7th June 2005

**Labor Do Not Support Lower Electricity Prices for Territorians**

Labor does not support lower electricity bills for Territorians.

Country Liberal Party Leader Denis Burke said, “Labor has no plan to cut the cost of power and is happy to let Territorian families continue to pay the highest electricity costs in Australia.

“Labor have repeatedly refused to rule out a hike in electricity costs should they be returned to government.

“Under Labor businesses will continue to suffer under a double whammy of costs: high electricity prices and a high payroll tax regime. No wonder there is a continuing net loss of people to other states. Latest ABS figures last week showed another 1,200 economically active people have picked up and gone.

“It’s no good sitting back hoping that gas comes on-shore. That could be years away and even then, it may not be able to be used by Territorians – they didn’t deliver one molecule of gas for power generation from the LNG plant so why would we trust them to secure any gas onshore?

“The Country Liberal Party have a plan to drive down the cost of electricity for families and businesses. The plan to drive down electricity costs will attract new businesses here, will ensure more successful current businesses and will reinvigorate the Territory economy – all of which Labor does not support.

“The Territory needs energy and only the Country Liberal Party has the plan to deliver the energy.”