LABOR’S TAX SUPPORT A DISGRACE
David Tollner MLA
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The Chief Minister and Treasurer should join the growing list of Labor Party politicians Australia-wide to oppose the Federal Government’s 40% Resource Super Profits Tax.

Shadow Business Minister, David Tollner, said the support for the tax by the Territory Labor Party is disturbing, in contrast to their counterparts in Queensland and South Australia who have questioned the make-up of the tax.

“South Australian Treasurer, Kevin Foley, says the 40% slug should be changed, so does Queensland Premier Anna Bligh,” Mr Tollner said.

“It’s not often these supposed Labor Party luminaries buddy up with Western Australian Liberal Premier, Col Barnett to oppose the Commonwealth Government, but that’s exactly what’s happened.

“So far the only Government from the so-called resource jurisdictions that hasn’t taken issue with the resource tax slug is the Northern Territory.”

Mr Tollner said the Territory has the most to lose from Kevin Rudd’s unwarranted new tax on the resources sector, which makes the Henderson Government’s support all the more bewildering.

“Of all jurisdictions, the Territory’s GSP is most dependent on revenues from mining,” he said.

“In South Australia, minerals make up 3.5% of GSP, in Queensland it’s 8.3%, in Western Australia it’s 25.3% and the Northern Territory tops the list with a whopping 26.5% of GSP.

“Why, given the Territory economy’s dependence on mineral extraction, is the Labor Government supporting this doubling of the mining royalty?

“Not only will it impact on existing minerals operations, but it could result in reluctance by business to begin exploration operations in the Territory.

“I’m horrified at the Henderson Government’s complicit approach to its dealings with the Commonwealth Government.

“First they support the National Health Network without even understanding what the Prime Minister had to offer, and now this.

“Paul Henderson and Delia Lawrie should think for themselves and not simply roll-over every time Canberra makes an announcement.”

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