Delia Lawrie
TREASURER

17 June 2008

MILLS – CLOSED FOR BUSINESS

CLP Opposition Leader Terry Mills would make sure the Territory is closed for business, Treasurer Delia Lawrie said today.

“Access Economics forecasts the Territory’s economy will grow by 7% next year – and 7% growth does not happen by accident,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Terry Mills’ comments in the Estimates Committee today that Government has no role in driving the economy are irresponsible and would put our strong economic growth at risk.

“Unlike Terry Mills, the Henderson Government knows creating a can-do business environment is essential to ensure Territorians get the maximum benefit from economic opportunities such as China’s boom, including processing a record number of mineral exploration licences and investment in our roads, railway and Port.

“Terry Mills clearly does not understand the need for Government to stimulate economic growth with strategic investments in key areas such as the minerals sector, the tourism industry, roads and infrastructure, and major projects such as the Inpex project and Waterfront development to create economic opportunities for the Territory.

“The Henderson Government’s strategic financial management and can do attitude has seen the Territory buck national trends with the strongest economic and job growth in the country.

“It’s why we are working so hard to secure the $12 billion Inpex project – because it will underpin our economy for decades and create thousands of jobs for Territorians.

“Terry Mills would risk our strong economy by taking his hands off the wheel – in 2001 the Territory had 0% economic growth, and his attitude would take us back there.

“Terry Mills might be happy to put up a “closed for business sign”, but the Henderson Government will continue to drive economic development because it means jobs for Territorians.”

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