CLP Economic Bungle To Cost NT Taxpayers $60 Million

Labor Leader Michael Gunner today said the CLP’s two serious mistakes with the North East Gas Interconnector pipeline project shows the Giles Government can’t be trusted to get economic growth and development right.

“First, the CLP imposed an inflexible and highly restrictive timeline at the very time the world gas market is at its lowest point. We now know from Jemena that the timeline imposed an impossible schedule for them,” Michael Gunner said.

“Second, the CLP failed to ensure that a 14 inch pipeline was the minimum size allowed for this project. We now know that an alternate tenderer for the pipeline, APA, committed to a 14 inch pipeline unconditionally and this should have been the baseline of any agreement the CLP entered into to build this project.

"Simply put, if the CLP wanted a 14 inch pipe, Territorians could have had a 14 inch pipe. This is a monumental stuff up."

“Territory Labor supports the pipeline but what we cannot support is the CLP asking taxpayers to fork out $60 million for Adam Giles’ economic blunder.

“The CLP have proven once again that their constant infighting and scandals distract them from the work of Government and they cannot be trusted with our economic growth.

“The CLP could have instead used this money to fund local jobs, support local business, properly fund Foodbank NT, or come good on their promise of 120 additional police,” Michael Gunner said.

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