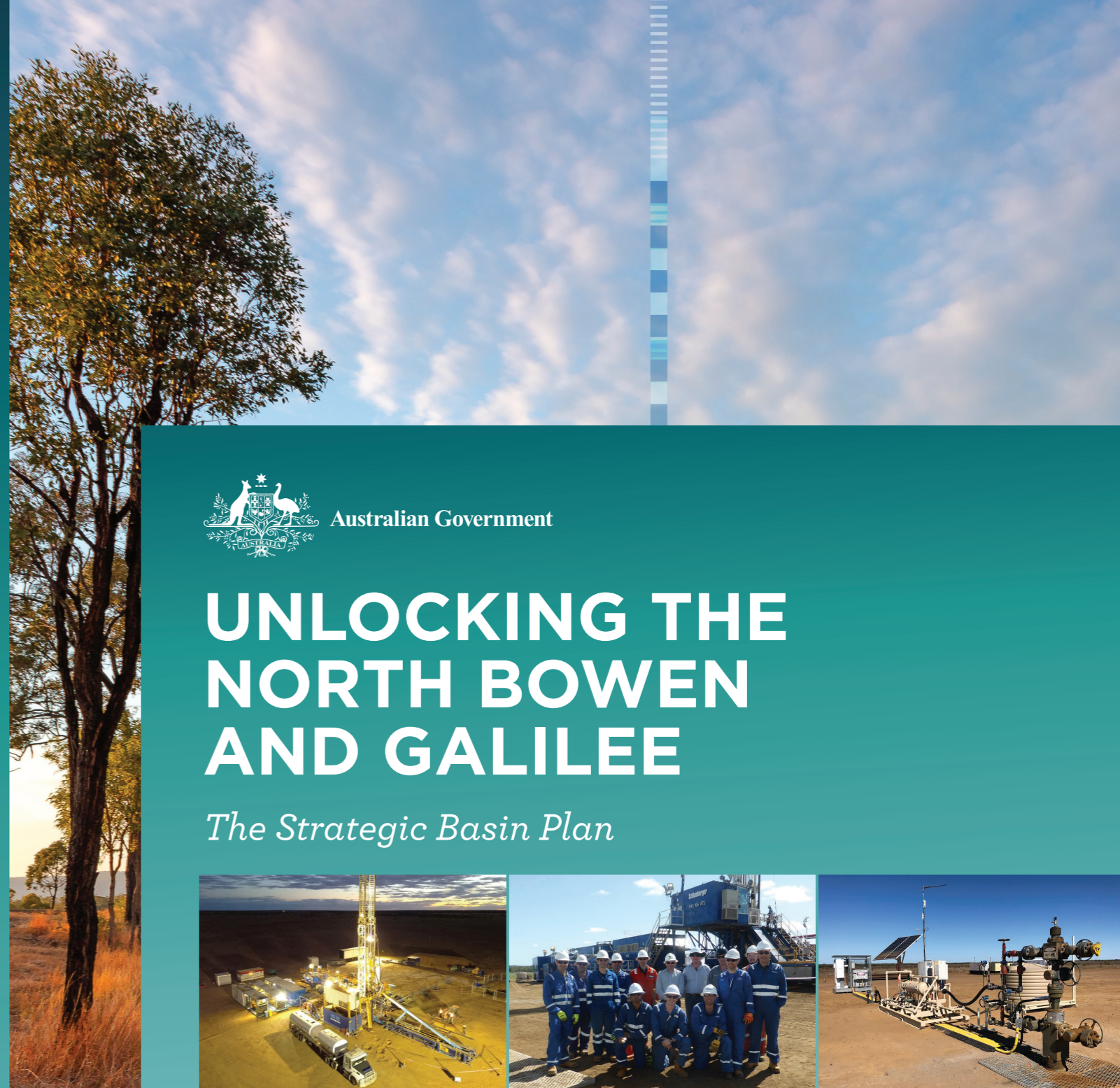
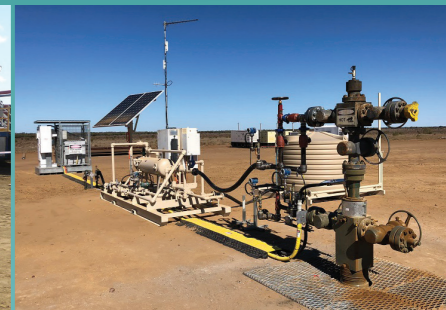




Australian Government

# UNLOCKING THE NORTH BOWEN AND GALILEE

*The Strategic Basin Plan*



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## MINISTER'S FOREWORD



Australia's abundance of natural resources has contributed to the modern economy we enjoy today. Resources have underpinned the development of regions and cities, providing energy and materials that improve lives here and around the world.

Today, Australian mineral and energy resources are our largest export and vital to our prosperity. The sector creates jobs across regional Australia and provide opportunities for business both small and large. The royalties and taxes paid by the sector provide for roads, schools and hospitals across the nation. Our resources sector and exports underpin our continued economic growth, and have supported the economy and employment during the global pandemic.

The Australian Government's Gas-Fired Recovery agenda will drive new economic opportunities off the back of Australia's abundant natural gas resources. The agenda will unlock new gas supply, drive more efficient gas transportation and empower gas consumers. In conjunction, these actions will improve affordability for households and Australian businesses and provide energy security.

The government's strategic basin plans are a key to this agenda. Unlocking our rich gas potential in strategically important locations will buttress existing gas production and provide more supply and more suppliers for the domestic market. The North Bowen and Galilee basins have the potential to open up a range of economic opportunities across Queensland in areas like Townsville, Mackay, Bowen and Gladstone.

Unlocking gas resources in these basins can:

- create and sustain high-quality, high-paying resources sector jobs in local communities and
- ensure that the future gas needs of households and businesses in the region are met.

To make this plan a reality, the government is investing \$20.7 million to crack the gas potential in the North Bowen and Galilee region. Our staged approach will help industry and government to make informed decisions about next steps. The plan will leverage over \$400 million in research and critical infrastructure upgrades which will support local businesses and communities.

The North Bowen and Galilee Strategic Basin Plan is a partnership between all levels of government, scientific organisations, the private sector, and local communities. Together with Australian experts and global investors, this plan will support our resources industry to grow bigger and better.

I look forward to creating opportunities for Queenslanders and all Australians.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Pitt'.

August 2021  
The Hon Keith Pitt MP  
Minister for Resources and Water



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## AT A GLANCE

*The North Bowen and Galilee basins in Queensland contain significant untapped gas resources. Modelling has revealed gas production in the region could be worth up to \$2.5 billion each year<sup>1</sup>, and deliver up to 5,500 jobs by 2030.*

Despite this significant potential, a range of factors have hindered the development to date. Geological conditions of the North Bowen and Galilee are challenging and require more testing of cutting edge drilling techniques to lower production costs. Gas pipeline infrastructure in the region is insufficient to support development at an economically viable scale. Upgrades are dependent on proven resources and agreed gas purchase contracts.

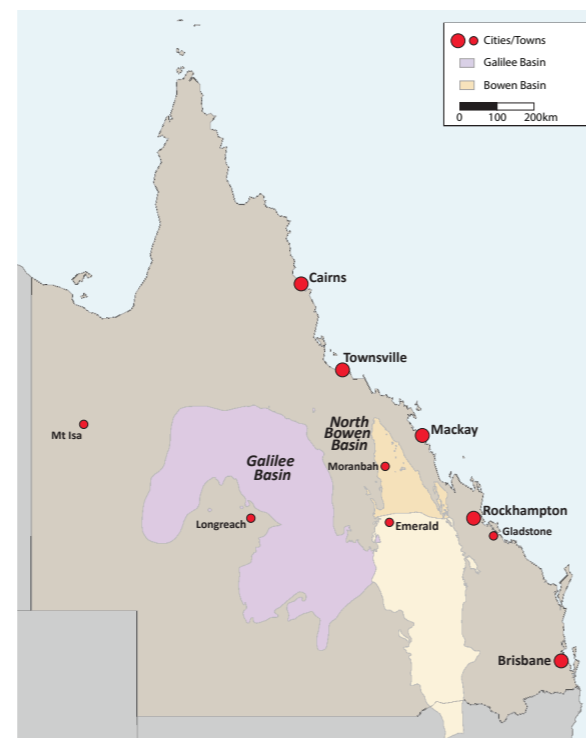
To address these challenges, the Australian Government will:

- Deliver \$15.7 million investment in gas field well trials to pilot innovative drilling programs across the basins. These have the potential to significantly bring down production costs and shift commercial viability.
- Co-invest with the Queensland Government in a study of the feasibility if a new pipeline to link the North Bowen Basin to the east coast gas market.
- Build an evidence base through enhanced geological and environmental data collection and analysis to support robust, efficient and risk-based regulatory outcomes.

These activities will strengthen understanding of development pathways in the basins and represent the first step in a longer term strategy. The outcomes from this first step will inform subsequent Australian Government infrastructure, planning and regulatory decisions in the region.

Beyond gas, the basins contain other valuable commodities, such as coal, gold, critical minerals. The basins also have potential to support the development of our emerging hydrogen industry. In many instances, the approach established in this plan will help to take advantage of these broader opportunities. Increased production of all resources in the region could generate a further 11,400 direct jobs and billions of dollars of national income annually.

This plan recognises the national significance of opportunities in the region: more jobs, more affordable energy, and opportunities to grow new industries. These opportunities can only be realised through effective partnerships between all parties involved in development. To this end, the Australian Government is establishing new partnerships with the Queensland Government, industry, academia and local communities. This will enhance coordination and better align activities across parties.



Map of North Bowen and Galilee Basins

<sup>1</sup> Assuming a gas price of \$6 per gigajoule in the 'high case'

## VISION

*Creating jobs and driving economic growth by unlocking the full potential of the North Bowen and Galilee basins.*

### Immediate actions: cracking the nut

Costs of delivery to market is a key sensitivity for the prospects of developing the basins.

Immediate actions seek to bring down production costs and identify commercially viable pathways to market for gas.

Action item	Description	Timing
Gas well trials	\$15.7 million to crack complex geological challenges and establish cost-effective gas flows across four sites within the basins.	2021-22
Pipeline preparations	\$5 million co-commitment with the Queensland Government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establish an optimal route and capacity for a possible future gas pipeline</li> <li>• understand the regional benefits of this work.</li> </ul>	2021-23
Regulatory data	Collect environmental and other regulatory and scientific data through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$14 million for Geoscience Australia and the CSIRO to establish environmental evidence to support regulatory processes across strategic basins, including the North Bowen and Galilee.</li> <li>• \$13.7 million to continue the CSIRO's GISERA research in these basins and across Australia.</li> </ul>	2021-24
Supply chain upgrades	The government will deliver over \$370 million in funding for road upgrades throughout the region. This will support supply chains, trade and project construction across multiple industry sectors.	2021-onwards

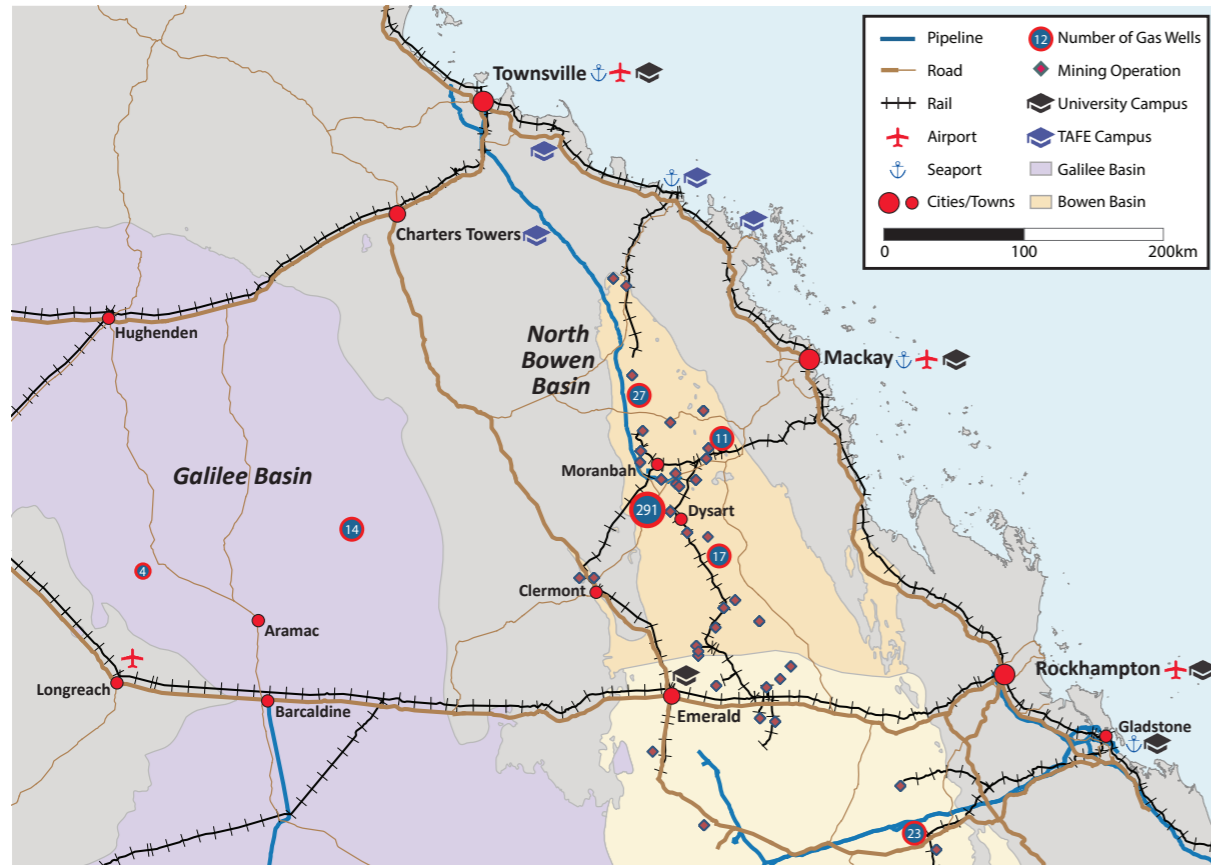
### Next steps: driving to development

Informed by robust data from early actions, industry and government can pursue new infrastructure, with a continued focus on delivering efficient outcomes and reducing costs.

Actions will be taken to realise the benefits associated with development, including increasing jobs in local communities and expanding industrial opportunities in the region.

Focus area	Description	Timing
Infrastructure	The Australian and Queensland Governments will consider the outcomes from gas well trials and pipeline preparations. Outcomes will support the Australian Government's ongoing work for the National Gas Infrastructure Plan.	2023-onwards
Cost reductions	Gas trials have the potential to reduce production costs for producers in the region. Commonwealth regulators will prioritise regulatory applications to reduce costs that may otherwise cause lengthy delays.	2022-onwards
Skills	Strengthened training and education opportunities ensures workers in the region have the skills to support gas projects. This includes learning at the \$30 million School of Mining and Manufacturing under construction at the Central Queensland University.	2024-onwards
Industrial opportunities	Gas from the region will help to unlock downstream and manufacturing opportunities in central and northern Queensland. Governments will work cooperatively to realise these opportunities.	2024-onwards

## THE NORTH BOWEN AND GALILEE BASINS



Map of North Bowen and Galilee basins

The North Bowen and Galilee basins are located in central Queensland. This strategic basin plan concentrates on a defined area. It encompasses Townsville to the north, Mackay to the east, Emerald to the south and Longreach to the west. While the Galilee Basin extends beyond this defined area, the selected region captures the primary gas industry operations in the basin to date.

Together, the North Bowen and Galilee basins cover an area larger than New Zealand. While considered concurrently through this plan, the basins and the communities they host hold important differences. The North Bowen Basin is an established mining region, with commercial activities focused on metallurgical coal and coal seam gas. The Galilee has a number of emerging thermal coal projects—including the Carmichael Mine, which is approaching first coal deliveries—and only early stage gas exploration is underway. North Bowen has larger population centres and higher average per capita incomes than the Galilee. The unifying factor for the two basins is the significant underdeveloped potential for gas and other resources.



Image: Comet Ridge

## North Bowen Basin

The North Bowen Basin is located in central Queensland, predominantly within the Isaac local government area. It covers roughly 72,000 km<sup>2</sup>, an area larger than Tasmania. The area is already home to mining, mostly of metallurgical coal used for steelmaking.

As a result, the high-paying mining sector employs the majority of workers in the Isaac Region. These coal resources also contain significant coal seam gas reserves (Table 1). While there is a small amount of existing gas development, the basin's potential largely remains untapped.

Table 1: Key commodities in the North Bowen.

*Reserves show proven commodities; resources show the possible quantum of commodities. The planned production for hydrogen and renewable electricity reflects the capacity of all projects at any stage of the development pipeline.*

	Gas (PJ)	Met. Coal (Mt)	Therm. Coal (Mt)	Hydrogen (kt)
Current production p.a.	9	101	29	0
Reserves	550	3,800	284	2,100 planned
Resources	3,880-9,510	13,900	2,470	-

Image: Gettyimages CUHRIG



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## Galilee Basin

The Galilee Basin forms part of the Lake Eyre Basin, a drainage basin that covers around one-sixth of Australia. The Galilee covers a total area of approximately 247,000 km<sup>2</sup>, an area larger than Victoria. It is located about 200 km west of the Bowen Basin. The Galilee extends north to Hughenden, south to Charleville and west beyond Winton and Middleton.

The Galilee is an undeveloped basin with great potential. Industry is currently exploring for gas reserves in the basin, with activities concentrated in the centre of the basin, within the Barcardine Shire. The basin also hosts a number of large greenfield thermal coal projects in various stages of development (Table 2).

Table 2: Key commodities in the Galilee.

*Reserves show the proven quantum of commodities. Resources show the possible quantum of commodities.*

	Gas (PJ)	Met. Coal (Mt)	Therm. Coal (Mt)	Hydrogen (kt)
Current production p.a.	0	0	0	0
Reserves	0	0	2,000	0
Resources	7,601	0	31,000	-

## Resources potential

The North Bowen and Galilee are best known for their high quality coal. However, there has been widespread exploration for other resources in the basins. Industry has developed some of these resources, and there may be significant value in investing in further operations (figure 1).



Gas fields are abundant within the basins. A small number of active players have explored the basins extensively. Industry has uncovered significant quantities of gas trapped within coal seams and deeper sandstone. If all the gas estimated to reside in the North Bowen and Galilee was sold today, it would be worth over \$100 billion. Current production is limited and explorers are seeking to prove resource economics in their license areas.



Metallurgical and thermal coal have widespread reserves and resources. There is significant coal production in the basins today, including over 60% of Australia's total metallurgical coal production. Additional investments are in various stages of project development.



Gold sees modest production within the basins, accounting for only 5% of Australia's total gold production. A planned expansion to a project at Ravenswood will significantly scale-up production. There are several undeveloped gold deposits in the North Bowen and Galilee region. Almost all are at early stages of feasibility assessment.



Critical minerals, such as vanadium are present in significant quantities, but are not being produced. Reserves and resources are modest compared to the other commodities in the North Bowen and Galilee. Comparatively, there are more extensive critical mineral deposits and projects being developed elsewhere across Australia.



Hydrogen projects in the areas surrounding the basins are in the early development stage. There is significant momentum towards developing these projects, from both industry and the government. However, industrial pathways for clean hydrogen are still emerging.

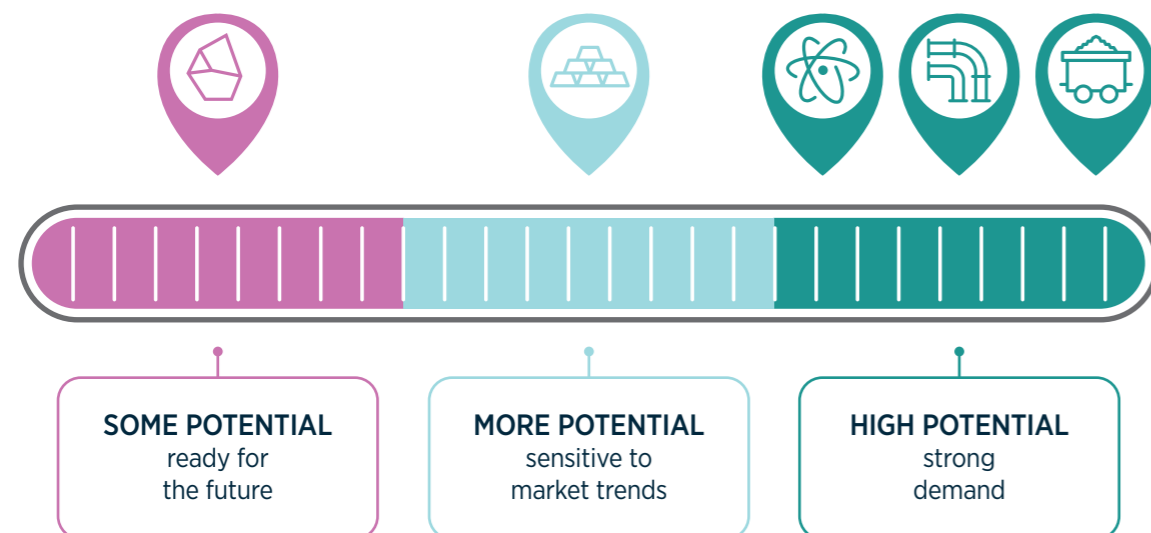


Figure 1: Market potential of commodities in the North Bowen and Galilee

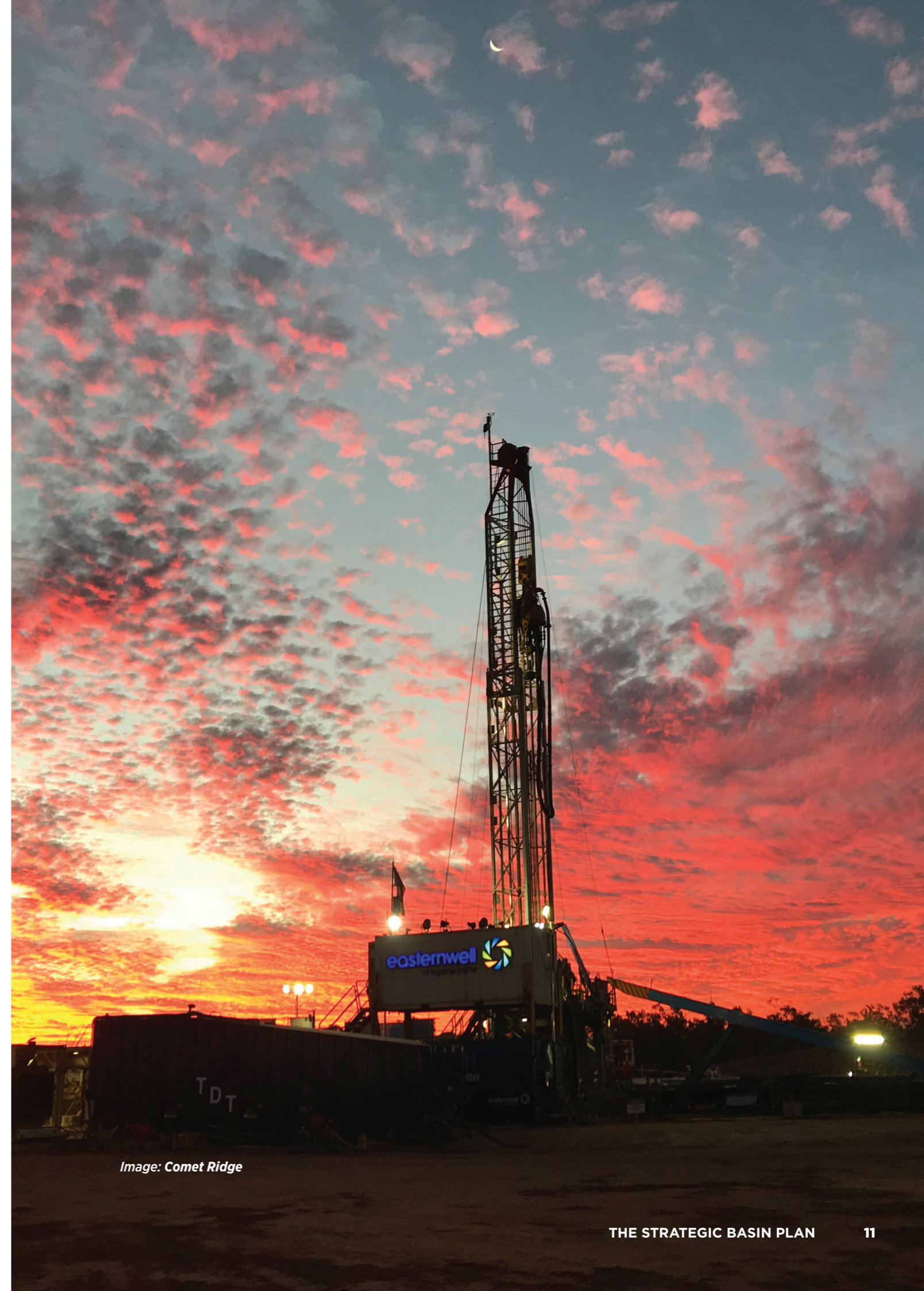


Image: Comet Ridge



## Gas in focus

The North Bowen and Galilee are rich in gas, with an estimated 17,661 petajoules of gas in place. This is enough to supply the entire east coast gas market for around 10 years.

However, current gas production in the region remains low, at approximately 9 petajoules per annum. The Moranbah Gas Project in the North Bowen is the only producing operation. Arrow Energy operates this project to supply Townsville via the North Queensland Gas Pipeline.

In the North Bowen Basin, industry activity to date has focused on identifying gas resources. Exploration activity undertaken by companies like Arrow and Blue Energy have identified significant gas resources. The next step is to translate these resources into estimates of recoverable reserves. Industry activity is more advanced than in the Galilee Basin, where activities are focussed on exploration and knowledge regarding the potential resources is less developed.

While significant gas potential has been identified, there are barriers and uncertainties surrounding the commercial extraction of the gas. Exploration has been relatively widespread throughout the basins, but further appraisal activity is required to better understand the commercial prospects in the region.

The basins have complex geology, trapping the gas underground. Exploration and production areas also overlap and co-exist with mineral projects and land used for agriculture and other purposes. Pipeline infrastructure is insufficient to support development at scale and does not currently connect the basins to major gas demand centres.

These obstacles have presented challenges to commercial scale gas production. As a result gas companies have prioritised investment in other basins already connected to markets. For example, the Surat Basin in southern Queensland.



Image: Comet Ridge

## Addressing the challenges associated with the Geology of the North Bowen and Galilee basins

Most activity in the North Bowen and Galilee is focussed on coal seam gas (Figure 2). This is gas trapped within natural fractures of the coal matrix (also known as coal 'cleats').

Coal seam gas reservoirs typically consist of expansive coal formations, approximately 300-1,200 m deep.

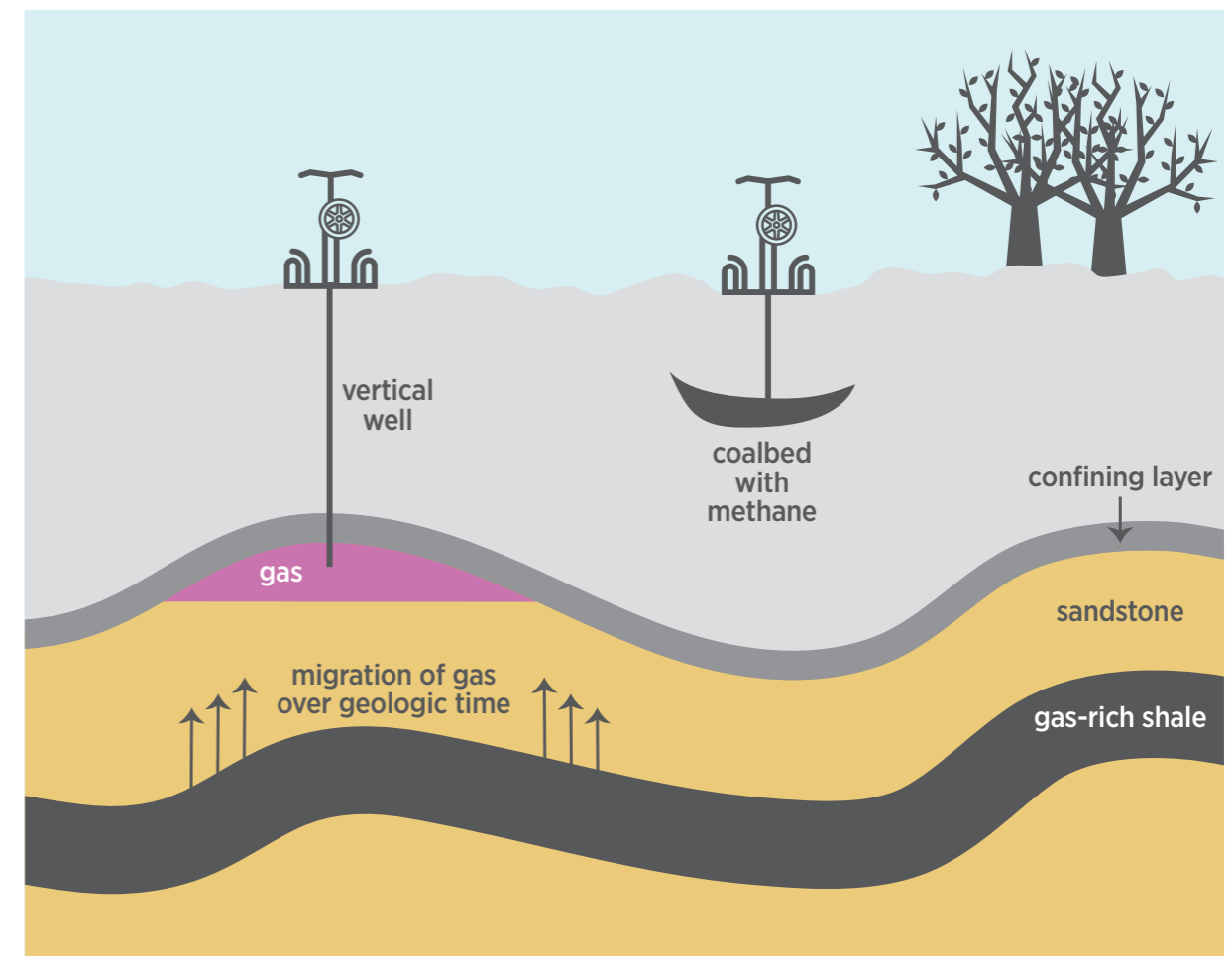


Figure 2: Geology of coal seam and conventional gas resources

Coal seam gas production is widespread across Queensland. The 'tight coals' of the North Bowen and Galilee are highly saturated with gas but have low permeability, trapping the gas. To improve access and commerciality, industry must use complex drilling techniques. One option is to drill much longer horizontal wells through the coal seam to free additional gas. Alternatively, fracture stimulation may help to achieve economic gas flows.

In addition to coal seam gas, the Galilee also features traditional gas reservoirs deeper within the basin. Faults in the rock or impermeable shale overlie permeable sandstone, trapping conventional gas in place.

These sandstone reservoirs are deeper and under higher pressure than coal seams. The depth of these reservoirs makes an initial well more expensive to drill, but without the ongoing operational costs associated with fracture stimulation.

Independent experts and industry stakeholders confirm that gas from both basins should be broadly cost competitive in today's market. However, geological challenges are not the only features of the basins that have pushed industry investment elsewhere.

Image: Arrow Energy



## IMMEDIATE ACTIONS: CRACKING THE NUT

### Gas well trials

Cracking complex geological challenges and proving the gas resources across the basins.

Overcoming geological and engineering complexity will be essential in ensuring cost effective production from the North Bowen and Galilee basins.

With the new investments underpinning this basin plan, the Australian Government is building essential partnerships. We are working with the University of Queensland, the Queensland Government and gas explorers in the North Bowen and Galilee basins. This expertise will help to overcome the challenges posed by the basins' geology.

We will provide \$15.7 million to deliver:

- technical analysis of gas data and drilling techniques within the basin
- new well design with a view to improving the cost efficiency and effectiveness of gas flows
- support for industry and the University of Queensland to trial and evaluate these designs and publish findings.

These field trials will allow industry-academia partnerships to collect new geological data. The knowledge gained from these trials and lessons learnt will then be shared with industry throughout the region. The aim of this is to drive down ex-field production costs for all potential gas producers in the basin. This will help strengthen the commercial positions of the basins, as well as providing greater confidence in gas reserves and accelerating investment decisions.

## Pipeline preparations

Understanding the optimal route and capacity for a possible gas pipeline, and the regional benefits it would bring.

To allow for the commercial realisation of the resources, pipeline infrastructure is needed. Understanding the commercial imperatives and pathway to construction of this pipeline will support better decision making by industry and governments at all levels.

The government has committed \$5 million to work with the Queensland Government on the feasibility of a new pipeline. A new pipeline would link the North Bowen Basin to the east coast gas market. This will fund work to examine an optimal route and capacity for a pipeline. The work will also collect technical, economic and regulatory information needed to assist in determining the feasibility of a new pipeline.

The outcomes of this work will also inform the ongoing work of the government's National Gas Infrastructure Plan.

The outcomes of this study will inform consideration of any further government assistance in relation to new gas infrastructure. The Queensland Government also shares this priority.

*“We need to ensure that the pipeline into North Bowen is the right size. We are conscious of the potential future growth in Galilee gas production and providing for that also”.*

*— Executive Director,  
Queensland Government*

Image: Comet Ridge



## Enabling infrastructure

Upgrading roads throughout the region to support supply chains, trade and project construction.

Supply chain infrastructure facilitates the movement of heavy equipment for well drilling, and the efficient construction of resources projects.

The government is prioritising investment in roads infrastructure. This benefits not only the gas industry, but also other sectors and users, by improving functionality and safety. The North Australia Roads Program, Roads of Strategic Importance, and Regional Economy Enabling Fund are providing over \$370 million in road upgrades (Table 4).

This complements the Queensland Government's \$69 million investment in roads across the Barcardine and Isaac local government areas. These projects work to:

- boost regional productivity
- connect people with jobs and services, and goods to markets
- increase freight productivity
- improve access to resources projects across the region

Table 4: Key roads projects in the basins.

Program	Project	Commonwealth Funding	Timing
North Australia Roads Program	Upgrades to the Peak Downs Hwy near Moranbah	\$28 million	2021-2022
	Bowen Development Road - Staged Development	\$23 million	2021
Roads of Strategic Importance	Mount Isa to Rockhampton Corridor Upgrade	\$190 million	Planning
	Townsville to Roma Corridor Upgrade	\$100 million	Planning
	Capricorn - Gregory Highway Intersection Upgrade	\$6.3 million	Planning
Regional Economic Enabling Fund	Aramac Road Upgrades	\$24 million	2022
	Cramsie-Muttaburra Rd	\$1.87 million	2021



Image: Comet Ridge

## Regulatory data

Studying the environment of the basins and how this might co-exist with a growing gas industry.

Extensive and detailed research will help to understand the potential impacts of and mitigations for new gas and resources developments.

The government has provided funding to gather and analyse environmental data relating to key environmental and geological factors, including flora, fauna and groundwater. Geoscience Australia and the CSIRO will work with regulators, proponents and communities to establish a common evidence base to inform regulatory approvals. The transparency of this data will give communities greater confidence and trust in the outcomes.

The Australia-wide programs that will conduct this work in the North Bowen and Galilee basins include:

- CSIRO's Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance, worth \$13.7 million nationally
- Geoscience Australia's environmental baseline studies, worth \$14 million.

This knowledge will help governments, industry and communities to evaluate such projects and guide appropriate investments.

## NEXT STEPS: DRIVING TO DEVELOPMENT

### Gas pipeline

Supporting the industry-led and cost-effective construction of a gas pipeline.

Gas fields need pipelines to supply the gas to customers in key markets. The Australian and Queensland Governments will analyse the outcomes from earlier work and outcomes from further gas field appraisal activities. From this, they will determine the merits of potential new pipeline infrastructure connecting the North Bowen and Galilee basins. They will also look at any potential role for governments in supporting their development. At a high level, this examination may consider options to connect:

- North Bowen gas to customers in the local region and more broadly across the eastern states
- central and north Queensland gas customers to the east coast gas market
- the Galilee gas projects to markets, in particular through the Wallumbilla Gas Supply Hub.

A gas pipeline of sufficient capacity to service all gas producers would ensure the most efficient costs of construction and subsequent transport tariffs. This would enhance development prospects in the basins and deliver lowest cost gas to consumers.

*“The single piece of infrastructure we need the most is a pipeline. Once I have a pipeline I’d develop the reserves”.*

— CEO, Resources Company

*“There are big dividends from appropriate common-use infrastructure, which services both Bowen and Galilee basins”.*

— Executive Director,  
Queensland Government

Any further decisions and outcomes from the work with the Queensland Government will align with recommendations from the National Gas Infrastructure Plan, and the Future Gas Infrastructure Investment Framework, announced in the 2021 Budget.

Image: Comet Ridge

### Cost reductions

Making regulatory approvals more efficient and effective

The government will work to avoid unnecessary regulatory delays and more quickly develop industry in the region. Gas producers in the basins can access support from the Commonwealth’s Major Project Facilitation Agency to understand and navigate government approvals.

Relevant Commonwealth regulators will prioritise applications relating to gas projects located within the North Bowen and Galilee basins. This will support projects to complete all necessary approvals on an efficient timeline, without compromising environmental or safety standards.

### Industrial opportunities

Identifying regional industrial opportunities stemming from competitively priced local gas

Affordable gas will help re-establish a strong economy as part of the government’s JobMaker plan. As part of Australia’s recovery from the COVID-19 recession, we aim to make energy affordable for families and businesses and support jobs. The anticipated benefits from more affordable gas stem in large part from the role that it can play in unlocking new industrial opportunities. This is particularly applicable in energy intensive industries.

Competitively priced gas from the North Bowen and Galilee basins has the potential to open a range of opportunities in central and northern Queensland. This may include leveraging Queensland’s existing strengths in minerals extraction, as well as broader emerging manufacturing opportunities. More diverse regional economies will strengthen the resilience of central Queensland communities.

To support the uptake of emerging opportunities, the government will continue to work collaboratively with the Queensland Government and local governments to coordinate activity. This will include making the most of existing manufacturing, industrial development and infrastructure support mechanisms, such as:

- the Australian Government’s Modern Manufacturing Initiative
- Export Finance Australia
- the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility.

### Jobs demand

Boosting training and education opportunities to provide workers in the region with skills for gas projects.

A new gas industry would create new jobs that require unique and specialised skills. Modelling undertaken for the Australian Government estimates that by 2030, a new gas industry would create:

- up to 3,300 jobs in project construction
- a further 2,200 ongoing operational jobs

Opportunities in the broader supply chain and supporting infrastructure projects would create still more jobs.

*“Skillsets are reasonably flexible across the same mining mode, like open cut versus underground. But the skillsets in gas are completely different from coal, you need more plumbers, drillers and specialist experience.”*

— Executive,  
Resources Recruitment Agency

The Australian Government will support new training opportunities in the region by collaborating with the Queensland Government, industry, academia and training providers. They will work to monitor industry development and provide appropriate training opportunities for workers in the region. This will ensure that local workers have the opportunity to participate in a growing gas industry.

By maximising local employment opportunities, industry will rely less on fly-in-fly-out workers. Meanwhile, local workers will see a greater share of the benefits of the industry in their backyard.

### Delivering world-class training facilities to the region

\$30 million is funding the Central Queensland University located in the Rockhampton and Gladstone campuses to establish a new School of Mining and Manufacturing. Construction is expected to be completed in 2022.

The School's state-of-the-art equipment will train students for work in the mining, resources and manufacturing sectors. The School will also be a hub for education research to further enhance teaching and learning.

### Improving opportunities for young people in the region

\$50.6 million is supporting ten Industry Training Hubs, with one in Townsville and one in Maryborough. These collaborations with industry encourage young people and school-leavers to build skills and choose occupations that are in demand in their regions.

### Skills Organisation pilot

The government has also established a Skills Organisation Pilot for the mining sector. This is as part of the government's \$585.3 million *Delivering Skills for Today and Tomorrow* package. The Pilot ensures that our education systems continue to teach the skills that industry needs.

Image: Arrow Energy



## New partnerships

Bringing together experts and stakeholders to achieve the best outcomes.

Partnerships between the University of Queensland and industry experts will help to accelerate technological development and innovation to improve production.

Partnerships and collaborations will be critical to the long-term success of the basin plan. Developing the North Bowen and Galilee basins is a responsibility for all levels of government, industry, and communities. The government is working with a range of stakeholders to provide the necessary expertise and align efforts to maximise outcomes in the basins.

Collaborations will bring together the right partners with the right knowledge, capitalising on opportunities and delivering widespread benefits.

The Commonwealth and Queensland governments have worked closely to develop this plan. This ensures that there is strategic alignment between the two governments, which will deliver improved outcomes around shared priorities.

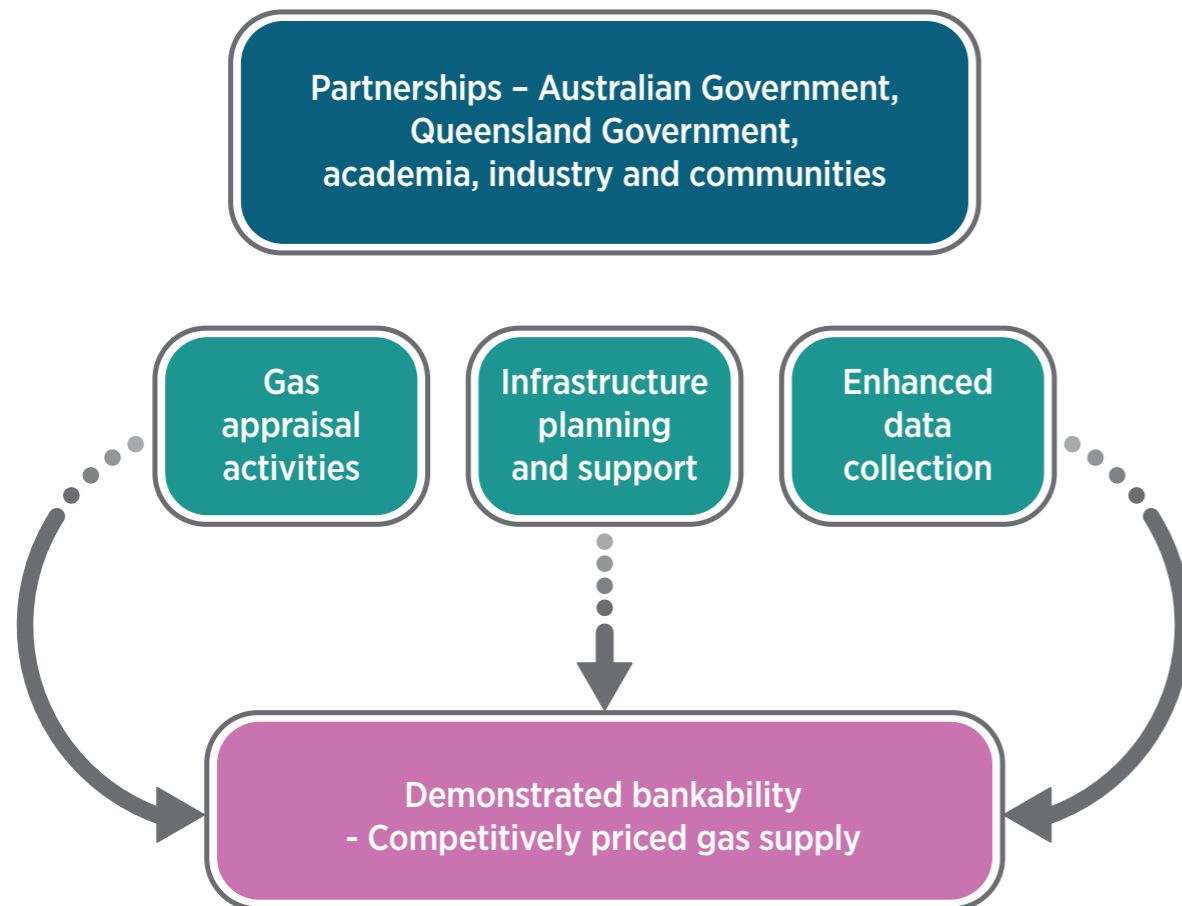
## DELIVERING THE STRATEGIC BASIN PLAN

Affordable and reliable gas from the Galilee and North Bowen basins are central to the government's plans for energy security. Gas companies have already completed extensive works to identify and evaluate the resources in the basins. Now, the government is working with industry to make strategic investments to identify a bankable pathway to market. This includes:

- comprehensive information gathering to inform the right decisions
- effective cooperation between industry, academia, and different layers of government
- investment in the skills and infrastructure a growing industry needs.

The government is committed to ensuring that development in North Bowen and Galilee is safe, sound and sustainable. This includes ensuring that development supports local communities, Queensland and the broader Australian population.

The government will implement the plan through a series of immediate actions. The plan has flexibility regarding future actions to enable a response to any shifting conditions. The results from the initial stage of actions will inform and shape the direction, investment and decision-making in subsequent stages.



## OUTLOOK

The North Bowen and Galilee basins have significant potential to produce more gas and other resources. A growth in projects will create thousands of direct jobs across the region, and opportunities to grow new supply chains, manufacturing, and other supporting businesses. This is central to the government's Gas-Fired Recovery agenda.

The Strategic Basin Plan program will accelerate resources development in these basins. The staged approach outlined in this strategic basin plan identifies opportunities and provides a pathway to manage challenges. It takes measured steps to gather data and demonstrate commercial opportunities that will attract investment to the region. The government will follow the best research, data and expertise to continue to support the sustainable development of the region's resources industry.

Strong relationships between the Commonwealth, Queensland Government, industry, and communities in the North Bowen and Galilee region are key to success. Partnerships are central to a range of government initiatives that encourage resources development in the basins and around Australia, including support for:

- Exploration, through the \$225 million *Exploring for the Future* program, and the \$200 million *Junior Minerals Exploration Incentive*, to identify new resources opportunities
- Export projects with financial support available through Export Finance Australia
- Business-led infrastructure projects, using the \$5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
- Regulatory applications, through the Major Project Facilitation Agency.

Through these programs, the government has boosted the resources industry by hundreds of millions of dollars. In turn, Australia's world leading industries are returning billions to the economy.

This strategic basin plan continues to support the government's vision for the world's most advanced, innovative and successful resources sector. By unlocking new resources potential we will power Australia's energy needs, support new jobs, and drive the nation's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.



Image: Comet Ridge



*Image: Arrow Energy*