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CLP ABANDONS TERRITORY

Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries Kon Vatskalis has accused the CLP of ‘rank hypocrisy’ over its refusal to support the call for urgent action in the fight against illegal foreign fishing incursions.

The Territory Parliament today passed a motion calling for an increased effort in the fight against illegal fishing, despite opposition from the CLP.

Instead of presenting a united front for the protection of Northern Territory waters, the CLP were more interested in protecting their mates in Canberra.

Over the past three years, the CLP has contributed nothing to this issue.

Today they showed their complete disregard for the seriousness of the problem by refusing to support the motion.

Illegal fishing poses a serious bio-security threat and has the potential to devastate the Territory’s fisheries.

Minister Vatskalis has called on Prime Minister John Howard to personally take action and convene a summit of all relevant ministers and stakeholders to develop a national strategy to tackle the problem.

A comment by the Member for Greatorex, Richard Lim, that the Prime Minister has more important things to deal with proves how out of touch the CLP is with the real issues.

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