COUNTRY LIBERALS
MEDIA RELEASE
PRISONERS OF THEIR OWN INCOMPETENCE
John Elferink MLA
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Today’s second anniversary of the Henderson Government’s announcement it would build a new Top End prison is an important milestone in the life of this failed administration.

Manager of Opposition Business, John Elferink, said it was with much fanfare that former Attorney General, Chris Burns, announced plans for the new facility.

“I’ll bet today’s anniversary will be marked with considerably less fanfare,” Mr Elferink said.

“Firstly, the Government waited until after the 2008 Territory election to announce the location for the prison and then, after losing its majority in Parliament, it had to review the site as part of the deal it struck to stay in power with Independent MLA Gerry Wood.

“Two years on, we see ourselves no further progressed than we were in 2008 and there’s the possibility the prison won’t be built at all.”

Mr Elferink said while the Country Liberals favour the retention of the Berrimah prison, it also wants good Government from the Labor Party.

“We’re not seeing that at the moment. What we are seeing is an administration desperate to cling to power with little prospect of implementing its agenda,” he said.

“Its list of broken promises from the 2008 election campaign include:

• The failure to deliver on a water recreation park and sporting facility in Palmerston;
• Failure to install a stinger net at Nightcliff beach;
• Failure to implement its ‘practical plan’ to resolve Blue Mud Bay;
• A failure to value public servants by forcing them to take pay rises below CPI;
• Blowing its greenhouse gas reduction targets by burning 60million litres of diesel and spending $120million on old technology turbines.

“That’s on top of the list of promises he made Gerry Wood last year that hasn’t been implemented.

“After nearly a decade in Government, Labor has run out of puff. Territorians deserve better.”

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