MEDIA RELEASE

Michael Gunner
Territory Labor Leader

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 Territory Labor Will Maintain Infrastructure Fund

Territory Labor Leader, Michael Gunner welcomed today’s announcement of the establishment of the Northern Territory Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF).

But Mr Gunner said Labor remains totally opposed to the sale of the TIO and other assets like the Darwin Port.

"The Territory needs strong investment in infrastructure and the IDF is a step in the right direction but it should not have come about as a result of the CLP’s broken promise not to sell TIO,” said Michael Gunner.

"CLP Treasurer, David Tollner, sought bi-partisan support for this proposal and Territory Labor has provided that support after a detailed briefing made clear the IDF would be at arm’s length of government and independently managed.

"Adam Giles and the CLP went against the wishes of Territorians and sold TIO, but now that has happened, any revenue raised by our forced asset sale must be appropriately invested.

"Adam Giles and the CLP justified selling TIO because the Northern Territory would get Commonwealth funding of $60 million under the Federal Governments Asset Recycling Scheme - nearly a year after the CLP sold off TIO Territorians have got nothing.

"The Territory now faces a similar situation with the CLP pushing for the sale of our Territory port.

"Territory Labor does not support the sale of the port or selling a lease to the port.

"Our port is a strategic asset for the future development of our economy and emerging industries. That’s why I believe it’s crucial the port remains in Government hands.

"The CLP have no mandate to sell our port and the CLP must take this to the 2016 election which is only 10 months away.”

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