Peter Chandler  
Minister for Infrastructure  

Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory  

Tiger Brennan Drive boosting Indigenous employment  

9 February 2016  

The duplication of Tiger Brennan Drive will not only make life easier for Top End commuters by reducing travel time, it is also providing employment opportunities for Indigenous Territorians.  

The project has recorded 64,769 hours worked by Indigenous people on the project of a total of 357,585 hours worked since the project began in October 2014.  

Minister for Infrastructure Peter Chandler said the percentage of Indigenous employment on the project stood at 18 per cent and credits the vision and investments made by the Country Liberals Government, the contractors and employees.  

“Increasing employment and wealth creation for Indigenous Territorians is the way forward and I am proud of the work this Government is doing to help achieve this,” Mr Chandler said.  

“In addition to positive Indigenous employment outcomes, the project is also fostering the career development of young Indigenous Territorians in the construction sector with seven Indigenous trainees on site.  

“The project has also engaged with the Clontarf Foundation to arrange a site visit for program participants, which enables young Indigenous boys from the program to learn about career opportunities in construction and the environment in which we work.  

“The Tiger Brennan Drive project has 87 per cent of the work being performed by local Territory companies. Of the 13 per cent non-local element, 10 per cent was comprised of specialist contractors in the areas with equipment or knowledge which was not available in the Territory at the time.”  

The duplication of Tiger Brennan Drive is now in its final months, with the project 65 per cent complete.  

A significant amount of work has been undertaken on the new inbound lanes, including construction of the new Hidden Valley Bridge, the bulk of the earthworks and the installation of major drainage structures.
Chief Minister Adam Giles said the Country Liberals Government record infrastructure spend was providing a significant injection into the Northern Territory’s economy and a consistent pipeline of works to the construction industry.

“Since coming to office, we’ve worked hard to fix the Government’s finances so we can invest in roads, bridges and other infrastructure to keep the Territory moving ahead, with over 97 per cent of government tenders awarded to local companies,” he said.

“Our Aboriginal Affairs Strategy is maximising the potential for capital works projects to create jobs for Aboriginal Territorians.

“The Department of Infrastructure’s Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum initiative has delivered 576 new jobs for Aboriginal people in just over 12 months, up from 40, while the Remote Contracting Policy has created a market of over $400 million a year for local businesses in remote communities.

“We’re also investing over $1.3 billion in remote infrastructure, with over $400 million in roads, $300 million in housing, $100 million in health and education, and nearly $50 million in telecommunications.

“Only the Country Liberals Government has a plan to grow the economy and invest in the infrastructure the Territory needs now and into the future.

“Only the Country Liberals Government has a plan to create opportunities to deliver more jobs, better services and improve our unique way of life.”

**Media Contact:**
For Infrastructure Minister, Whittney Jago – 0417 926 426
For Chief Minister, Scott Whitby – 0438 531 583