

**Marubeni and Osaka Gas to participate in
Australian gas / power business through investment to GAIL**

**Marubeni Corporation
Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.
October 31, 2008**

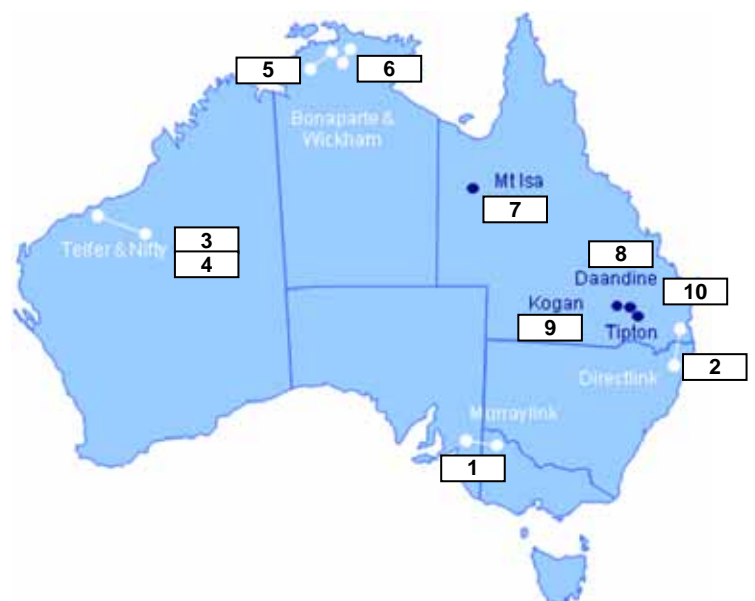
A consortium of Marubeni Corporation (Headquarter: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Teruo Asada; “Marubeni”) and Osaka Gas Co., Ltd. (Headquarter: Chuo-ku, Osaka; President and CEO: Hiroshi Ozaki; “Osaka Gas”) was finalized today as equity partners for APA Group (“APA”)’s 100% subsidiary, APA GasNet Australia Investment Limited (“GAIL”). The consortium will acquire 80.1% of the shares by December 2008, and within the consortium Marubeni and Osaka Gas will respectively hold 49.9% and 30.2%. APA will consequently continue to be a 19.9% shareholder of GAIL.

APA is a major energy company managing gas pipelines, gas processing plants, and gas storage facilities throughout Australia. In recent years, APA has also been penetrating in power generation, power transmission, and gas distribution businesses. Marubeni and Osaka Gas will be taking part in business involving energy-related assets that have been transferred from APA, through investment towards GAIL. GAIL will be operating gas pipelines, power generating facilities, gas processing plants and interconnectors within Australia, and is expected to generate stable revenue for mid- and long-term, based on long-term contracts and regulated rate system. (See below for GAIL assets.)

Marubeni and Osaka Gas, together with APA, will devote to succeeding in GAIL projects, and will contribute to development of the Australian energy industry as they expand business portfolio in Australia.

< GAIL Assets >

1. Murraylink (Transmission Line 176km)
2. Directlink (Transmission Line 63km)
3. Telfer (Gas Pipeline 442km)
4. Nifty (Gas Pipeline 46km)
5. Bonaparte (Gas Pipeline 286km)
6. Wickham Point (Gas Pipeline 13km)
7. Mt Isa (Power Station 32000kw)
8. Daandine (Power Station 27000kw)
9. Kogan North
(Gas Processing Facility320,000 m³/day)
10. Tipton West
(Gas Processing Facility770,000 m³/day)



< Company Profile >

Name : APA Group

Location : New South Wales, Australia

Founded : 2000

Business Outline :

Gas pipeline, gas processing plant, gas fired power station, gas storage facility, power transmission line, etc.

Major Shareholders :

Petronas Australia Pty Ltd 16.70%

Lazard Asset Management 6.2%

Investors Mutual 4.7%

Name: Marubeni Corporation

Headquarter: 1-4-2 Ohtemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo JAPAN

President and CEO: Teruo Asada

Capital: 262 billion yen

Founded: December 1949

Business Outline: General trading company

Sales: 10.6 trillion yen (as of March 2008)

Name: Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.

Headquarter: 4-1-2 Hiranomachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka JAPAN

President and CEO: Hiroshi Ozaki

Capital: 132 billion yen

Founded: April 1897

Business Outline: Production and distribution of gas; generation and distribution of power; etc.

Sales: 1.2 trillion yen (as of March 2008)

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