

Buru Energy pleased to award pre-FEED study for Rafael

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 05:50 PM | TheNewsWire via QuoteMedia

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(NewsDirect)

Buru Energy Ltd (ASX:BRU, OTC:BRNGF) CEO Thomas Nador tells Proactive the company has progressed the development of its Rafael gas condensate resource in the Canning Basin of Western Australia, awarding a pre-Front End Engineering Design (FEED) study to global professional services company GHD Pty Ltd. GHD will deliver concept select level engineering for the first phase of the Rafael development, enabling the project's progression to FEED in the second half of 2024. Within the last week, Buru has completed the Rafael 3D seismic survey acquisition program on time and on budget. Data from the survey will serve to delineate the Rafael resource structure more precisely and guide the appraisal drilling program planned for 2024.

Nador said: "We are very pleased to be partnering with GHD on this critical scope of work to progress the Rafael phase one development. The work over the next several months will enable Buru to define the phase one Rafael development to a level of maturity that will enable it to proceed to FEED next year for this potentially transformative energy project in the Kimberley. We are demonstrating that Buru is delivering on its plans to generate benefits to its shareholders, Traditional Owners, the government and Kimberley communities."

“The 3C resource assessment is constrained by the mapped structural closure of the accumulation with a gas column defined by [Australian consulting group] ERCE of some 634 meters [3.28 feet]”, the exploration and production company said in an ASX disclosure April 26, 2022. “In Buru’s view the pressure data in the well not only supports this interpretation of the height of the gas column, but also suggests it could be significantly larger.

“Gross 1C [low estimate] Contingent Resources of 59 BCF [billion cubic feet] of recoverable gas and 1.2 million barrels of condensate have been assessed, constrained by the ‘gas down to’ in the Rafael 1 discovery well”.

Buru announced August 3 a two-phase development strategy for Rafael. “Phased development generates early cashflows with staged capital expenditure, delivering accelerated benefits to shareholders and the Kimberley [region], and optimizes larger scale development based on Rafael resource appraisal outcomes”, it said at the time.

Among the plans for the development of Rafael is a liquefied natural gas production facility. “Pre-feasibility study conducted in collaboration with Transborders Energy and Technip Energies demonstrates a Kimberley based Floating Liquefied Natural Gas facility is a technically, commercially, and economically feasible option”, Buru said in an ASX announcement April 18. The study suggested about 1.6 million metric tons in annual capacity for the LNG facility, the company said.

“In conjunction with the Transborders study, Buru Energy is exploring a number of other pathways for the early commercialization of a full range of Rafael resource sizes, including local LNG production for Kimberley energy requirements, and local value adding gas conversion to products including methanol, ammonia and urea”, Buru added at the time.

In the latest update about the project, announcing the pre-FEED contract, Buru said, “The Rafael Phase 1 project has the potential to reduce the current carbon intensity of the energy system in the Kimberley by over 60 percent and is designed to meet the forecast energy demands of the Kimberley for decades”.

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