The Minister for Health Robyn Lambley says work is underway to deliver the bigger and better $150 million Palmerston Regional Hospital.

“This is one of the most significant infrastructure projects on the horizon for the Northern Territory,” Mrs Lambley said.

“The Country Liberals is building the Territory’s health system to encourage and support development in northern Australia.

“Budget 2014 has committed $10 million to early works at the site and the Department of Health has a dedicated team working to progress this project.”

Department of Health Chief Executive Len Notaras said a topographic survey of the site was being conducted by a Territory company.

“This involves information on local features of the land such as elevations contours, soil types and terrains as well as specific land forms and work is expected to be finished by July,” Dr Notaros said.

“The survey of an access road has been underway for the past fortnight as part of the Stuart Highway/Temple Terrace intersection upgrade.

“A local company is conducting the road survey, and the tender for the design will be advertised from next week with works to start soon.

“A geotechnical study will also be finished by August, with delivery of headworks to the hospital site boundary to start in December.

“The Department of Health and the Department of Infrastructure have received an Aboriginal Protection Authority Certificate and Notice of Intent (Environmental Assessment Act).”

Mrs Lambley said the Government was close to finalising the procurement process, and Expressions of Interest will be released in July.

“We are working with experts from across Australia to obtain the best advice to build an excellent hospital to support population growth in the north,” Mrs Lambley said.

“It is a rigorous process to select the best procurement option, to ensure best value for money for the people of Palmerston and the rural area.”
Member for Solomon Natasha Griggs said she’s excited that progress is being made on the site, which she noted is 15 times the size of Labor’s proposal.

“Work is progressing well on what will be a signature project for the Australian and Northern Territory Governments,” Mrs Griggs said.

“It will provide medical and surgical services including cardiology, renal medicine, cancer services, paediatric, antenatal and postnatal obstetric services, with birthing services to be delivered as part of Stage Two.

“This project will ensure we meet the growing health needs of Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area for decades to come.”

**TIMELINE**
- Feb-14 Scoping Study published
- Apr-14 Environmental assessment completed
- Apr-14 Survey for road works underway
- Jun-14 Site and traffic works commence
- July-14 EOI process commences
- Mid 2015 EOI process concludes, contracts signed
- Mid 2016 Detailed planning and design, civil works commence
- Late 2016 Main building works commence

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