Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says if the government’s vision is for Darwin to look like Singapore then it must look at recycling sewage water.

Gerry says that instead of pumping sewage into the Darwin Harbour we should be using that water for our parks and gardens. A dual reticulation system would be required to be constructed through our cities and future cities around the harbour – one system for drinking water and the other for ‘grey’ water.

The water could also be stored during the wet season perhaps at the old quarry sites or similar sites near the Robertson Barracks and then pumped back into the city or Palmerston.

Gerry says that the recycling of water would be expensive but the only other alternative would be to build a new dam and that would be very expensive. Why not spend that money on recycling our waste water?

Gerry says the government should also remember that Darwin is the capital of the Northern Territory and the Northern Territory is not Singapore. Whilst there is nothing wrong with looking green we also need to remember that we have plants that reflect our landscape especially Acacias, Eucalypts, Grevilleas and Melaleucas. People might want to see some green but they also want to see a unique NT landscape. Let’s also not forget that our native plants use less water and attract wildlife into the suburbs.

It’s good to see the government is at last looking at picking up the Mayor of Darwin Peter Adamson’s idea of a vision for Darwin but let’s make sure the vision is practical.