Opportunities for Small Business from Major Project

Chief Minister Paul Henderson has outlined the Labor Government’s plans for the Territory economy at the Property Council election debate in Darwin today.

“Labor has clear plans to keep the Territory on track,” Mr Henderson said.

“Under Labor, the Territory has the strongest growing economy and the most confident small businesses in the country, we have the fastest growing jobs market in Australia and we are the lowest taxing jurisdiction for small business.

“During this campaign, I have outlined plans to secure the Territory’s future, including:

• record $3.5 billion investment in infrastructure;
• further cutting payroll tax from 5.9% to 5.5%, saving businesses $10 million; and
• an additional $10 million into training and building our workforce, including 10 000 apprentice and trainee commencements over four years.

“My Government is working hard to attract major projects like Inpex, the Jetstar international hub and mining developments because the benefits flow right through our economy to deliver new opportunities to small business.

“The Inpex gas project alone will deliver 4000 jobs and a $50 billion income stream for the Territory over the next 20 years, driving decades of economic benefit.

“I want small business to be in the running for as many opportunities from major projects as possible, and today I announce a new initiative that offers practical support.

“We will invest $200 000 to hold Major Project Forums to assist small businesses to identify potential from major projects and how to target them.”

The forums will be delivered in partnership with the NT Industry Capability Network with a minimum of six forums to be held in the next 12 months.

“My Government’s strong financial management means we can deliver for Territory families, with record spending in health, police, education and infrastructure,” said Mr Henderson.

“In stark contrast, Terry Mills and the CLP have already overspent the Territory budget with uncosted, irresponsible election commitments.

“Terry Mills and the CLP put our strong economic future at risk – he’s just not up to it.”

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