



## Media Release

2 December 2009

### Natural Gas ready to flow into Inverloch

Multinet Gas announced today that natural gas is flowing in Inverloch. Inverloch is the final town to receive natural gas as part of the South Gippsland Natural Gas Project with the first Inverloch resident now connected.

Multinet Gas and Red Energy began connecting natural gas to residents in Lang Lang, Korumburra, Leongatha and Wonthaggi progressively from March this year after the trial connection period was completed with Red Energy. Residents and businesses in these towns can now apply for a natural gas service and connection and financial incentives are available to residents when they make the switch to natural gas.

Multinet Gas CEO Hugh Gleeson said “we are delighted that the long process of planning, public consultation, construction and securing Red Energy as the area’s first natural gas retailer was now completed to a stage where hundreds of people were able to use natural gas for the first time. This is a major milestone with Inverloch being connected as the last town in this project.”

“The construction process is now complete for thousands of people who have been waiting for this day to come. Natural gas is safe, convenient, environmentally friendly and economical and very important for the continued development and growth of towns in the area. To date over 900 residents are connected to natural gas and up to 10,000 businesses and residents will benefit from this project in the years to come.”

“The Victorian Government, in particular the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development Victoria, is to be commended for their support of this project,” Mr Gleeson said.

Jemena is Multinet Gas’s primary contractor, responsible for the construction, operation and maintenance of the new gas network. Jemena Marketing Manager James Wong said that we are now connecting new residents to natural gas on a weekly basis.

Jemena Marketing Manager, James Wong “With natural gas now available to these towns and with Red Energy in place, we encourage residents to make the switch to natural gas, especially with the incentives available making it even more attractive”.

-mtc-



Residents and business owners who would like to arrange a gas connection are encouraged to do so by undertaking the following:

1. Ensure that natural gas is available in their street and location by visiting [www.multinetgas.com.au](http://www.multinetgas.com.au).
2. Apply to Red Energy on **131 806** for a gas service and retail supply contract, who will arrange for Jemena (on behalf of Multinet Gas) to install the service.
  - a. Jemena will plan the service and install the new gas service, usually within 20 working days.
  - b. If the residence is positioned less than 20 metres from the front boundary, generally no cost is involved. If, however, the residence located further than 20 metres from the front boundary, installation will be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether a cost is involved.
  - c. The Retailer may charge a final connection fee and all charges and Tariffs are available from Red Energy.
3. Arrange a qualified gas fitter to assess the suitability of their appliances/fitting line and/or arrange conversion to natural gas as applicable. The gas fitter will issue a certificate of compliance for the installation when completed.
4. The gas fitter/resident will coordinate with Red Energy to arrange a meter fix.
5. Jemena will then install the gas meter and the gas fitter will arrange final connection.

Residents can ring **1300 131 689** (Mon-Fri 8.30am- 5.30pm) for further queries.

-ends-

**Media Enquiries to: Scott Parker (of Jemena) 0407 303 854**