Acting Sport and Recreation Minister Paul Henderson congratulated local firm Wolpers Grahl Pty Ltd for winning the Stage 6 contract for remediation work at Hidden Valley.

“This contract—worth $467,000—brings to $1.5 million the amount we have spent in bringing various facilities at the Hidden Valley complex up to speed in terms of occupational health and safety and compliance,” said Mr Henderson.

“We inherited a real mess out at Hidden Valley, with a large number of buildings that had to be condemned, or which were operating without building and occupancy permits.

“This did not serve the many fans of motor sports well, and could have endangered competitors.

“The latest works, which will run for the next 18 weeks, is varied and are to be carried across the whole complex. It will include:

- a new senior caretaker’s residence and shed
- fencing
- upgrades to toilet blocks at the Speedway operated by Darwin Speedway Riders and Drivers Association
- electrical switchboard, canteen and marshalling area for the Darwin Karting Association.

“Motor sports has a huge following in the Territory and attending and competing at meetings—big and small—is part of our great life style.

“The annual V8s, for example are a huge draw card, with next year’s 1-3 July event expected to attract over 40,000 fans and be worth over $11 million to the economy.

“The clubs and associations who use the varied facilities at Hidden Valley are the back bone of this supporter base for motor sports in the Top End.”