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**Tens of Thousands of Litres of Diesel Spill at Tennant Creek Power Station**

Power and Water Authority was quizzed by Shadow Minister for Essential Services, Dr Richard Lim about a huge diesel spill which occurred at the Tennant Creek power station during the election campaign.

“I recently discovered that there was a major diesel spill at Tennant Creek at the power station, a spill described as ‘tens of thousands of litres’ which had the potential for severe environmental damage,” Dr Lim said.

“I am accusing the government of keeping mum on the spill, a devious act of government to hide the fact from Territorians because the incident occurred during the election period.

“Power and Water revealed that it was a very large spill which flowed into a creek several hundred metres away from the power station. Power and Water said it informed the Minister for Essential Services once it knew about the problem, but Territorians heard nothing from the Minister.

“To this stage, Power and Water still does not know what environmental damage has been caused by the large volume of diesel and whether the diesel has entered the water table in the creek.

“For a government which pride itself in being open and accountable government, it is showing many signs of arrogance and deceit, by hiding such severe environmental damaging events.

“I recall a former Environment Minister of this government accusing an environmental terrorist for a cyanide spill in Central Australia.

“A large diesel spill such as this can be just as environmentally damaging.

“We still don’t know what the impact of such a large volume of diesel will do to the creek and whether it had reached and contaminated the water table.
“I am not sure if it is just human error which caused this disaster, but it should not have happened, and once it did, the government should be open about it and told Territorians about the matter.

“We all live the Territory for its pristine environment, and we want to know if something goes wrong with it. It is incumbent on an open and honest government to inform us,” Dr Lim said.