Terry Mills
Leader of the Opposition

Government too lousy to turn on the Christmas spirit

23 December 2004

The Martin Government should get into the Christmas spirit and resume the CLP's popular tradition of lighting up the giant water towers scattered around Darwin's suburbs during the festive season, CLP Leader Terry Mills said today.

"The tradition of lighting up the giant Nightcliff, Parap, Airport and Palmerston water towers began 1995. It proved popular with the mums, dads and their children over Christmas," Mr Mills said.

"Darwin has lost its Christmas tradition thanks to penny-pinching by the Martin Labor Government.

"The Government stopped the tradition of lighting the water towers when it came into office, cutting it back to only the Parap water tower. However even that has been scrapped by the Government. It is mean spirited of the Martin Government not to decorate and light up the water towers. They were always a treat for children and brought the spirit of Christmas to town.

"The Martin Labor Government wastes millions of taxpayer's dollars on self promotion, but is too lousy to spend money to get into the Christmas spirit.

"The Government's Christmas drinks bill would be more than the cost of decorating the water towers."

Ends