration. I wanted to help the negotiation process, but they refused. Now if this government wants me to get involved in these negotiations, I will refuse." Alkatiri said. Alkatiri refused to get involved in the LNG pipeline negotiation, because there are only nine months left before elections. President Pedro Mártires da Costa of Parliament Committee G on Infrastructure and Public Works, said the USA will never get involved in the LNG negotiation process, because they respect the rights of people of Timor-Leste. MP Pedro da Costa made the statement after he held a meeting with the USA Ambassador in Timor-Leste in the Committee G office in the Parliament.

Greater Sunrise negotiations positive: Task Force team

Independente, May 26, 2011 language source: Summarized and translated from Tetun.

The Greater Sunrise Task Force team Coordinator, Francisco da Costa Monteiro, said negotiations on Greater Sunrise are more positive than last year. "Our negotiation is going on independently and is going to succeed the negotiations which were made last year," Monteiro said. Monteiro also denied allegations by certain people that the negotiation process is deadlocked. Monteiro added that they will make efforts to build the Greater Sunrise's pipeline to Timor-Leste, as it will help improve the Timorese lives economically.