

NEWS RELEASE

Date September 23, 2008

Expansion Employment Services Office to open in Collie

An employment services office will open in Collie today on Thursday, September 25, to help local people apply for work on the \$2.5 billion Efficiency and Growth (E&G) Expansion Project now underway at the Worsley refinery.

The office will operate from 9am to 3pm every Thursday from within the Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry headquarters at Unit 5, Centre Point Shopping Centre in Princep Street.

The office will be operated by Bechtel, the chief contractor for the E&G Expansion Project.

Bechtel's E&G Project employee services team leader Natalie Wane said the new Collie office would provide guidance to people interested working on the Project. Application forms will be available.

Ms Wane said when the Collie office was not open, similar services were available from the full-time Worsley E&G Expansion Project Employment Services Office operating from 82 Blair Street, Bunbury. The telephone number there was 9774 0800.

She said more than 1000 registrations of interest in employment on the E&G Project had already been received, with 70 per cent from people living near the current operations. Contractors on the Project would use this list when recruiting workers.

It is estimated 4000 jobs will be created over the life of the Project with a peak workforce of about 1700 by the end of 2009. About 50 apprenticeships will also be offered. Preference will be given to locals where possible.

Bechtel has committed, where possible, to also give preference to local contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers for the E&G Project.

To achieve this, Bechtel has enlisted the help of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA and its ProjectConnect website – www.projectconnect.com.au.

The website allows local suppliers to register and prequalify for various packages on the project. Local suppliers to be notified of successful tenders to encourage local businesses.

In setting up the new employment services office, the Worsley E&G Expansion Project has taken out a Platinum membership with the Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Shire of Collie and the Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry said they both strongly supported Worsley's move to bring its employee services to Collie under this new arrangement.

Chamber chief executive Jodie Hanns said the location of the E&G Project Employee Services Office in the Chamber office would provide support for Collie residents seeking jobs on the expansion.

Ms Hanns said it was also pleasing to see the company's commitment to engage with the Collie and South West business communities through the use of local contractors and suppliers, where possible.

"I am also pleased to announce E&G's undertaking to become a Platinum member of the Collie Chamber," she said. "E&G is supporting Chamber members by its commitment to use local businesses. It's the Chamber's role to support the E&G Collie Office project and maximise the benefits to local businesses."

PHOTO : Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry administration officer Kylie Fawcett and Bechtel E&G Project employee services team leader Natalie Wane point the way to the new recruitment office, which will open on Thursday.

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