MEDIA RELEASE
Gerry Wood MLA
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR NELSON

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What a Great Christmas Present -Lake Elizabeth!

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says nothing seems to change when it comes to planning in the NT.

Gerry says for starters, one of the most important planning documents, *Towards a Darwin Regional Land Use Plan 2014*, is released at Christmas when many people are away on holidays.

Gerry says this document should have been released at the end of the January school holidays with comments closing by the end of February. Presenting this document at this time of year will be seen as a way of avoiding maximum exposure at a time when planning is the last thing on people’s minds.

He also says that Government’s never seem to learn. The Plan once again brings up the CLP’s favourite concept, damming the Elizabeth River. This idea was buried by Denis Burke when he was Chief Minister after Parliament was presented with a huge petition opposing the damming of the river.

Gerry says Weddell can be built as was shown when the previous Government developed a Weddell Plan without wiping out an important estuary of Darwin Harbour.

Gerry says that there are many other issues in the Plan that need very close scrutiny such as the creep of urban and peri urban development into Howard Springs, Noonamah and Hughes, changes to the Shoal Bay Conservation Reserve, proposals to industrialise Glyde Point and residential development at Murrumujuck.

Gerry says that the Government needs to allow an adequate comment period after the school holidays so that all these issues and others can be looked at properly.

*Cessi foro gallinarum sed surgo*