MEDIA RELEASE

Nicole Manison
MEMBER FOR WANGURI

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SICK CLP GOVERNMENT DELAYING PALMERSTON HOSPITAL

Member for Wanguri Nicole Manison said today the Giles CLP Government’s continued dysfunction and delays are putting the vital Palmerston Hospital project at risk.

“The project agreement between the NT and Federal Governments show construction of the hospital was supposed to start in May this year,” Ms Manison said.

“Yet the CLP’s timeline puts construction of the hospital starting in late 2016 and they continually refuse to commit to an opening date.

“Now there will be more delays as they flirt with privatisation.

“The project agreement states a Federal payment of $35 million is scheduled for May 2015. Given construction is nowhere near starting, that funding is at risk.

“With five CLP Health Ministers in two years is it any wonder the Government can’t stick to its timelines and get on with building the Palmerston Hospital.

“The CLP promised to start work on the Palmerston Hospital within 12 months of the September 2013 Federal election.

“Then in August 2014 then Health Minister Robyn Lambley signed the project agreement with the Federal Government committing to a construction start date of May 2015.

“RDH is overflowing and the ED is under critical pressure, putting our health workers under enormous stress.

“The Giles CLP Government is focused on its own infighting at the expense of Territorians’ health.

“Labor turned the sod for construction of Palmerston Hospital in April 2012. The Palmerston Hospital would be under construction right now if the CLP Government hadn’t stopped work and delayed construction ever since.”

Further information Louise Connor 0438 241 211