MEDIA RELEASE

Ken Vowles
SHADOW MINISTER FOR MINES & ENERGY

3 December 2015

Strengthening knowledge of Parliaments’ role in Extractive Industries

In line with Territory Labor’s commitment to transparency and honesty, Shadow Minister for Mines and Energy, Ken Vowles, today released information and costings around his upcoming Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) trip to the United Kingdom.

Mr Vowles said he would be attending the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association’s & World Banks Parliament and Extractive Industry Revenues Workshop as the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly representative to gain further insight into the role of parliaments in extractive industries.

“Extractive industries are a big part of the Territory’s economy and Territory Labor will do all we can to make sure those industries are appropriately supported. At the same time, we will make sure we have strong regulatory frameworks to protect the Territory’s unique and pristine environments.

“Proposals to be discussed at the Workshop include how parliaments can strengthen their oversights of extractive industries, to ensure they are developed in a transparent and accountable way which benefits our Territory society,” Mr Vowles said.

“In line with Territory Labor’s policy, I have met with key Territory stakeholders to help prepare ahead of my engagement. Engaging with local stakeholders is paramount to ensuring we have as much local knowledge as possible as part of any fact finding or trade missions.”

Under CPA guidelines, travel and accommodation costs are reimbursed, equivalent to the cheapest economy class return airfare. The CPA also meets the cost of travelling allowance, accommodation and meals for the workshop, which is being held December 7 to 11 in London. There is expected to be no cost to the taxpayer for this trip.

“The Territory Labor team has committed to providing itineraries, costs and an explanation as to how overseas travel will benefit the Northern Territory,” Mr Vowles said.

“On my return, I will present a report to Parliament about the visit and how the information learnt can be applied to benefit the Territory.”

Travel and accommodation paid for by the CPA include economy airfare total cost $3479 and meeting accommodation and meal costs at the venue of the Workshop.

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