MEDIA RELEASE

Nicole Manison
Shadow Minister for Public Employment

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CLP THREATENS JOBS IN BUSH

Shadow Minister for Housing, Nicole Manison, today said that further job losses in remote communities could result from the Territory Government’s changes to housing repairs and maintenance.

Ms Manison today called on the Territory Government to explain how remote community employment will be given priority under the new housing repairs and maintenance tender it has issued.

"Many Regional Councils (formerly called Shires) employ people locally to undertake housing repairs and maintenance," Ms Manison said.

"There is a very real concern across the bush that these contracts could go to companies with fly-in-fly-out staff and that would mean further job losses in our remote communities.

"The Government needs to explain what tender weighting will go to local indigenous employment within these contracts.

"The prospect of job losses is very real and could be as high as 12 in Tiwi Islands and 10 in Roper Gulf.

"This couldn't come at a worse time when the future of Regional Councils is already under a cloud due to CLP bungling of Shire reforms with councils waiting to find out their boundaries and how that would affect their economic viability.

"This means more uncertainty for people in the bush," said Ms Manison.

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