

GAS BOSS KEEN TO BUILD EMPIRE

GARY SHIPWAY



Empire Energy's Alex Underwood at the site of the Carpentaria 1 well in the Beetaloo Basin in the Northern Territory.

EMPIRE Energy CEO Alex Underwood is confident the Territory is going to have a successful onshore gas industry and he wants to be a part of that success.

Mr Underwood has had a steady stream of politicians, government departments and industry stakeholders getting a first-hand look at Empire Energy's Carpentaria 1 well site, which has had early success on the eastern side of the Beetaloo sub-basin.

"We are really pleased with the drilling results to date ... we had anticipated that these rocks would be deeper and therefore dry gas," Mr Underwood said.

"The presence of liquids-rich gas is a very good sign for future development in the area. Origin actually predicted the presence of this liquids-rich gas a couple of years ago and we have now confirmed it with our drilling.

"So it is really exciting from that perspective because if you look at the US shale base the most success has been in the liquids-rich gas areas.

"There is a substantial future development potential in our exploration area.

"We have already had quite a lot of people working on site.

"The thing about job creation is that there will be work in the upstream development of drilling wells and doing pipelines and things like that, but the benefits are way broader than just that part of it."