MEDIA RELEASE

Delia Lawrie
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

15 May 2013
PEOPLE FACE POWER PRICE HIKES

CLP Chief Minister Adam Giles today has confirmed the Government’s goal to move power and water to full cost recovery and is ignoring the reality that this is unachievable without further tariff increases which would price Territorians out of their own homes, Opposition Leader Delia Lawrie said today.

“Not content with slugging the average family a price hike of $2,000 per annum, the CLP has confirmed their policy is to make Territorians pay the actual price of producing power,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Any CLP suggestion that this can be done without further significant tariff increases is untrue. We have real concerns that they are planning to hike up tariffs further, and ultimately prepare Power Water for privatisation.

“Based on existing PowerWater subsidies and operational deficit, this would mean Territorians could face additional price increases of at least $2600 per family.

“Territorians will simply be priced out of their own homes – full cost recovery in the Northern Territory will mean power and water costs will soar to an unsustainable level. As bad as costs will be in the Top End, it will be exponentially worse in the regions where the cost of delivering power is enormous and beyond the capacity of any consumer.”

Disgracefully, Chief Minister Giles has also refused to rule out returning any carbon tax already being paid by consumers should the tax be repealed in the future.

“Mr Giles should realise that keeping a repealed tax and refusing to pass the savings back to Territorians is simply a tariff increase in another guise. Do his CLP masters in Canberra approve of the Giles plan to simply retain the carbon tax into government coffers instead of returning it to consumers?

“Territorians are now on notice that Adam Giles and Dave Tollner intend to keep raiding the hip pocket of families over the next three and half years.”

Contact: Gino Luglietti 0401 119 794