MEDIA RELEASE

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON IS BEYOND MINISTER

The rolling blackouts that hit Darwin businesses and families today raise serious questions about the Henderson Government’s management of the Weddell Power Station roll-out.

Shadow Essential Services Minister John Elferink said 14,000 customers across Darwin have been affected by the black-outs, which PowerWater is blaming on a gas supply problem.

“The Henderson Government and Essential Services Minister Rob Knight have made a mess of the transition to Weddell,” Mr Elferink said.

“Gas was supposed to be flowing from the Black Tip field on January 1st, but delays meant that didn’t happen until October.

“Now it appears the new gas supply to the new power station has failed, leaving Territorians sweltering on a build up day and business to bear the brunt of lost custom.

“It is extremely concerning that this appears to be a failure of the system that was supposed to fix Darwin’s power generation problems.

“Keeping the lights on has proven to be totally beyond this Government.

“The question is no longer will the Government fix this problem but whether it is up to the task?”

Further comment: John Elferink 0418 406 400