CLP Leader Terry Mills today accused the Martin Labor Government of using its political influence to have the CLP candidate for the seat of Stuart, Anna Machado, forced from her business and off the Aboriginal community of Willowra.

"Ms Machado was given notice to immediately leave the community because she did not have a permit to be on Aboriginal land, that's despite the fact that she had been living at Willowra for almost 3 years," Mr Mills said.

"Ms Machado's eviction smacks of political motivation. Why else is Anna Machado being forced off the community and virtually out of the election race?"

"The order to leave the Willowra community is scant on detail. It says that the CLC was instructed not to provide Ms Machado with a permit, but the question must be asked by whom and why?"

"Ms Machado was also told she would never be given permission to go onto any Aboriginal communities in Central Australia. Again it begs the question, why?"

"This goes to the very heart of the style of government we have here in the Northern Territory and how it goes about its business."

"Anna Machado is being victimised. It makes no sense what's so ever given that 9 traditional owners from the community, marched on the CLC demonstrating their full support for Ms Machado."

"The Government can sit back arrogantly rubbing its hands together with glee over what's happened but this is a shameful example of politics."

"The only thing Anna Machado has done wrong is to be the CLP's candidate for Stuart running against Labor's Peter Toyne."

"If Anna cannot get a permit for any Aboriginal land in Central Australia she will not be able to campaign against Peter Toyne in the coming election, and the Government knows this."

"Anna Machado has done nothing wrong and the excuse to get her off the
Willowra community is flimsy to say the least."

Ends