The Government has let regional Territorians down by refusing to give regional airline Airnorth the support it needs to provide air services to Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs, CLP Leader Terry Mills said today.

"This decision makes a mockery of the Chief Minister's Adelaide mission trying to sell the Territory as a place to live and work. The bottom line is if we can't maintain a regular five day a week service to our major regional services in the Territory how do we have a hope of marketing the Territory as a place to come live, work and raise a family," Mr Mills said.

"If the Martin Government was to spend $215 000, less than a third of the Government's latest spend on its own self promotion, residents in Katherine and Tennant Creek would still have their Airnorth service.

"This is about having the right priorities and when you look at some off the gratuitous ways the Government has been spending taxpayer's money it is wrong to refuse to provide funding for regional air services.

"The Government has no qualms about spending hundreds of thousands of dollars promoting itself, yet it ignores the importance that the Airnorth service provides in maintaining the Territory's main regional routes.

"Airnorth has carried the financial burden for as long as is humanly possible and the Government must now do its share to guarantee these main regional routes have a regular air services.

"It is short sighted and poor Government to decide that this air service must stand and fall on a commercial basis. This is all about providing proper services and transport links for regional Territorians."

Ends