CLP LEGISLATION PROVES PRIVATISATION AGENDA

The Leader of the Opposition, Delia Lawrie, today said that Labor will be seeking answers to costs and asset sales at Monday’s Public Accounts Committee Inquiry into the split up of PowerWater.

“The legislation to split PowerWater Corp. that was introduced by the CLP Government in the February sittings has again highlighted the veil of secrecy the CLP Government use to hide their actions from Territorians,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The CLP Government’s ultimate privatisation agenda was obvious given clauses in the legislation go further than splitting PowerWater Corp.

“The CLP Government has had a long standing ambition to split up and privatise PowerWater Corp.

“They have pretended that they are moving to split PowerWater Corp. for efficiency – but this is simply not true.

“Clauses in the proposed legislation grant powers the shareholding Minister, Dave Tollner, which will allow him to sell of the Territory’s assets without having to answer to Parliament.

“Granting absolute authority to the shareholding minister is dangerous in the hands of Dave Tollner.”

Ms Lawrie said that the Public Accounts Committee hearing on Monday will give Labor the opportunity to stand up for Territorians by questioning the motives and actions of the CLP Government.

“This legislation raises a lot of questions and is the furthest thing from an example of good governance,” Ms Lawrie said.

“How much is this split going to cost Territorians?

“How can Territorians trust that the CLP Government will act in their interests seeing they have mismanaged PWC to date?

“Dave Tollner has already taken a wrecking ball to PowerWater Corp, with Territorians facing massive power bills and unreliable service – how much hurt is this legislation going to cause?”

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