Ross Bohlin MLA
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Shadow Minister for Construction and Infrastructure Ross Bohlin says the Construction Minister, Gerry McCarthy, should act immediately to preserve the supply lines of raw construction material to Darwin.

The heavy wet season has again taken its toll on our roads resulting in load and speed restrictions on Howard Springs Road between Slow Road and Howard Springs Reserve," Mr Bohlin said.

This has cut the final line of supply of sand and aggregate for the construction industry. No sand, no aggregate means no concrete, no concrete means no construction. With reserves low, industry has today told me they will most likely run out of supplies by mid next week.

The short-sighted approach of the Department of Roads means Darwin’s major construction projects will grind to a halt through bureaucracy.

For the past two days the Extractive Industry has been trying to work with the Department of Roads, offering self imposed but reasonable load restrictions and even greater speed restrictions across the damaged portion of bitumen.

The industry has offered to supply up to 60 tonne of road base for the affected area to create a restorative pad across the damaged area.

The blind refusal of Government to work with industry and protect greater Darwin’s major Construction Industry is madness.

We must not only rectify the current situation immediately but also plan to further protect our major supply routes.

It is not acceptable to constantly plan to fail by failing to plan the preservation of essential supply routes.”

Further comment: Ross Bohlin 0413 339 417