# MEDIA ADVISORY 28 October 2011



## MAUI PIPELINE CRITICAL CONTINGENCY UPDATE 9.30am Update

We continue to ask that customers who are authorised to use gas continue to do so frugally. If you have not been contacted by your retailer you **must** not use gas.

### **Site Update**

- The replacement section of pipe has been fabricated off site, in consultation with the international certifiers in Singapore and transported to site at 4.00am this morning. It is now in the trench being measured and fitted. Our work on this will carry on through this morning.
- Additional excavation was required to allow for inspection and testing. This work is now complete with no issues identified in the testing.
- Our current best estimate is that the pipe will be welded in place tomorrow, followed by testing and certification over the subsequent 24 hours. After that the pipeline will be re-pressured and filled with gas. The weld procedure must pass certification after 24 hours to enable the pipeline to be operated.
- The industry is working with the GIC and CCO to ensure the reinstatement process works smoothly so that gas is restored safely, ensuring stability of the system and as quickly as possible.
- The weather conditions are poor with continual heavy rain on Thursday and overnight. Ground conditions and terrain continue to be a challenge.
- Site specialists continue to work in shifts 24/7 to effect the repair.

#### **Customer Update**

- There are several thousand Band 6 customers these are mostly small businesses or small users of gas (max 2 TJ per annum).
- Gas retailers **will notify** each Band 6 customer individually, advising that they may begin using gas via phone, email or text message.
- Customers who are not contacted by their gas retailer **must** not use gas.
- Everyone using gas (Bands 5, 6 and residential users) must continue to use gas frugally.
- The Critical Contingency Operator is carefully managing the available gas to make sure the system can continue to operate.

### **Ends**