2nd May 2005

Another 2001 Broken Election Promise that is Promised Again

Today’s announcement by the Labor government to commit funding for the Palmerston Recreational Centre is just another attempt by Labor to hide the fact they have done nothing for four years, Country Liberal Party Leader Denis Burke said.

Mr Burke said, “The Country Liberal Party made the original commitment in the 2001 election which was also followed by Labor but until now, nothing has happened except empty promises and announcements.

“The litany of broken promises looks like this:

1. The Chief Minister was asked about the Centre following the 2002 Budget and she said that consultation was occurring and it was in the design phase – nothing happened.

2. In the NT News on 21 August 2003, the Chief Minister announced in Parliament that works on the Palmerston Recreation Centre would begin in 2004-05 - nothing happened

3. On 9th October 2003, it was announced that a site had been chosen for the Palmerston Recreation Centre with Kon Vatskalis saying $30,000 had been allocated in that year’s Budget – nothing happened

4. In the Sunday Territorian on 23 November 2003, an article said that work was expected to begin next year (2004) and construction finishing by early 2005 – nothing happened.

5. Labor provided $1.8 million in last year’s May 2004 Budget for headworks that have not even started.

6. In the NT News on 16 August 2004, the Chief Minister announced the funding – again – but still nothing happened
“How can Territorians take what this Labor government says seriously? For four years all we have heard are empty promises, promises that construction will start and promises that the Centre will be completed by the end of 2005.

“The Labor government has not started and finished one major piece of infrastructure work since being elected and the Palmerston recreation Centre is just another perfect example of nothing happening.

“With Engineering Construction Activity falling $100 million in the last twelve months, this Labor government is failing all Territorians by not keeping their promises.

“Unless major infrastructure works are begun, jobs will continue to be lost and the Territory’s economy will fall further behind the rest of Australia.”