MEDIA RELEASE

LABOR’S DIRTY DOZEN

March 26th, 2012

It’s two days short of 12 years, so it’s a relief the Labor Government has finally honored its promise to implement a form of consumer protection legislation for home buyers.

Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, said Labor first proposed a builder insurance scheme when Clare Martin was Leader back in March 2000 (see attached).

Finally, after plenty of heart-ache for Territory families caught up in building company failures, the Government has announced plans to implement Residential Builder Cover from January 1st next year.

“You can never accuse Labor of moving quickly,” Mr Mills said.

“By any measure, 12 years is an embarrassing delay in the implementation of policy.

“During that time numerous Territory builders have gone belly-up including Carey in Alice Springs and Augusto and Brolga Homes in the Top End.

“This is extremely distressing for the families involved and can leave them tens-of-thousands of dollars out of pocket.

“When Clare Martin issued her March 28th, 2000 media release she said:

‘Adapting interstate consumer protection legislation to suit the Territory should be a piece of cake’.

“This sentence sums up the Labor Government – plenty of big talk, precious little delivery.”

Mr Mills said the Country Liberals will wait for the release of details surrounding the new scheme.

“As with everything Labor does, the devil will be in the detail,” he said.

“I will be watching to assess the impact of Residential Builder Cover on house prices.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594