First ever Territory skills gap study

NT businesses are being asked to participate in the first comprehensive Northern Territory-wide Labour Market Analysis and Forecast study, Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said today.

Mr Stirling said the study, being conducted by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies (SACES), would play a crucial role in the planning and development of employment and training opportunities across the Territory into the future.

"The Labour Market Analysis will assist with the future growth of the Territory economy and I urge the business community to become involved," he said.

"The Analysis is a key part of our effort to continue to increase job opportunities for Territorians.

"It will allow us to gain a clearer picture of skills shortage areas in the NT. The Department will then be able to use the information to provide Territorians with the training they need to take up jobs in existing and emerging industries and on major projects."

Mr Stirling said businesses would be contacted by mail or email and may also be asked to take part in face-to-face interviews.

"The information collected will be used to verify statistical information, support economic modelling and will be treated as confidential," he said.

"That information will also help us to build a reliable picture of planned investment and development growth across industry for the next five years. This in turn will be used to forecast labour market and skill needs."

Mr Stirling urged those businesses who are contacted to complete surveys and questionnaires and take part in interviews wherever possible. Training Advisory Councils and local consultants will be assisting SACES to conduct surveys.

"I would like to thank those companies and organisations taking part and assure them of the importance of this study. The end result will be a forecast of Territory labour needs for the near future. The Government is committed to ensuring Territorians have the first opportunity at new jobs created in the Territory through targeted training."