 Territory Labor Leader Maggie Hickey supports the provision of infrastructure bonds status to the north south rail link.

"I was concerned to hear from the Railway Minister last night that the Coalition Government has not yet agreed to approve the north south rail link for Infrastructure Bond status."

"In response to my question earlier this morning, (about 4.00 am from memory) the Minister for the Railway told the Parliament that, in his opinion, the provision of Infrastructure Bond status to the north south rail link is vital to securing private sector financing of the project."

"I will be writing to the Prime Minister supporting the provision of this special tax status to the north south rail link."

"Infrastructure bonds provide a tax incentive whereby investors in approved infrastructure projects are given taxation exemption on the interest received on their loans to the infrastructure project (or the interest receives a 36% tax rebate) for up to 15 years. The scheme was introduced by the former Federal Labor government in the ‘One Nation’ statement in 1992."

"The Coalition have imposed a ‘cap’ of $150 million per year to the taxation incentives. This would allow the Coalition to give eligibility status to a maximum of about $7 billion of new infrastructure projects Australia wide this year."

"Applications for projects with a total value of $27 billion have been received this year, so under the Coalition’s plan, $20 billion worth of projects will have to go into next year’s queue."

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