Chief Minister

LABOR SHOULD APOLOGISE FOR PULLING THE PIN ON ESTIMATES

20 June 2013

Delia Lawrie’s Labor Party has abandoned its questioning of Northern Territory Government ministers saying their Opposition members were too tired to continue.

Labor Member for Barkly Gerry McCarthy and Independent Member for Nelson Gerry Wood walked out on Estimates Hearings early this morning while Chief Minister Adam Giles was still in the chair answering questions.

“Gerry McCarthy crumbled and Gerry Wood went AWOL, leaving the estimates hearings in disarray,” Mr Giles said.

Anticipated appearance times for Ministers were agreed in advance with Labor and due to Opposition mismanagement and time-wasting, the entire Estimates process is now way behind schedule.

“Labor members proved they are a rabble, spending the first two days wasting time with irrelevant questions. They should have been more organised and this is a situation of their own making,” Mr Giles said.

Mr Giles and his departmental staff were all present and willing to push through the remaining portfolios placed on the agenda for the day.

“The public servants had been waiting for hours and there were six other Labor members who could have taken over questioning but none were willing,” Mr Giles said.

“We’ve given the Opposition every opportunity to ask questions but instead Labor has packed up and gone home.”

Mr Giles will front the Estimates Committee at 8.30am. He hopes Labor will cut their time-wasting and have relevant questions that directly relate to Territorians.

Media Contact:
Danielle Parry 0413 081 801