Media Release

David Tollner, Member for Fong Lim
Minister for Business

GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT STREAMLINED

3 June 2014

The Northern Territory Government will introduce a range of procurement reforms on 1 July to make government procurement simpler, more efficient and more transparent.

The Department of Business is currently working alongside the Chamber of Commerce to deliver procurement roadshows across all regions of the Territory explaining the changes.

Minister for Business, Dave Tollner, said he wanted to make it easier to do business with government through reducing the complexity and red tape in the procurement system.

Stage 1 of these reforms will take effect on 1 July 2014. The reforms will include:

- changes to the procurement tiers
- more flexible tender release and closing times
- amendments to Standard Conditions of Contract
- changes to the role of the Procurement Review Board
- streamlining internal processes to reduce decision making timeframes.

Tender assessment and award timeframe targets will also be set out and Chief Executives of Government agencies will be required to report against those targets.

Mr Tollner said the Government will be producing easy to follow guidelines to help businesses tendering for Government contracts.
“We will also be working across Government to improve the capability of procurement staff and improvements in the quality of documentation. I believe it’s hugely important that the Government, as the client, can clearly articulate its requirements to potential suppliers.”

The Power and Water Corporation will implement its own procurement framework from 1 July 2014 and business can also hear about this as part of the information sessions.

Power and Water is one of the largest buyers of goods, works and services in the Northern Territory and its procurement activities play an important role in the health of the economy.

Power and Water’s new procurement framework and processes are designed so that Territory businesses receive full, fair and reasonable opportunities to participate in project

Mr Tollner urged all current and potential government contractors to attend the roadshows to hear first-hand from the Department of Business Procurement Liaison Team how the changes will streamline the process.

“Businesses will be emailed the details of these information sessions. They are also available on the department’s website and will be advertised in the local press, so keep an eye out for your nearest session and come along to hear about these changes that will make doing business with government a lot easier.”

**Seminar dates**

**Palmerston** - Thursday 5 June
5.00-6.30pm The Hub, 3 Maluka Street, Palmerston

**Winnellie** - Monday 16 June
5.00-6.30pm Master Builders Association
Terminal One Building, Unit 11/396 Stuart Highway, Winnellie

**Katherine** - Tuesday 3 June
5.00-6.30pm Knotts Crossing Resort

**Alice Springs** - Monday 23 June
5.00-6.30pm Convention Centre, 93 Barrett Drive

**Alice Springs** - Tuesday 24 June
7.30-9.00am Convention Centre, 93 Barrett Drive

Tennant Creek - Tuesday 24 June
5.00-6.30pm Training NT Regional Centre, Karguru Conference Room, 65 Staunton Street

Nhulunbuy - Monday 30 June
12.00-1.30pm Walkabout Lodge, 12 Westal Street

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