Essential Services Minister Rob Knight today announced that the Larrakeyah Outfall is set to close by the end of the month as part of the Territory Government’s commitment to clean up Darwin Harbour.

Mr Knight said extensive construction works had taken place to pave the wave for the closure, which is part of a significant Darwin City Sewerage Upgrade.

“By the end of this month, no more untreated sewerage will be discharged into Darwin Harbour from the Larrakeyah Outfall as the Territory Government improves water quality and gears up for the Territory’s growth,” he said.

Mr Knight said Power and Water Corporation had undertaken the extensive work to close the outfall.

“Power and Water has been tunnelling under the city the past 12 months to redirect the wastewater from Larrakeyah to Ludmilla, where the water will be treated before it is released into the ocean.”

He said the sewage would now be directed out through Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant after receiving appropriate secondary treatment before discharge.

Mr Knight said work on the $20 million upgrade of the Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant was continuing with major construction works underway including tripling the treatment capacity at this site.

Over the next year further works will take place to duplicate the rising main to East Point and prepare a Public Environment Report to extend the East Point outfall further into the harbour to reflect the modelling work done by Charles Darwin University to ensure the optimum water quality in the Harbour.

The total cost of the works is $67 million and will support growth in the CBD and the closure of the Larrakeyah outfall.

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