Today’s announcement that Singapore Airlines’ budget off-shoot, Scoot, is set to launch services to up to four destinations in Australia by the middle of next year provides a great opportunity to increase competition in Darwin and Alice Springs.

“The weekend’s Qantas shutdown highlighted the need for more airline options within the Territory’s aviation sector,” says Opposition Leader, Terry Mills.

“Scoot is planning to start with a fleet of four Boeing B777-200 aircraft in the middle of next year and will service the medium to long haul market.

“The budget carrier will take on markets within five to 10 hours flying time from Singapore and will be in competition with Jetstar, Air Asia and Virgin.

“While the exact destinations haven’t been announced, the Territory is well placed for Scoot to connect into the Australian market.

“I intend to visit Singapore later this year and will make a point of meeting with Scoot executives to push the Territory’s case as a future destination.

“In the meantime I will write to Scoot to gain a better understanding of their plans and to promote the Territory’s future growth opportunities.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594