Chief Minister Adam Giles has moved to establish a new Parliamentary Committee to look at issues surrounding the Northern Territory’s energy future.

“This Committee will have the important role of assessing our energy capability, future needs and continuity of supply,” Mr Giles said.

“The Government recognises that secure, reliable and affordable energy will fuel economic growth. This growth could be put at risk if we do not get our energy settings right.

“We cannot invite new trading partners to invest here when we cannot properly accommodate their future energy needs.

“Energy is a critical component of strategic planning for our future.”

The new Sessional Committee on the Northern Territory’s Energy Future will look at issues including:

- The Territory’s current energy capability;
- The Territory’s probable and proven energy capability;
- The prospect for additional energy resources;
- The future energy needs of the Territory and the continuity of supply;
- The most cost effective means of meeting the Territory’s energy needs;
- Regulatory impacts on the cost of energy insofar as these can be reasonably ascertained;
- Alternative sources of energy supply available to the Territory, including oil, gas, coal, uranium;
- Renewable energy sources such as hot rock, solar, biofuels, wind and tidal energy;
- Emerging technologies and their applicability to the Territory.

“This Committee’s immediate priority will be to assess the opportunities and issues connected with the Territory’s onshore energy resources.”

“I am pleased to hear there is bipartisan support for this important initiative and I look forward to the Committee starting its work.”

The Committee will be made up of the following Members of the Legislative Assembly: Gary Higgins, Larisa Lee, Bess Price, Gerry McCarthy, Kon Vatskalis and Gerry Wood.

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