MEDIA RELEASE

Kon Vatskalis
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

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CLP PORT SALE TO HURT COST OF LIVING

Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Kon Vatskalis, said that Territorians feeling the pain of high cost of living were in for harder times if the CLP Government goes ahead with their plans to privatise the port.

“We know the CLP Government wants to privatise port services,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“The Chief Minister, Adam Giles, has said that they are looking for people that can provide a capital injection to the ports services in Darwin.”

Mr Vatskalis said any privatisation of the port will affect all Territorians.

“A private operator will want to make a profit from Port charges, this means that the cost of moving goods through the ports will go through the roof,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“The cost of living will spike dramatically with increased port charges for shipment of fuel, food, vehicles and other goods through the port that will be passed on to Territory families.

“Territory businesses exporting live animals and other goods through the port will also face higher charges, making their exports less competitive.

“The Darwin Port Corporation has axed jobs due to outsourcing crane work.

“The privatisation of the Darwin port is an attack on jobs and cost of living in the Territory.

“Adam Giles and the CLP Government need to listen to Territorians that are hurting under this burden and do what they promised at the last election – reduce the cost of living.”

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