MEDIA RELEASE

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POWER WATER FAILURE STRIKES DEEP AT ALICE HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS

The Territory Opposition is highly critical that residents of Alice Springs will be hit with double whammy price hikes because of the failure of the Henderson Government to adequately maintain Darwin’s electricity system.

“News that the Alice Springs Council will be increasing rates by 8.5% highlights how the people of Alice will be paying twice for Labor’s failure to maintain the electricity network,” says Matt Conlan, Shadow Minister for Central Australia.

“The impact of the 25% power price shock and 70% water tax was already going to bite very deeply into many budgets in Alice Springs.

“The 8.5% increase in Council rates adds even greater pressure to struggling families and small businesses.

“The fact that the Henderson Government is still to move the Ron Goodin Power Station as promised just adds insult to the injury of the power price shocks.

“Nearby residents must be outraged about being asked to pay 25% more to listen the generators whining day and night.

"I’m also concerned that the double hit of increased Power Water bills and increased Council rates will push some struggling Alice Springs businesses over the edge.

“Electricity is a very significant embedded cost in the delivery of good and services throughout the Territory and Alice Springs with the temperature extremes is particularly vulnerable.

“Difficult economic times are coming to the Territory and the Henderson Government’s woeful mismanagement of the electricity industry could not have hit at a worst time.

“The savage increases in the price of power and water will flow into the cost of many other good and services that Territorians buy on a regular basis.
“The people of Alice Springs are now going to pay more for their groceries, fuel and other necessities because of the 25% power price shock and 70% water tax.”

Further comment: Matt Conlan 0408 805 338