BLACKOUT ANGER MOUNTS

Leader or the Opposition, Delia Lawrie, today said the CLP Government is ripping off Territorians by making it difficult for them to access the promised compensation for last month’s devastating blackout.

“Territorians were assured by the Chief Minister that they would be compensated for the catastrophic blackout. That hasn't happened and yet more blackouts are occurring,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Despite Adam Giles telling ABC news “let’s not split hairs on this; let’s get the rebate out to everyone that was effected” Territorians are being told by PowerWater that they have not been advised who will be eligible for compensation.

“Territorians are still waiting for their compensation and the answers from the CLP Government about what went wrong with PowerWater.”

Ms Lawrie said that the CLP Government has delayed the release of the findings of the investigation into last month’s catastrophic blackout to avoid scrutiny in the Blain by-election.

“The massive blackout that affected thousands of Territorians last month, proved that power is an essential service, and without it our capital city grinds to a halt.

“Territorians want to know what happened to PowerWater that plunged them into darkness.

“The CLP Government needs to release the report. Territorians have every right to know what is going wrong at PowerWater.”

Ms Lawrie the CLP Government plans to split up and sell off PowerWater is a disaster that brings price hikes and reduced reliability.

“The CLP Government has dropped the repairs and maintenance ball and sacked experienced staff and we now have reduced reliability,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Elsewhere in Australia utility splits and privatisation has led to increases in power bills and reductions in reliability.”

The CLP Candidate for Blain, Nathan Barratt, supports the split of PowerWater and needs to explain to Territorians his stance.
“Territorians are already struggling with the high cost of living in the Territory,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The best way to stop privatisation of PowerWater is for the residents of Blain to vote for Geoff Bahnert on Saturday.”

Media contact: Cathryn Tilmouth 0427 500 667