2 September 2010

TENDERS OPEN FOR NEW BRIDGE OVER RIVER CULLEN

Member for Stuart Karl Hampton today called for tenders to deliver vital upgrades to the Cullen River Bridge near Katherine.

“Reliable transport routes are vital to regional hubs like Katherine, expanding industry and services to outlying areas.

“The Cullen River is prone to flooding during heavy rainfall, making the Stuart Highway impassable.

“This project will see a new, higher bridge built downstream, linked to the road by new overtaking lanes.

“Traffic can then be diverted to the higher bridge when the low level is flooded.

“This project will ensure smooth passage over one of the last low-points on the road north to Darwin.”

The bridge and overtaking lanes are funded under the federal government’s Nation Building program.

Mr Hampton said that the tender will be open for three weeks from today, with construction expected to begin in October and be completed mid 2011.

“Under this Government’s Territory 2030 Plan we are developing Katherine as a regional hub with a focus on tourism, transport, agriculture, mining and government services.”

“As well as employing up to 35 Territorians during construction, this project is a significant investment in the future economic health of the region.”

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