Terry Mills
Leader of the Opposition

Survey reveals Government making a mess of Territory economy

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The Martin Labor Government continues to make a mess of the Northern Territory economy and the latest Chamber of Commerce Business expectations survey revealing an economy in decline proves it, CLP Leader Terry Mills said today.

"The Chamber makes it clear: 'At a time when the rest of Australia is showing strong growth the Territory's overall economy is down in all indicators. The survey shows an economy not performing'," Mr Mills said.

"And worst of all the Martin Government refuses to accept the survey's findings.

"Just one day ago the Chief Minister refused to accept her own Treasury Department's assessment of the Territory economy when it halved the 2003-04 economic growth forecast revising it down from 3.4 % to 1.6%.

"No wonder the survey found confidence in the Martin Labor Government is minus 32. 

"Rather than fixing the mess this Government prefers to fight Territorians and refuses to accept what they are saying. Only a few weeks ago the Government was hailing Chamber reports of good September sales figures.

"Today when the Chamber presents it with bad news it says the Chamber has got it wrong.

"The problem with this Government is it just doesn't know how to govern."

Ends.