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## **RE: RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONSULTATION STAGE 2**

I am writing on behalf of Arnhem Earthmoving & Mechanical Pty Ltd (AEM), which is a locally owned and operated earthmoving business, established by myself, Anthony Simpson, and my wife Jodie Simpson, in 2008.

Since commencement we have watched the mining and earthmoving industry go through a boom bust cycle continuously in the Northern Territory, due to seasonal and economically fluctuations.

AEM have been given a massive opportunity to work in the gas and oil industry, in the Beetaloo Basin, potentially providing our business with ongoing work. AEM have a local, Northern Territory workforce, which we have upskilled to comply with the requirements of Oil & Gas. AEM have also upgraded its Management System, which then allows AEM to compete in the Oil & Gas arena.

It has been suggested that the gas industry activities not be allowed during the wet season. On behalf of our business and its employees, we provide 100% support to Origin's claim that there will be no technical, safety or environmental reason why construction activities could not be carried out within the Beetaloo Basin during the Northern Territories wet season period.

From a local business perspective, such advantages to continue works throughout the Wet Season, include;

- The ability to provide employees with full time employment packages which will in fact retain skilled, local operators for our business
- Provide employees with financial securities and wellbeing throughout the whole 12 months of the year;
- A smooth consistent cash flow, which assists consistency throughout the chain of supply to our business.

In addition to the above points, the works AEM would carry out, are projects such as construction and maintenance of site access roads, construction of Lease Pads and water storage management. Environmental benefit to carry out these works during the NT Wet season, is the reduction of water useage in construction and dust suppression, therefor only a fraction of the water would be needed to carry out these works.

The Daly Waters area is less prone to Monsoon & Storm Serge than the upper reaches of the Northern Territory. AEM understand there would be occasions when the rain would affect and delay works, which would be managed by utilising AEM's Management Systems. These delays would be of minimal impact to the business operations and where work can be carried out safely and efficiently, AEM would continue construction works if granted.

Should you wish to discuss my letter further, please contact me on

Regards

**ANTHONY SIMPSON** 

**MANAGING DIRECTOR** 

29 August 2017