Paul Henderson's claim he wouldn’t support the carbon tax if it left Territory families worse off is proving to be a deceptive sham.

Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, says today’s announcement by Virgin Australia that it is introducing a carbon tax surcharge on all domestic flights shows the Chief Minister’s word of honour means nothing.

Virgin today announced flights of up to 900km would carry a $1.50 surcharge, between 901km and 2000km would carry a $3 surcharge and over 2001km would carry a $6 surcharge.

“Darwin is more than 2000km from every other Australian capital meaning passengers to and from the city will bear the full cost of this surcharge,” Mr Mills said.

“This is an unwanted price increase for Territorians already feeling the pinch from cost of living pressures.

“Darwin already has the highest capital city rents in the country, buying a home is a dream for many young families and workers, petrol prices are 10cents a litre higher than the southern capitals and the Government recently increased power prices by 25%.

“Despite this, the Government chose to support a carbon tax that increases prices.

“The Chief Minister is a puppet of the dysfunctional, divided, Federal Labor Government.

“Virgin’s announcement is the thin edge of the wedge and cuts to the heart of the Chief Minister’s credibility.

“Paul Henderson made a cast-iron commitment that Territory families wouldn’t be worse off under the carbon tax, knowing full well that couldn’t possibly be
the case.

“He should apologise for his betrayal and reveal exactly how many Territorians will be worse off when the tax kicks in.”

(See attached link)

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594