MEDIA RELEASE

ACTING MINISTER FOR LANDS, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
THE HON. FRED FINCH, MLA

Ref: R-0477-96          Date: 08/7/96

Acting Lands, Planning and Environment Minister Fred Finch today released proposed Land Use Objectives for the planned railway corridor for the Darwin to Alice Springs railway.

Mr Finch said the objectives included a new name for the area set aside for railway development - the Northern Territory Trans-Continental Railway Corridor - as the Land Use Objectives cover the whole alignment through the Territory from the South Australian border.

Mr Finch said the final railway alignment and corridor width will vary depending on specific location and adjoining property boundaries.

With the survey of the railway line now completed, Mr Finch said the proposed Land Use Objectives would ensure that the railway played an integral role in the future development of the Territory's regional centres.

"The Objectives will help shape the location, design and operational requirements of the planned extension of the railway from Alice Springs to Darwin," Mr Finch said.

"The Government is also keen to ensure that opportunities for the integration of rail and road transport components are maximised, along with the compatibility of the railway with existing and planned land use activities within the corridor area."

Mr Finch said the information released also included locality objectives for Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield, Coomalie, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs which reflect development requirements for each.

These locality objectives included the avoidance, where possible, of railway level crossings on the local road network, and the integration of the railway with local Town Plans.

As part of the public consultation process, Mr Finch said Territorians were invited to inspect the proposed objectives and provide comment on the plans during a 28-day exhibition period.

The plans are on display until 2 August in the following Department of Lands, Planning and Environment offices:

Northern Territory Government

Telephone: (08) 8999 6332
Darwin - First Floor, AMP Building, Cnr of Cavanagh and Knuckey Streets

Palmerston - First Floor, Baywood Building

Katherine - Member for Katherine, Mike Reed’s Office, Katherine Terrace, LPE Regional Office, 32 Giles Street

Tennant Creek - LPE Regional Office, TIO Building, 90 Patterson Street

Alice Springs - LPE Regional Office, 21 Gregory Terrace

Contact: Greg Thomson on (08) 8999 6332 or (0419) 833 695