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Media Release – Environmental Scientist to head up APPEA in the NT

In a major boost for the Northern Territory's economy and environment, regarded environmental scientist Cassandra Schmidt has been appointed to head up APPEA's vital top end operations.

APPEA Chief Executive Andrew McConville said the appointment of Mrs Schmidt showed the oil and gas industry's commitment to the Northern Territory.

"Cassandra is an outstanding appointment who will bring her strong policy, advocacy and regulatory skills to the role of Northern Territory Director," Mr McConville said.

"The position will be based in Darwin and Cassandra's focus will be to make sure the Territory gets its share of the predicted boom in national economic output by the oil and gas industry of more than \$350 billion and the creation of 220,000 jobs over the next two decades.

"Creating jobs, boosting the local economy and protecting the environment are what Cassandra and APPEA are all about."

Mrs Schmidt said she was honoured to head up APPEA in the Northern Territory.

"The Northern Territory is vital for Australia's oil and gas industry. There is so much potential here if we get the policy settings right," Mrs Schmidt said.

"I have been a part of the oil and gas industry for over 20 years working directly for operators both in Australia and the North Sea.

"Having come from an operational background, I really do understand the impacts of developments on the natural environment and the implications of design and project planning on environmental outcomes. I have worked in both corporate HSE and project delivery teams and enjoy the interface between technical teams, community and regulatory bodies.

"I can't wait to start this role and help the industry grow in the Northern Territory."

Mrs Schmidt starts on April 19.

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