The Northern Territory Government today announced a further $6 million to advance the undergrounding of power in the northern suburbs.

Essential Services Minister Kon Vatskalis said the decision to advance the investment in Rapid Creek’s power infrastructure was sensible and would allow the undergrounding of power in the suburb of Millner to begin earlier.

“We are delivering on another election commitment – under the Martin Government we have the best economy and lifestyle in Australia,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“This significant investment will deliver vital infrastructure upgrades to the residents of Rapid Creek and Millner.

“Undergrounding powerlines increases the reliability of power and life expectancy of the lines as well as protecting homes from factors such as falling trees and cyclonic weather.

“Our strong financial management has allowed the Territory Government to contribute an extra $3 million a year to the existing $3 million we already provide for this vital infrastructure project.

“The Power and Water Corporation also fund $1.2 million a year to the project,” Mr Vatskalis said.

Local Member for Nightcliff Jane Aagaard said it was terrific to see our 2001 and 2005 election commitment’s being delivered and the resident’s of Rapid Creek will benefit with increased reliability of power and added value to their homes, same as the people of Nightcliff have.

Local Member for Millner Matthew Bonson said getting underground power to the people of Millner was a project he had worked hard to deliver.

Work in Rapid Creek began in October 2006. With around 675 properties in this suburb, approximately 240 properties have been completed, with the additional funding completion is expected by the end of 2008. Millner is expected to start in 2009.

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