10 DAYS TO SEND THE CLP THE MESSAGE – DON’T SELL OUR TIO

Territorians have 10 days to let the CLP Government know they don’t want TIO sold and should get on the phones to CLP Members of Parliament and sign the petition to send them a message, Shadow Minister for Government Accountability Natasha Fyles said today.

“Territorians are sending the CLP a clear message - we don’t want TIO sold because it will risk skyrocketing insurance premiums and our no-loophole insurance cover,” Ms Fyles said.

“But Chief Minister Adam Giles is arrogantly not listening to Territorians and the experts who are warning him not to sell.”

“Today Coalition MP Warren Entsch, the head of the Northern Development Inquiry said he’d cautioned Adam Giles about selling off TIO, saying it would lead to higher premiums and reduced insurance coverage.”

Mr Entsch told ABC Radio:

“I was concerned that by selling it we would end up in the same situation we are in the rest of Northern Australia where Government institutions, or institutionalised entities, like the state government insurance office for example in QLD, basically lost any concept of community obligation or community service and we’ve seen an absolute disaster in relation to market failure and what is clearly market gouging.

“Mr Entsch said the Territory was the last place in northern Australia with access to affordable insurance but the CLP and Adam Giles are ignoring this and are prepared to throw away any advantage a publicly owned TIO has in terms of northern development.”

The Queensland Government’s submission to the Inquiry into the Development of Northern Australia stated: “The high cost of insurance premiums are likely to hinder or slow economic development within the Northern Australian region.”

Ms Fyles said Territorians were speaking out against the rushed sale, signing petitions and contacting CLP MLAs to urge them to vote against any TIO sell off.
“Some CLP members may be feeling the heat from their constituents," Ms Fyles said.

“The CLP spin machine will be out in force over the next 10 days trying to hoodwink Territorians into believing selling TIO is the only way forward.”

“This just isn’t true and Territorians won’t be fooled.”

“Territorians are signing petitions against the sale, making sure they have a say in the future of TIO.”

“Territory Labor’s position is clear – we don’t support the sale of the Territory’s public assets and if elected we will review any asset sale undertaken by the CLP.”

Territorians can sign the petition at http://www.change.org/p/northern-territory-government-don-t-sell-tio or contact CLP Members of Parliament:

Darwin:
John.Elferink@nt.gov.au or 8999 6755
Peter.Styles@nt.gov.au or 8999 6781
David.Tollner@nt.gov.au or 8999 6667

Palmerston and Rural:
Peter.Chandler@nt.gov.au or 8999 5587
Lia.Finnocchiaro@nt.gov.au or 8999 5397
Nathan.Barrett@nt.gov.au or 8999 5572
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