

# gas week brief

## IRAQ

### Cole makes spies cough up AWB

**info:** Australian spy organisations ASIS, ASIO, ONA and the Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO) all received "notices to produce" from the Cole inquiry on 17 February, reported *The Australian* (17/3/2006, p.1). They delivered the material to the inquiry on 24 February which was promptly declared classified for reasons of national security.

### Spy documents shaken, not stirred:

However, a so-called "distillation" of the material, removing all information that might identify the spies or how the material was collected, was made public on 16 March which revealed that spies had known since September 2001 that Iraq was demanding "transport fees" and commissions of 10 per cent be applied to all humanitarian goods delivered to the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr and that the arrangement was "rigidly enforced", but none of the intelligence mentioned AWB by name and at least one suggested Australia's wheat exporter was not paying bribes.

### Spook documents reveal knowledge:

Although the Howard Government has said countless times it had never heard of Alia until sometime last year, when the UN announced that Alia was funnelling millions of dollars to Iraq for AWB, the Cole inquiry has revealed that Australian spies have known for

eight years that Alia was a front company for Saddam, reported *The Australian* (17/3/2006, p.1).

### War all about hegemony and oil:

The Iraq war had little to do with weapons of mass destruction and nothing to do with terrorism, but everything to do with America's determination to safeguard and enhance its global ideological, economic and military hegemony, wrote Andrew Wilkie, former Australian Army lieutenant-colonel and senior intelligence analyst who resigned from the ONA in the lead-up to the Iraq war, in *The Age* (18 March 2006, p.9). Iraq's deposits are huge and Saddam's power to decide how much he produced, whom he sold it to and in what currency he would be paid was long a much more worrying issue for Washington than his weak armed forces and contained WMD program.

### Iraq kickback skimming \$US2bn:

American intelligence officials have estimated that Iraq received \$230m-240m in bribes from those eager to buy its oil under the oil-for-food programme overseen by the UN, but Chang-Tai Hsieh and Entice Moretti of the University of California, Berkeley, have suggested that it got \$700m-2 billion, reported *The Economist* (18/3/2006, p. 68). Bidders were happy to offer bribes, kickbacks and political favours to secure Iraqi oil that was much cheaper

than the Arabian Light alternative and they could theoretically pay up to \$5 billion and still break even.

## IRAN

**Iran airstrikes fear:** An updated version of the Bush Administration's 2002 national security strategy identified Iran as the country that may pose the biggest danger to the United States, raising fears the US would resort to airstrikes to prevent Iran acquiring nuclear weapons, according to Kenneth Davidson, a senior columnist in *The Age* (20/3/2006). Why the US would risk widening Gulf War II to include Iran when it still has the chance to limit its losses to Iraq? The most popular explanation is that the US wants to pre-empt the Iranian decision to set up a Tehran oil bourse to facilitate the selling and buying of oil in euros instead of US dollars.

### China, Russia block Iran deadline:

Russia, backed by China, has blocked Western moves for a UN Security Council statement aimed at quashing Iran's nuclear ambitions, reported *The Australian* (22/3/2006 p.8). The UNSC has been unable for two weeks to issue a draft statement telling Iran to stop uranium enrichment efforts the West claims are a cover for bomb-making, but US Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns said: "We remain convinced we will see a statement. It just may take a couple more days."

## LNG

### California gasping for pricey gas:

California is desperately short of natural gas supplies, reported *The Australian Financial Review* (17/3/2006, p.60). Gas prices at the main US gas trading terminal, Henry Hub, rose to record levels during the recent winter, peaking at close to \$US16 per unit (1000 cubic feet of gas) as supplies ran low, partly as a result of restricted supplies following the two big Gulf of Mexico hurricanes late last year.

### Woodside's less costly LNG

**transport:** Woodside Petroleum's desperation to gain a foothold in the highly lucrative United States natural gas market has led to a new engineering concept using shipboard gas conversion technology linked to an underwater pipeline system to carry gas to the US west coast, reported *The Australian Financial Review* (17/3/2006, p.60). The Ocean Way liquefied natural gas tanker system eliminates the need for a costly, specialised LNG conversion terminal on or near the coast.

**LNG ships play the market:** Unlike oil, gas has been traditionally impossible to ship except through pipelines. So a surplus of gas in the US would drive prices down, perhaps at the same time they were soaring in Britain because of a cold spell, reported *The Age* (20/3/2006, p.3). But that was starting to

change, as the volume of liquefied natural gas transported by ship grows and those ships can turn around if one market will pay much more than another for gas.

## POLICY

**Feds mull tax incentives:** Australia faces a shortfall of locally refined petrol by 2012 – and even higher prices at the pump, reported *The Age* (21/3/2006, p.1). Federal Resources Minister Ian Macfarlane is pushing a budget plan offering millions of dollars in tax breaks to companies undertaking risky exploration for oil, gas and minerals.

## MARKET WATCH

**Volatility warning from JP Morgan:** The record close in the local market benchmark capped off its fastest ever 1000-point gain, but strategists are hosing down expectations among investors about the index reaching 6000 in similarly quick time, reported *The Australian Financial Review* (21/3/2006, p.S3). According to JP Morgan, the market in aggregate is trading at a price-to-earnings ratio of about 14.7 times, slightly below its average for the past decade of just over 15, which pointed to greater volatility in the coming months and a greater dispersion in the market gains.

## MERGERS & TAKEOVERS

**Anzon's \$195m hostile Nexus bid:** Anzon has offered one of its shares for every two Nexus shares, valuing the target's stock at about 64pc each, although Nexus shares quickly surged way past the offer price to close at 70pc a share, reported *The Australian Financial Review* (21/3/2006, p.11). The Anzon bid, which comes after the two companies failed to complete preliminary friendly merger talks, may also trigger rival offers from the likes of Beach Petroleum or possibly Santos.

## QLD REGULATION

**QCA requests time to consider:** The Queensland Competition Authority said an extension of time was required to allow thorough consideration of the submissions received from Allgas Energy Pty Ltd and Envestra Limited for revised access arrangements, prior to the Authority releasing its Final Decision in May this year. The total period for approval was extended to 30 May 2006. Any queries can be directed to Gary Henry on (07) 3222 0555 or emailed to gas.submissions@qca.org.au

## QLD

**Cheap electricity draws foreigners:** Believe it or not, Australia can produce the seamless tubing used

for oil and gas pipelines more cheaply than India can, reported *The Australian* (19 March 2006, p.11). That is why an Indian company is planning to take a 35 per cent stake in a new plant to produce the tubing to be built near Ipswich in Queensland. The main reason Australia can produce seamless tubing - which is also widely used in the mining sector - more cheaply is due largely to power costs, an enormous slice of the cost of steel products. In India, steelmakers pay about US12c a kilowatt hour; here it is about US3c.

## WA

**WA biodiesel fuel crunch:** Australia's annual demand for diesel is 14 billion litres a year, with WA using about 2.5 billion litres, reported *Farm Weekly* (16/3/2006, p.49). For WA to meet this demand with biodiesel, it would need to devote eight million hectares to an oilseed crop, which is about 20 times the average area under canola. An alternative is to import palm oil, which is about 30pc cheaper than canola oil.

## VIC

**Hearing probes Origin's project:** The panel appointed to consider the environmental effects of Victoria's proposed Mortlake Power Station commenced its public hearing in Mortlake on 20 March and is expected to conclude this Friday, 24 March. Origin Energy is proposing to construct a natural gas-fired power station near Mortlake. The panel

will consider the contents of the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) released by Origin in November 2005, as well as submissions made by the public.

## SANTOS SQUILLIONS

**Santos chief laughing all the way:** Santos managing director John Ellice-Flint stands to receive \$4.25 million this year, a jump in remuneration of 31 per cent, reported *The Advertiser* (18 March 2006, p.65). His \$81,730-a-week package is believed to be the most ever paid to an SA public company chief executive,

**Fun doesn't stop until August 2009:** John Ellice-Flint has won an extension to his employment contract from January 2006 until at least August 2009, reported *The Australian Financial Review* (18 March 2006, p.13). He will be eligible for short-term incentives of up to 150 per cent of the base with 50 per cent of the incentive bonus to be invested in Santos shares escrowed for two years.

## AGL-ALINTA

**Liberal attitude to takeover:** The AGL-Alinta battle recently took a political turn, reported *The Sydney Morning Herald* (17/3/2006, p.33). It appeared AGL had employed the services of Crosby Textor, the Canberra lobby group best known

for its links to the Liberal Party. The firm has three directors – London-bound rock kicker Robert Champion de Crespigny, pollster Mark Textor and former Liberal president Lynton Crosby – and worked on the British Conservative Party's losing campaign last year while Alinta has engaged ad agency Dewey & Horton, which has worked on the past three Federal Liberal campaigns.

**The great race to get 50pc:** Forget about the nuances of an Alinta-led merger with AGL or an AGL-led merger with Alinta, it's now a straight takeover contest between them, reported *The Australian* (21/3/2006, p.24). The race is on to see which company can get to more than 50 per cent ownership, and therefore control, of the other.

**Both agree on merger, but quibbles:** Alinta and AGL agree a merger makes sense but disagree over valuation, management control and structure of the demerged companies, reported *The Australian Financial Review* (21/3/2006, p.11). "Since we have had no success engaging with the AGL's board or management, we think it's time AGL's real owners – the shareholders – had the chance to decide," Alinta chief executive Bob Browning said.

**AGL banking on protection:** AGL still has options, and two powerful investment banking houses in its corner in UBS and Goldman Sachs JBWere, according to *The Australian Financial Review* (21/3/2006, p.11).

They won't sit back and let AGL be rolled, especially by a company advised by their rival, Macquarie Bank.

**AGL retail shareholders in spotlight:** Alinta's move to go hostile acknowledges that AGL's retail shareholders are likely to be loyal and do whatever chair Mark Johnson tells them to do, according to *The Australian Financial Review* (21/3/2006, p.11). Having said this, recent AGL annual meetings have had large protest votes against rewards paid to former chief executive Greg Martin.

**Santos opportunity as debt creeps?** Alinta is in debt up to its bootstraps, having borrowed \$1.2 billion to fund its initial AGL share splurge, and may struggle to sweeten its offer with cash, reported *The Sydney Morning Herald* (22/3/2006, p.32). After its Southern Hydro splurge, AGL would be watching its credit rating nervously too. What chance Santos will emerge from the shadows and show its hand as willing to take assets nobody wants or can afford?

**Alinta's crafty AIH plan:** Alinta plans to use its listed offshoot, Alinta Infrastructure Holdings (AIH), to help fund its takeover bid for AGL, reported *The Sydney Morning Herald* (22/3/2006, p.31). If Alinta gets between 50.1 per cent and 89.9 per cent, it will still not be able to pull off a complete merger but it will be able to break AGL up into its energy

and infrastructure components, with Alinta then selling its share in AIH down to 20 per cent and AIH taking up what its parent sells.

**AIH's Eastern Gas Pipeline contract:** AIH Investment group AIH has secured a new gas transportation contract on the Eastern Gas Pipeline, and expects the usage of the asset to continue to grow, reported *The Canberra Times* (18/3/2006, p.19). The new contract will see about 4.9 petajoules of gas transported on the pipeline on a take-or-pay basis over the 2006 winter period as an existing customer also increased its haulage service yesterday by 6.1 petajoules for 2006.

## POLLUTION

**Shell blunder kills crabs:** Shell Refining pleaded guilty to a water pollution charge brought by the Environment Protection Authority and was ordered to pay \$50,000 to Conservation Volunteers Australia for environment restoration work and conservation education initiatives at Serendip Wildlife Reserve, in relation to a discharge of hydrocarbon-based material/oils and by-products into the waters of Corio Bay from the boundary of Shell's Corio refinery on or about 22 April 2005, according to a notice in *The Australian Financial Review* (20/3/2006, p.11). The simultaneous failure of a groundwater sump pit pump and non-return valve resulted in a discharge that adversely impacted on a number of sandworms and crabs in the foreshore area immediately adjacent to the refinery.

## CHINA

**China plans strategic oil reserves:** Beijing has been mapping out plans to store oil in strategic reserves at four main locations around China, reported *The Australian* (20/3/2006, p.37). The chief executive of Energy Falcon, an energy consultancy in Beijing, Han Xiaoping, said the US and China should work together on natural gas exploration, perhaps with US companies becoming more active in China.

## BRITAIN

**Blighty shivers as gas cut-offs loom:** Britons shivered through a cold snap at the start of this week when temperatures plunged to unseasonable lows, reported *The Economist* (18/3/2006, p.54). The first-ever "balancing alert" was issued by National Grid, the company that runs the gas network, and on 13 March the firm warned that tight supplies meant big industrial users might face cut-offs.

## Tender

**NAT: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) – Supply of Natural Gas to CSIRO Sites in Victoria.** No: CSIRO2006-021. Contact: Michael Terry, ph: (07) 3214 2797, fax: (07) 3214 2710, email: michael.terry@csiro.au *Closing: 6 April 2006*

## Public Notice

**NAT: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Call for Public Submissions.** The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade invites public submissions and comment on issues relevant to the review of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC) being conducted during 2006. EFIC provides finance and insurance facilities in support of Australian exporters. Periodically, the Australian Government reviews the EFIC's operations and in particular, the export finance, insurance and guarantee services required by Australian exporters and the extent of private sector willingness and capacity to provide these services. The terms of reference for this review are available on-line at [http://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/export\\_finance\\_policy.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/export_finance_policy.html). Contact: Trade Finance Section, Trade Development Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, BARTON ACT 0221, ph: (02) 6261 1481, fax: (02) 6112 1481, email: [efic.review@dfat.gov.au](mailto:efic.review@dfat.gov.au) *Closing: 21 April 2006*

## Employment

**INT: ETH Zurich - Professor / Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in Economics / Energy Economics.** Responsible for the economic modelling of energy economics and energy policy issues, as well as the theoretical and empirical valuation of technical options in the area

of energy use in a rapidly changing economic and technical environment. Should have an outstanding international research record in these and related fields and a broad general teaching experience. Contact: President of ETH Zurich, Prof. Dr E. Hafen, ETH Zentrum, CH-8092 Zurich. *Closing: 15 April 2006*

**INT: RasGas – Analyser Engineer.** No: RG-12. To provide Process, Gas, Liquids and Environmental Analyser technical expertise to the RasGas Expansion Group (Onshore and Offshore) in relation to all installed Analysers and sampling systems and confirm the integrity of these assets to ensure they are safe for operation and are optimised for reliability, availability and performance which covers the Commissioning and Start-up Phase of the Project followed by the period that the New Facilities will be operated by The RasGas Expansion Group until the Facilities are finally handed over to RasGas Operations. This includes covering preventative, predictive and breakdown maintenance in all disciplines. The Incumbent will also be required to provide expert technical advice and support as required on the design, construction and modification of all Analyser, Analyser Sampling Systems together with vendor and contractor support. Leads investigations relating to problems, design, and will recommend and implement modifications as required. Should have a Bachelor of Science in Engineering or equivalent (preferably Control Systems, Electrical or Chemical) with minimum 15 years diversified experience in the Maintenance of Petrochemical process plants, certified within their area of expertise. Must Gas Chromatographs and Sample conditioning systems; experience in Gas, Fluids and Environmental on-line Process Analysers; experience in microprocessor based Fire and Gas systems would also be an advantage. Experience of working in an LNG Plant would be a distinct advantage. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080) 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: [jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au](mailto:jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au) website: [www.focusedrecruitment.com.au](http://www.focusedrecruitment.com.au)

**INT: RasGas – DCS/Controls Engineer.** No: RG-13. To provide Engineering DCS and Control expertise to the RasGas Expansion Group (Onshore and Offshore) in relation to all control data bases of the Distributed Control System (Foxboro I/A DCS). Control data backup, process displays and control database integrity, software and hardware DCS related operational and functional procedures and hardware/ Software sub-systems interface with DCS and Integrated Control and Information Management Systems. Should have a Bachelor of Science in Engineering or equivalent (preferably Control Systems or Electrical) with a Minimum of 15 years diversified experience in the Maintenance of Oil/ Gas process plants DCS Control Systems, certified within their area of expertise with a minimum 5 years supervisory experience and experience of working in an LNG Plant would be a distinct advantage. Must have experience in Process Control Database Management and control schemes. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: [jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au](mailto:jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au) website: [www.focusedrecruitment.com.au](http://www.focusedrecruitment.com.au)

**INT: RasGas – Electrical Supervisor.** No: RG-17. To provide Electrical Supervision/Expertise and to direct and control a Multi - Discipline Team carrying out Commissioning, Start-up and daily maintenance activities associated with the LNG Process Train, Offsite Facilities, Utilities and Offplot Utilities. Should have a Higher national certificate or diploma (HNC or HND) or equivalent from a recognized Institution with minimum 15 years diversified experience in the Maintenance of Oil/Gas process plants, certified within the area of expertise with 5 years in a Supervisory capacity; extensive knowledge of Electrical equipment including Power Generation and excitation systems, HV/LV Power distribution, Switchgear, HV/LV Electrical Motors and associated protection relays, UPS systems and procedures associated with hydrocarbon plants and extensive knowledge of Hydrocarbon and LNG Plant safety procedures. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: [jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au](mailto:jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au) website: [www.focusedrecruitment.com.au](http://www.focusedrecruitment.com.au)

**INT: RasGas – Instrument Supervisor.** No: RG-16. To provide Instrument Supervision/Expertise and to direct and control a Multi - Discipline Team carrying out Commissioning, Start-up and daily maintenance activities associated with LNG Process Trains, Offsite Facilities, Utilities and Offplot Utilities. Should have a Higher national certificate or diploma (HNC or HND) or equivalent from a recognized Institution with minimum 15 years diversified experience in the Maintenance of Oil/Gas process plants, certified within the area of expertise with 5 years in a Supervisory capacity; experience and knowledge of Plant Process Instrumentation including Smart Transmitter Technology, Custody Metering and LNG Tank Gauging and a clear understanding of microprocessor based technology associated with these instrument systems and their respective Interfaces to Foxboro DCS, Triconex ESD Modicon PLC or equivalent systems. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: [jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au](mailto:jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au) website: [www.focusedrecruitment.com.au](http://www.focusedrecruitment.com.au)

**INT: RasGas – Maintenance and Systems Support Superintendent.** No: RG-10. To review EPC Contractor provided Recommended Spare Parts list (RSPL) and recommend Spares Stocking levels; ensure timely availability of Commissioning and Startup Support in the areas of, Spares, Logistics, Manpower, Operating Supplies etc and organise his manpower availability/skills to match Start-up and Commissioning Schedules. Should have an Engineering Degree in Mechanical Engineering from recognised educational institution or equivalent with minimum 10 years of diversified experience in the Oil & Gas sector, with at least 5 years at the Management/Supervisory level in the Maintenance or Operations in a major LNG or LPG Plant. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: [jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au](mailto:jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au) website: [www.focusedrecruitment.com.au](http://www.focusedrecruitment.com.au)

**INT: RasGas – Mechanical Supervisor.** No: RG-18. To provide Mechanical Supervision/Expertise and to direct and control a Multi - Discipline Team carrying out Commissioning, Start-up and daily

maintenance activities associated with the LNG Process Train, Offsite Facilities, Utilities and Offplot Utilities. Should have a Higher national certificate or diploma (HNC or HND) or equivalent from a recognized Institution with a Minimum of 15 years diversified experience in the Maintenance of Oil/Gas process plants, certified within their area of expertise and experience of Frame 6 or Frame 7 (preferably both) Gas Turbines, Electrical Generators and auxiliary equipment, exposure to Maintenance of Steam Generating and water handling equipment and familiar with Desalination Plant, Waste System and general Utility Services. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email:

jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au website: www.focusedrecruitment.com.au

**INT: RasGas – Mechanical/Piping Integrity Engineer.** No: RG-15. Responsible for all piping and piping systems on new Project work associated with the Onshore LNG Process Plant, offsite Facilities, Utilities and offplot Utilities, some offshore work may also be required and the Commissioning and Start-up Phase of the Project followed by the period that the New Facilities will operated by the RasGas Expansion Group until the Facilities are finally handed over to RasGas Operations. Should have an Engineering degree in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent with minimum 12 years experience in oil, gas or petrochemical industry in the Piping Discipline and least 6 years specific involvement in capital projects for major facilities; experience in piping system design and pipe stress analysis and fully familiar with all the applicable ANSI and ASME Piping and vessel codes. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au website: www.focusedrecruitment.com.au

**INT: RasGas – Metering Engineer.** No: RG-14. To provide expert technical support to the metering systems installed as part of the expansion projects and be responsible for the transition from Project Management Team (PMT) to RasGas Operations. Should have an

Engineering degree in Electrical/Electronic or Control/Measurement from a recognized University plus eligibility professional membership of an Engineering Council with at least 10 years experience with gas, liquid (particularly LNG and Condensate) flow measurement and tank gauging fiscal systems; specific knowledge on orifice, ultrasonic, coriolis and turbine type meters, and fiscal/allocation metering technologies, knowledge with the relevant standards, in particular, ISO, MPMS and AGA. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au website: www.focusedrecruitment.com.au

**INT: RasGas – Operations Advisor.** No: RG-19. To provide Operations Input to all stages of EPC projects through direct interface between the EPC contractor, PMT and RasGas Operations; provides technical knowledge and experience to ensure that Expansion activities meet Operability and Maintainability requirements aimed at optimal Capital and Operating cost targets and assist the Contractor, PMT and Operating Company to maintain high standards in the PMC stage and ensure a seamless and trouble free start up of all associated equipment. Should have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering or equivalent with Minimum 15 years diversified oil and gas sector experience with profit centre responsibility and at least 8 years at the supervisory level and significant Operating knowledge of the LNG producing facilities, and also the working relationships between the many different departments associated with Major Expansion Projects. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au website: www.focusedrecruitment.com.au

**INT: RasGas – TMR/PESD Engineer.** No: RG-11. To provide Engineering TMR/PESD and Control expertise to the RasGas Expansion Group (Onshore and Offshore) in relation to all control ESD/TMR Control Equipment (Triconex) and related operational and functional procedures which covers the Commissioning and Start-up Phase of the Project followed by the period that the New Facilities will be operated by

The RasGas Expansion Group until the Facilities are finally handed over to RasGas Operations. This includes covering preventative, predictive and breakdown maintenance in all disciplines. The Incumbent will also be required to provide expert technical advice and support as required on the design, construction and modification of all Control Systems, together with vendor and contractor support. Leads investigations relating to problems, design, and will recommend and implement modifications as required. Should have a Bachelor of Science in Engineering or equivalent (preferably Control Systems or Electrical) with minimum of 15 years diversified experience in the Maintenance of Petrochemical process plants Triconex and TMR Control equipment, certified within their area of expertise. Contact: Mark Cheetham, Focused Recruitment, PO Box 8557, Perth Business Centre, Western Australia 6849, ph: (080 9427 5300, fax: (08) 9427 5301, email: [jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au](mailto:jobsearch@focusedrecruitment.com.au) website: [www.focusedrecruitment.com.au](http://www.focusedrecruitment.com.au)

**INT: United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – Development Outreach Communications (DOC) Officer.** To provide leadership in the development and implementation of the Mission's overall communications strategy. Salary up to \$US118.9k. Contact: United States Agency for International Development, email: [aidpkhquiries@usaid.gov](mailto:aidpkhquiries@usaid.gov) website: <http://www.fedbizopps.gov> *Closing: 11 April 2006*

**INT: United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – Reconstruction Health Advisor.** Responsible for coordination of all USAID health reconstruction programs that focus on reestablishing functional health systems, training of healthcare personnel, providing community-based services for physically disabled, psycho-social support, reconstruction and reequipping of health facilities. Salary up to \$US101.1k. Contact: United States Agency for International Development, email: [aidpkhquiries@usaid.gov](mailto:aidpkhquiries@usaid.gov) website: <http://www.fedbizopps.gov> *Closing: 9 April 2006*

**INT: United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – Reconstruction Livelihood Advisor.** Responsible for managing \$28 million USAID Livelihood reconstruction program that focuses on

promoting local economic development. Salary up to \$US101.1k. Contact: United States Agency for International Development, email: [aidpkhquiries@usaid.gov](mailto:aidpkhquiries@usaid.gov) website: <http://www.fedbizopps.gov> *Closing: 11 April 2006*

**INT: Untied Nations Environment Programme - Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) Secretary, GEF Office, P-5.** No: 06-PGM-UNEP-407447-R-Washington. To supervise the day-to-day functioning of the STAP Secretariat in providing management, coordination, and administrative support to the Panel; helping to organize and oversee the interaction between STAP and the GEF Council, GEF Secretariat, and Implementing Agencies; appraising STAP members of strategic scientific and technical issues affecting GEF policies, operational strategies, and programmes and assist in mobilization of scientific and technical expertise in the GEF through STAP, its working groups and Roster of Experts, so that STAP functions as a conduit between the GEF and the scientific community at large. Should have advanced university degree, preferably Ph.D. in national, environmental or social sciences (e.g. law, sociology, or related fields, with specialization in global environmental issues), or resource management or economics; interdisciplinary background, experience in managing international scientific and technical programmes; excellent command of English and working knowledge of other United Nations languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish) an asset. Contact: UNEP, website: <http://www.un.org> *Closing: 1 April 2006*

**NSW: Department of Primary Industries – Senior Geologist Exploration NSW.** No: 06/3/327KD. To prepare geological maps, & interpret geophysical maps/imagery, computer modelling & datasets that assist in the better integration & understanding of the geology, tectonics & mineral systems of NSW. Should have Honours Degree in Geology; proven performance in regional geological and mineral system mapping in fold belt or high grade metamorphic terranes; experience in integration and interpretation of geospatial and data geodatabases/GIS applications including the interpretation of geophysical data; proven skills in igneous and metamorphic petrology, sedimentology and/or structural geology; ability to communicate geoscientific information through preparation of

reports and public presentations; broad range of field-based skills and the ability to work as a creative team player; fitness and capacity to undertake field work in remote areas with minimal supervision; demonstrated capacity to use GIS, and other computer software such as MS Access and ER Mapper and current driver's licence. Salary up to \$83.9k. Contact: Employee Services Officer (Recruitment), NSW Department of Primary Industries, Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800, ph: (02) 4931 6697 (Attn: Rob Barnes), email: rob.barnes@dpi.nsw.gov.au *Closing: 7 April 2006*

**NSW: Enerflex Australasia – Applications Engineer / Technologist.** Responsible for the sizing of new gas compression applications, preparation of budgetary and more complex firm proposals for clients. Should have 2 year work experience with an engineering degree or diploma as a minimum, in mechanical or chemical disciplines. Contact: Sara Di Santi, ph: (02) 9624 7000, fax: (02) 9624 6000, email: s.disanti@gasdrivesystems.com.au

**NSW: Enerflex Australia – Experienced Contracts Administrator.** Should have 5-10 years experience in contracts administration, preferably in the administration of service and parts in the oil/gas industry. Contact: Sara Di Santi, ph: (02) 9624 7000, fax: (02) 9624 6000, email: s.disanti@gasdrivesystems.com.au

**QLD: Department of Energy – Research Officer.** No: DOE9/06. To provide operational advice, information and support to senior officers, and clients on issues concerning the energy sector within Queensland; conduct research and assist in the assessment and development of options to develop the National Electricity Market; conduct research and assist in the assessment and development of the costs, risks and benefits of strategic energy projects and commercial opportunities being proposed by Government Owned Energy Corporations; establish and maintain research files to ensure material is easily retrievable and develop and maintain productive working relationships with team members and internal and external clients and stakeholders. Should have demonstrated ability to undertake research and basic analysis including the ability to provide sound advice based on the key findings from the research; effective

written communication skills including the ability to prepare reports and other correspondence and sound interpersonal and oral communication skills, and the ability to liaise and consult with internal and external clients and stakeholders. Salary up to \$45.7k. Contact: Glenn Simpson, ph: (07) 3225 8256, email: recruitment.services.applications@csq.qld.gov.au *Closing: 3 April 2006*

**QLD: Zinifex Century Mine – Senior Exploration Geologist.** To develop exploration targets which take into account all the factors that contribute to prospectivity, geological setting, geochemical and geophysical indicators; design an efficient strategy for testing targets; coordinate tasks on particular projects including issuing of tenders, work scheduling and budgeting; monitor progress on tasks assigned to others, take action to assist and coach team members when and as necessary and review tasks on completion; commit and contribute to, the site Health, Safety and Environmental policies; stay abreast of development in areas of exploration research so as to enable the exploration team to assess, and where appropriate, take quick advantage of new developments and integrate knowledge revealed by the mining process into the exploration programme. Should have a Bachelor's degree with Honours, with a major in Geology or Geophysics, recent mining industry experience, particularly in base metals exploration. Contact: Angela Lorrigan, Principle Geologist, ph: (03) 9288 0390, email: debra.drake@zinifex.com *Closing: 7 April 2006*

**SA: Origin Energy – Petroleum/Reservoir Engineers; Conceptual Design/Process Engineers & Cost/Execution Planning Engineers, Upstream Oil and Gas Projects.** The Major Development Project Group delivers significant capital projects in upstream petroleum, power generation and solar and is now seeking to build up its oil and gas Development Team based in Adelaide to work on onshore and offshore opportunities. Responsible for taking prospects and opportunities from both exploration and acquisition and maturing them through the ASSESS and SELECT phases of the project life-cycle to project sanction. Should have extensive experience of working in the development phase of oil and gas projects. Contact: Colin Williamson, Strategic Resources, ph: (08) 8271 7166, fax: (08) 8271 7255, email: colin.williamson@stratres.com.au

**VIC: ExxonMobil – Corporate Lawyer.** No: 10189. To provide strategic legal advice on a wide range of issues including general commercial law, contracts, trade practices, environmental, property and litigation. Should have quality commercial law or environmental/property experience and a desire to apply this experience in a fast-paced business environment. Contact: Neil Williams, ph: (03) 9629 2111, email: melb@mahlab.com.au website: www.mahlab.com.au *Closing: 5 April 2006*

**WA: Lucid Consultants – Production Technologists & Petroleum Engineers.** Lucid Consultants was formed in 2004 and are currently providing a full range of Petroleum engineering services to all of the major oil and gas operators. To meet rising demands and help achieve the company's growth strategy. Should be a highly motivated Production Technologist or Petroleum Engineer with the confidence to join a new company. Contact: Lucid Consultants, email: enquiries@lucidconsultants.com.au

## Scholarships and Grants

**INT: International Finance Corporation & Financial Times – First Annual Private Sector Development Research Competition.** The International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group and the Financial Times (FT) invite entries for the first international private sector development research paper competition for 2005-2006. Six awards will be granted to the top papers as judged by the Awards Committee: Gold Award: US\$30,000; 2 Silver Awards each: US\$15,000 and 3 Bronze Awards each: US\$10,000. All papers must be submitted in English and have a maximum of 4,000 words. Abstracts must have a maximum of 300 words. Contact: FT-IFC Research Competition, Awards Program Coordinator, The International Finance Corporation, 2121 Pennsylvania Avenue NW-F4K-410, Washington, DC, ph: +1 202 458 5350, fax: +1 202 522 3262, email: competition@ifc.org *Closing: 30 June 2006*

**VIC: Consumer Utilities Advocacy Centre - Research Grants Applications.** CUAC provides an independent, proactive and informed advocacy voice on electricity, gas and water issues for

Victorian consumers, particularly low-income, rural and disadvantaged consumers. Through its grants program, CUAC funds research on consumer utility issues, and supports projects that enable Victorian consumers to participate better in the policy and regulatory debate. Contact: CUAC, ph: 1300 656 767, email: info@cuac.org.au website: http://www.cuac.org.au *Closing: 31 March 2006*

**VIC: Victorian Government - 2006 Victoria Prize.** Nominations are now open for the 2006 Victoria Prize for world-class excellence in science, technology or engineering. Each year the Victorian Government awards the prestigious \$50,000 Victoria Prize to an individual whose groundbreaking discovery or innovation has advanced knowledge and has produced or may produce a commercial outcome or other benefits to the community. The Victoria Prize celebrates leadership, determination and creativity and highlights the many ways in which research and development of international significance is conducted locally. Contact: Helen Lianos, ph: +61 3 9651 9054, email: vicprize.fellows@iird.vic.gov.au website: http://www.business.vic.gov.au *Closing: 10 April 2006*

**VIC: Victorian Government - The Anne & Eric Smorgon Memorial Award.** The \$100,000 Anne & Eric Smorgon Memorial Award is awarded by the Jack and Robert Smorgon Families Foundation to the research institute supporting the Victoria Prize recipient. Contact: Helen Lianos, ph: +61 3 9651 9054, email: vicprize.fellows@iird.vic.gov.au website: http://www.business.vic.gov.au *Closing: 10 April 2006*

## Conferences & Events

**3-7 April 2006. Wasser & Gas Berlin.** Berlin, Germany. Contact: Zeev Lluz, email: zeev@fair-accommodation.com website: www.fair-accommodation.com

**27-28 April 2006. 4th Annual National Coal Seam Methane - Coal Mine Methane Summit 2006.** Marriott Hotel, Brisbane, Australia. Contact: Shan Wildblood, ph: (02) 9923 5030, email: swildblood@iir.com.au

**7-10 May 2006. 2006 APPEA Conference & Exhibition.** Gold Coast Convention Centre, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. Contact: Vicki O'Gorman, Conference Administrator, ph: (02) 6267 0906, fax: (02) 6247 0548, email: vogorman@appea.com.au

**12-16 June 2006. The 11th International Energy Conference and Exhibition.** Stavanger, Norway. Contact: Energex 2006, email: info@energex2006.com website: <http://www.energex2006.com>

**13-15 November 2006. Kuwait 2nd International Oil and Gas Conference & Exhibition.** Kuwait. Contact: Head Office (Kuwait), ph: +965 2405015 / 2453036 / 2413047, fax: +965 2405018, email: info@promedia-international.com