Katherine businesses will have the opportunity to find out how they can benefit from the $52M to be spent on the Bradshaw Field Training Area near Timber Creek at an industry briefing next week, Defence Support Minister Paul Henderson said.

The Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development’s Defence Support Unit will run the briefing for local businesses interested in the Defence contracts flowing from the Bradshaw project.

"The Defence Bradshaw Field Training Area is a real boost for the Northern Territory’s regional economy," Mr Henderson said.

"Territory companies have already benefited, with local business Steelcon completing the $6M bridge across the Victoria River, under a contract managed by the Territory Government.

"I want to see more Territory companies win contracts on the project, with the flow on effect of more jobs for Territorians, and next week’s briefing will outline just where these opportunities are."

Civil work is due to begin next April and the $52M in construction projects will include:

- Two airstrips;
- Two 500-person camps;
- Up to 200km in gravel roads;
- Maintenance and management facilities; and
- Signposting and fencing.

"Jobs and economic opportunities from Bradshaw aren’t just limited to construction – more than $3M will be spent each year to support Army operations at the site," said Mr Henderson.

"That means more jobs and business openings in other areas such the supply of fresh food and equipment maintenance.

"The Bradshaw Field Training Area is here to stay, with the Defence Force, under an Indigenous Land Use Agreement, able to use the site for more than 200 years.

"I want to see Territorians benefiting as much as possible from this project and I encourage Katherine businesses to come along to the Government’s briefing to find out how they can get the most out of this Defence spending."

The briefing will be at Knotts Crossing Resort at 6pm on Tuesday 9 December.