The Northern Territory is a vibrant place to live, work and invest, and as a Government the Country Liberals are dedicated to driving industry development.

Minister for Business David Tollner said the Territory Government was committed to fostering a thriving economy, growing future prospects and harnessing growth and expansion in a range of industries.

“The NT Government has a range of programs in place to support businesses and provide financial support to industry sectors to grow the NT’s economic base and identify new opportunities,” Mr Tollner said.

The Department of Business is responsible for industry policy and facilitation that supports sustainable growth, maximises opportunity and minimises barriers to growth.

“A priority is working with industry leaders to prepare local businesses for the major projects planned in the Territory, in particular the rapidly-developing oil and gas industry,” Mr Tollner said.

Attracting investment in the Territory is a key focus of the department. With the Australian Defence Force increasing its resources in the Territory, the department is working to grow local business capacity to provide support and maintenance services to Defence.

Budget 2013 funding commitments to industry development include:

- **Industry Development Grants**: $200,000 (previous recipients include the Urban Development Institute of Australia and Engineers Australia).

- **Industry Development Support Program**: $2.1 million to grow the capability and capacity of local workforce and business, previous recipients include the Industry Capability Network NT, Civil Contractors Federation NT and International Business Council.

- **Business Enterprise Centre**: $320,000 (assists in fostering the establishment and development of successful new businesses in the NT and delivers a range of small business workshops in Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine.

- **Sponsorship**: $120,000 (supports industry awards and business functions, previous recipients include the Master Builders Association NT, Business & Professional Women Darwin and Youth Business Awards.

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