Delia Lawrie’s budget is a document mired in deficit, debt and deceit. Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, said the Treasurer has maxed out the credit card to pay for next year’s election promises.

“The budget is in crisis and the Government’s forecasts are in tatters,” Mr Mills said.

Territorians will be paying for the Government’s wild spending for years to come.

Including PowerWater, the Territory’s debt will almost double from $2billion to $3.8billion between now and the end of the forward estimates and instead of trending down, the deficit is set to skyrocket.

Last year the Treasurer forecast a $268million deficit at the end of the financial year, but today we’ve learnt the figure is actually $295million.

She promised the deficit would drop to $172million next year, but today she admitted it’s set to soar to $387million.

In 2014-15, the end of the forward estimates period, the budget is still forecast to be $195million in the red.

This is in stark contrast to her claim in November 2008 that the budget would return to surplus the following year.

“Disturbingly, the Treasurer has broken her promise to ‘reveal’ when the budget will be back in surplus.

“This disgraceful refusal is an alarming failure of honesty that should concern all Territorians, who will be forced to pay for Labor’s spending into the future.

“Delia Lawrie should immediately outline the Government’s strategy for returning the budget to surplus. Anything less represents a monumental breach of trust.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594