Another Step In Upgrading Darwin City Sewerage

Essential Services Minister Rob Knight today inspected the progress of works that are part of the Darwin City Sewerage Upgrade.

Mr Knight said the Larrakeyah Outfall is on track to be closed by October 2011.

“Closure of the outfall will deliver on this Government’s commitment to improve water quality in Darwin Harbour and manage the Territory’s growth,” Mr Knight said.

“That’s why a new sewer is being installed along Larrakeyah Terrace to divert untreated sewage to the Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant.

“This stage of the project is expected to be complete within three months and from September this year the upgrade to the Doctors Gully rising main and pump station will begin.

“And by September 2011 a new sewer main will be installed under Darwin’s Central Business District to divert sewage to the Dinah Beach trunk sewer and ultimately to the Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant.”

Mr Knight said the Larrakeyah Sewage Outfall has been operating for 45 years with macerated sewage being pumped into deep water in Darwin Harbour.

“This practice is unacceptable and that is why this Government is working towards closing the outfall as soon as we can,” Mr Knight said.

“Upgrades at Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant are also ongoing to handle the increased load as the Larrakeyah Sewage Outfall is shut down and to provide for the Territory’s growth to 2030.”

Works that have already been completed over the past few years to support growth in the CBD and closure of the outfall include:

- New trunk sewers in Mitchell Street and along Tiger Brennan Drive;
- New sewage pumping station at Dinah Beach to transport sewage to the Parap trunk sewer; and
- Incremental upgrades to the Frances Bay sewage pumping station, the Parap trunk sewer and the Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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