ENGINEERING ACTIVITY CONTINUES TO GROW

Engineering construction is still going strong in the Territory – according to the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics figures released today, said Treasurer Syd Stirling.

“New figures show engineering activity grew by 19.1% in the year to March 2006, compared to the previous 12 months,” said Mr Stirling.

“The value of engineering construction has grown from $1.5 billion in March 2005 to $1.8 billion in March this year.

“This is great news for the Territory as it shows there is plenty of engineering work going on, despite the completion of one of Darwin’s mega-projects - the LNG Plant at Wickham Point.

“The growth is largely driven by expansion of the Alcan G3 Refinery in Gove, which is also creating plenty of jobs and training opportunities for Territorians.”

The Treasurer said that engineering activity remains at historically high levels, and expects that it will taper off once construction at Alcan is complete.

“These latest figures are yet another example of strong economic growth in the Territory,” said Mr Stirling.

“They follow two independent reports released this week that provide positive forecasts in the Territory, including the Housing Industry Association and Access Economics.”

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