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SHADOW BUSINESS MINISTER

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LAND RELEASE FAILURES HURT BUSINESS, THE ECONOMY

The Henderson Government’s failure to release enough land to meet the Territory’s residential housing demand is hurting the economy, says Shadow Business Minister David Tollner.

Mr Tollner was speaking after award winning Darwin building company Brolga Homes sent letters to clients announcing it was insolvent.

“There is enough demand in the Territory’s housing market to support all the existing building companies and more,” Mr Tollner said.

“The trouble is the Government isn’t releasing enough land for residential or commercial development and this is flowing on to business and the economy.

“Brolga Homes has operated in the Northern Territory for a number of years and the company has built many houses for Territory families.

“While the cause of Brolga Homes’ insolvency remains unclear, its insolvency should send an unambiguous message to the Henderson Government that it’s woefully inadequate land release policies are failing.

“My sympathies are with the clients, suppliers and contractors of Brolga Homes who are out of pocket as a result of the insolvency.

“Families relying on Brolga Homes to build their houses will be desperately disappointed and contractors and suppliers will also be considerably out of pocket.

“Brolga’s insolvency should also serve as a reminder to the Henderson Government of the need to introduce some form of home warranty insurance to protect people building a home.

“While the Chief Minister paid lip-service today, Labor promised to introduce a home warranty scheme before the 2005 election but typically, has failed to deliver.”

Further comment: David Tollner 0414 690 109