MEDIA RELEASE

Natasha Fyles
MEMBER FOR NIGHTCLIFF

22 January 2014

CLP SILENT ON NIGHTCLIFF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Local Member for Nightcliff, Natasha Fyles, today said local residents are concerned about the lack of information from the CLP Government about the commencement of geotechnical studies off the Nightcliff Foreshore.

“The residents in my electorate of Nightcliff have come to me with concerns that the Government has not released any information on the geotechnical investigation works that will be taking place,” Ms Fyles said.

“The CLP Government is not being transparent with their planning processes.

“Why hasn’t the Government held community forums or information sessions?

“This proposed project has the potential to have significant impact on the environment and amenity of Nightcliff, Coconut Grove and the broader Darwin Harbour.

“It is Planning Minister, Peter Chandler’s, responsibility to inform the community about all aspects of this proposal and instead he has gone into hiding.

“Why isn’t the Minister for Planning communicating with the community on the details of this project?”

Ms Fyles said residents are concerned that there will not have been any community engagement before we see rigs off the Nightcliff foreshore this weekend.

“The Government made a commitment that the Planning Commission would involve the community at the earliest stage - This is clearly not taking place.

“The Government is taking short cuts and cutting corners on their own planning processes.

“The Minister needs to explain to our community why we are seeing feasibility drilling in our harbour without any community consultation about the proposal.

Shadow Minister for Planning, Ken Vowles, said we support development but we need a balance of infill and greenfield sites.
“Under the former Labor Government we had a plan of developing infill space around current hubs that were already serviced along with developing greenfield sites such as the proposed city of Weddell,” Mr Vowles said.

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