PERSONALLY, I hate early elections but the Northern Territory is facing a crunch moment. Every day that goes by under an Adam Giles-led CLP Government we see the reputation of the Northern Territory diminished. I simply do not believe the Territory can afford nine more months of CLP rule. We need a fresh start. And the only people I trust to reset Government in the Northern Territory are the voters. This week I will move a no confidence motion against the CLP Government. It is the most serious motion that can be debated in the NT Parliament. This is not a decision I have taken lightly. In many ways, the easy thing to do would have been to do nothing and allow the chaos and dysfunction that has tragically become the norm to continue until the scheduled election in August. But Territorians deserve better than this.

Territorians from all walks of life have urged me to do everything I can to fix this mess. Many senior community and business leaders are telling me the CLP’s incompetence is preventing the Territory from moving ahead. People are treading water, waiting for an election and the chance to move on. We need stability and certainty and the CLP is incapable of delivering that.

Territorians deserve the right to make sure the person representing you in Parliament is hard working, is listening, and takes their job seriously. This is not the CLP Government. Territorians elected in 2012. Back then the CLP was led by Terry Mills and Kenita Purick. Adam Giles and David Tollner knifed Mr Mills while he was representing the Northern Territory overseas. And Kenita walked over concern for the rural area and integrity in Government. They have been replaced by an arrogant dictatorship more concerned with self-preservation than the best interests of Territorians.

Under the leadership of Adam Giles and David Tollner the CLP has destroyed the trust Territorians have in their Government with broken promises, salacious overseas travel scandals, failing hospitals, dodgy coups, corruption allegations, back room deals and constant infighting.

Crime is up, police are down. We have fewer teachers, crowded classrooms, fewer subject choices, and poorer school results.

The Palmerston Hospital was meant to start in 2014. Instead, we got a hole that was dug and filled in again. Last year 3500 more Territorians left than arrived from interstate - the highest level in decades. This loss of talent and skills is threatening our economic future, with no effort by the CLP to stem the tide.

There is no better example of the CLPs arrogance than one year and four days ago when they broke their promise, good Territorians and sold-off TIO.

I have missed many, many things in covering the litany of sins of the CLP. We need to hit the reset button and give Territorians a say.

Labor will put our case to Territorians with a comprehensive plan that has three clear priorities:

- Giving our kids the best start in life. Restoring trust, transparency and accountability.
- Creating and supporting jobs for locals and work for local businesses.
- Most importantly, I pledge we will listen to Territorians and then act on their behalf.

Michael Gunner is the leader of the NT Labor Party.