GILES’ CHAOS DEEPENS

Shadow Minister for Government Accountability, Ken Vowles, today expressed his concern with the Chief Minister’s blatant disregard for the concerns of Territorians.

“Adam Giles’ dangerous plan to scrap the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority is another example of him ignoring the wishes of Territorians,” Mr Vowles said.

“His plans to abolish the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority in favour of his own hand-picked board, eradicates any independent referee in determining, enhancing and preserving important Aboriginal cultural sites.

“A move that appears he is over-riding his own Minister for Parks and Wildlife, Bess Price, on, who in question time today said it had nothing to do with her.

“This attack on the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority is just another example, in a long line, of Adam Giles’ destructive pattern of behaviour.

“This week he has refused to listen to educators, student and families who are in a desperate state about the fate of their education system after his savage cuts and job slashing.

“He took a swing at local councils, refusing to respect the elected choice of Territorians by giving Dave Tollner the ‘Kingmaker’ power to sack any Mayor or council member he feels like.

“He failed to step up to the plate and accept responsibility for what is happening in Nhulunbuy with Rio’s decision not to convert the refinery to Gas.

“And rather than listen to the fears of families, businesses and traditional owners in Nhulunbuy about what is going to happen to them, their businesses, schools and vital services if the refinery closes altogether, he has been missing in action, trying to distance himself from the issue.

“He even turned his back on his own CLP members by refusing to listen to the concerns Larisa Lee and Alison Anderson have for the future of their home communities after the scrapping of the Strategic Indigenous Reserves.

“Now he refuses the respect the legitimate interests of Indigenous Territorians to have their sacred sites protected.

“His destructive behaviour, blatant arrogance and refusal to listen to Territorians or even his own CLP colleagues are not the actions of competent Chief Minister.

“It is time the Chief Minister stopped and listened to Territorians, and stopped his arrogant and destructive behaviour, or step aside for someone who is up to the job.”

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