Terry Mills  
Leader of the Opposition  
Media Release  

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FEDERAL STIMULUS DUDS THE TERRITORY

Territorians should not believe repeated false claims by the Henderson Government that the Territory Opposition opposes the Federal Government’s $42 billion stimulus package.

“I’ve said from the outset that such a massive spending package should be subject to proper parliamentary scrutiny and that remains my position,” says Terry Mills, Leader of the Opposition.

“The Henderson Government is so desperate to shift the focus away from its woeful performance at Royal Darwin Hospital that it is lying about the Opposition’s position on the stimulus package.

“There are also valid questions as to whether the Territory is getting its fair share of the stimulus package.

“On a per capita basis the $200 million of the infrastructure fund the Territory will receive is around $90 million shy of what we are entitled to.

“The shortfall in Territory funding comes after the Territory was completely ignored by the Rudd Government in its December Nation Building fund.

“At that time the Territory received a miniscule $3.5 million out of the $4.7 billion spread around the nation.

“After receiving just .07% of the Nation Building fund the Territory could have reasonably expected a greater share of the proposed $42 billion stimulus package.

“It’s worth remembering that the Chief Minister praised the Rudd Government’s decision to totally ignore the needs of the Territory in December.

“Perhaps the fact we are getting duded is the reason the Henderson Government voted down our amendment supporting greater scrutiny of the stimulus package.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594