MEDIA RELEASE
FLOOD PROOFING FOR THE FUTURE
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Toll’s decision to add a 30% surcharge to goods freighted into and out of the Territory as a result of the Alice Springs to Darwin train derailment adds further weight to the Country Liberals’ push to flood proof our major infrastructure.

Shadow Transport Minister, Adam Giles, said the grocery price hikes right across the Territory so soon after Christmas are a blow for families.

“The Chief Minister said there would be no cost to Territorians as a result of the derailment – but he was wrong,” Mr Giles said.

“All Territory consumers will be affected because retailers will pass on the 30% surcharge to customers.

“Labor’s poor infrastructure planning and the result of the recent derailment and the Stuart Highway being cut off means not only will fruit, vegies and grocery prices increase, but so too will construction materials and other household items.

“Our cost of living in the Territory is already high enough.

“The Chief Minister should be on the phone to his colleagues in Canberra pushing the Commonwealth to invest in real infrastructure to flood proof the Territory’s major highways, starting with the Stuart Highway, so that we can be accessible 365 days a year and we can work to keep our cost of living pressures down.

“The Labor Government has had 10 years to meet the Territory’s infrastructure needs – but has failed dismally and the Country Liberals if successful in the Territory election will make it a priority to lobby the Commonwealth for a real national building package of infrastructure investment for the Territory’s future.

“On the back of Container Deposit Legislation, which has seen cartons of beer go up by around $5 each, the expected price increase from the surcharge is another cost of living increase for ordinary Territorians. Sadly it’s a cost that many cannot afford.”

Further comment: Adam Giles 0421 588 118