Federal Communications Minister, Senator Helen Coonan, must use her visit to Darwin today to explain to Territory Information Communication Technology businesses why they are being ignored by the Commonwealth, Communications Minister Paul Henderson said.

“Last month the Territory’s ICT sector heard it had been ignored by the Commonwealth for funding for ICT incubators – despite Senator Coonan claiming it was a ‘national program’,” Mr Henderson said.

“The Northern Territory was the only jurisdiction left out, and it was a kick in the guts for the four Territory businesses affected which had all been producing good results under the Commonwealth scheme since 2000.

“The Federal Government has simply abandoned the Territory’s growing ICT sector, despite crowing about a national program.

“Welcome to Darwin, Senator Coonan – now go and tell iLive Learning, Dolphin Software, GecOz and Sound Safety Pty Ltd why the Commonwealth has turned its back on Territory business.”