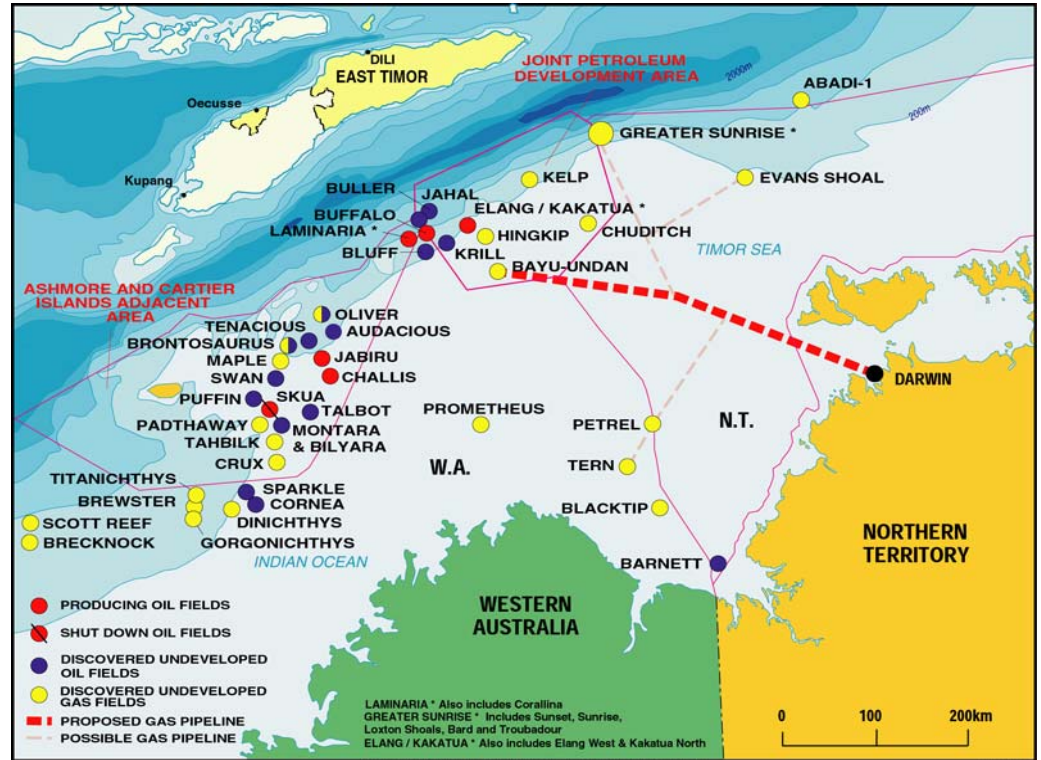


# Oil & Gas

## EVANS SHOAL GAS FIELD



Timor Sea Oil & Gas fields

### LOCATION

The Evans Shoal gas field is located in the Timor Sea, 300 km north-west of Darwin and about 200 km south-south-east of the Greater Sunrise fields. The field is in permit NT/P48.

### PARTICIPANTS

Current participants are:

<i>Shell Development (Australia) Pty Limited</i>	50%
<i>Natural Gas Australia Ltd* (Operator)</i> <i>(formerly Timor Sea Petroleum NL)</i>	40%
<i>Osaka Gas Australia Pty Ltd</i>	10%
*Subsidiary of Santos Ltd	

The permit is wholly within Australian territorial waters and is administered by the Northern Territory Government on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Timor Sea Petroleum NL (TSP), now escape3D Limited (ESP), recently transferred its interests in permit NT/P48 to subsidiary company Natural Gas Australia Ltd (NGA).

## HISTORY

Permit NT/P40 was awarded to Mesa Australia Ltd, Tricentrol Exploration Overseas Ltd and P&O Energy in 1985. WMC subsequently purchased Mesa's interest and became permit operator.

- 1985:** 2,000 km of seismic was recorded.
- 1988:** BHP Petroleum discovered the Evans Shoal gasfield by drilling Evans Shoal-1 under a farm-in agreement with WMC. The title was subsequently surrendered as the discovery was considered to be of little commercial interest.
- 1996:** Permit NT/P48 was granted to Timor Sea Petroleum NL.
- June 1996:** Shell farmed-in to NT/P48.
- August 2000:** Osaka Gas purchased a 10% share of the field, along with 10% of the Greater Sunrise fields.

## PROJECT

Proved and probable recoverable dry gas resources are currently estimated to be around 6.6 trillion cubic feet (187 billion cubic metres) net of CO<sub>2</sub>; however, appraisal is needed to refine these estimates. The CO<sub>2</sub> content of Evans Shoal is currently estimated at 28%.

Under the terms of the farm-in agreement, in 1998, Shell funded a 40,000 km 2-D seismic survey across NT/P48 and neighbouring NT/P47 (Wonarah) and two exploration and appraisal wells, at a cost of A\$50 million. Evaluation of initial results from Evans Shoal-2 exploration well indicated that a mean gas-in-place volume of 17 trillion cubic feet is possible, including some condensate. The amount of recoverable hydrocarbon gases is the subject of on-going studies.

The Evans Shoal field formed part of the study undertaken by Shell and Woodside to investigate the feasibility of a two-train 7.5 Mtpa liquefied natural gas (LNG) and domestic gas project to be based in Darwin. It was originally planned to jointly develop Evans Shoal with the Greater Sunrise fields, in partnership with Shell and Woodside (NAGV), for export of LNG and a domestic gas project. Under this proposal, Evans Shoal would be connected via an offshore pipeline to the Sunrise project and brought on stream as depletion of the Greater Sunrise fields occurred.

The Greater Sunrise and Evans Shoal fields will be developed separately. Further appraisal work is required for the Evans Shoal field prior to a final decision on development options.

Independent of the joint Shell/Woodside and Timor Sea Petroleum NL (TSP) study, a scoping study was undertaken for TSP by Kvaerner, Ove Arup and Thompson Clarke Shipping. The scoping study examined the concept, design and costing for construction of a high volume methanol and gas reforming facility on a concrete gravity structure located in shallow water, using gas from the adjacent Evans Shoal gasfield.

*Current at August 2003*

The first phase of the conceptual facility would have a production capability of 5,000 tonnes of methanol per day (1.725 Mtpa). The project design would also incorporate a second phase of development, where production facilities could be expanded to 10,000 tonnes per day (3.45 Mtpa). Methanol Australia has completed an EIS which was submitted to the Commonwealth Government in June 2002.

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*Current at August 2003*