The Essential Services Minister, Delia Lawrie, should say whether she intends to legislate to ensure extra power costs caused by the carbon tax are not passed onto Territory consumers.

Shadow Essential Services Minister, John Elferink, said earlier this year Parliament passed legislation linking future increases in power charges to the cost of living, “Mr Elferink said.

“But a carbon tax appears likely to increase PowerWater’s tax burden by over $20 million each year – including a .7% increase in CPI and, in the words of the corporation’s CEO, the increased cost will have to be passed onto consumers.”

“The only way for this not to occur is if the Territory Government subsidises PowerWater by the same amount it’s slugged by the carbon tax.”

“Either way, Territorians will be out of pocket.

“The Henderson Government has given its whole-hearted support to a tax that is bad for everybody’s bottom line – except the Commonwealth’s.”

Further comment: John Elferink 0418 406 400