8 February 2007

2% UNEMPLOYMENT IS TERRITORY RECORD LOW

** PLEASE NOTE THE TREASURER WILL BE HOLDING A DOORSTOP AT 12.25PM SHARP ON THE STEPS OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE TODAY **

The Territory has today achieved the lowest level of unemployment in history, said Treasurer Syd Stirling.

“The Australian Bureau of Statistics figures show that unemployment is now at 2% - this is a record low for the Northern Territory,” said Mr Stirling.

“More Territorians are in work than ever before, and importantly, they can choose what career or trade to pursue.

“This is the result of a very strong Territory economy, with the Martin Government determined to continue its vigilant approach to fiscal management,” said the Treasurer.

“Under the Martin Government the Territory has an economy and lifestyle that is the best in Australia.

“Almost 101 700 Territorians are in jobs. When you include the defence force the figure is around 110 000,” he said.

“While we are always cautious of ABS statistics – it is obvious that whatever figure you look at, unemployment in the Territory is extremely low.

“Furthermore, economic growth is forecast at 6.2% and employment growth at 5%.

“It is clear that the Territory economy is in safe hands, and that Territorians have a bright future.”

Earlier this week, ANZ Job Ads showed growth in employment in the year to January.

Job ads increased by 5.4% in the Territory, while decreasing by 4.6% at the national level.

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