MEDIA RELEASE

Ken Vowles
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS POLICY

14 July 2014

CLP LAND RIGHTS GRAB ANOTHER FAILURE

Shadow Minister for Indigenous Policy, Ken Vowles, today said that Adam Giles and the CLP Government could not be trusted with the complex issue of land rights in the Territory given their raft of broken promises to the bush.

“The CLP Government has failed to deliver their election promises to the bush,” Mr Vowles said.

“They have failed to deliver improved infrastructure, employment opportunities, health services and education.

“The CLP Government is driving up the cost of living in the Territory adding to the disadvantage being felt in the bush.

“After their abject failure on these fronts, do they expect Territorians to trust them with the administration of Land Rights in the Territory?”

Mr Vowles questioned the motives of the CLP Government in their push for patriation of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act.

CLP Attorney-General, John Elferink, told ABC radio today “I would hope that the people who own half of the Northern Territory use that ownership to generate wealth, to generate employment and generate a future.”

“Is John Elferink proposing that Indigenous Territorians underwrite the CLP Government’s obligations in the bush with their royalties?” Mr Vowles asked.

“The CLP Government made billions of dollars in promises they cannot afford -are they now proposing Traditional Owners bank roll the delivery of some of these promises?

“The CLP Government has lost the support of three key Indigenous members on the basis of this failure to deliver in the bush.

“Adam Giles and the CLP Government have failed to deliver one cent from Canberra to develop infrastructure in the bush – which would help to generate the wealth, employment and future that Mr Elferink hopes for the bush.”

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