Chief Minister, Clare Martin, will meet with some of Australia’s most influential investors in Sydney this week during the first of a number of planned investment tours interstate.

Ms Martin said the push to attract new investment into the Territory is extremely important to the Government with the NT positioned for strong economic growth.

"We need to attract new investment and people into the Territory in order to create jobs and business opportunities in the future," she said.

"Now that we have secured onshore gas, the railway nearly complete, the Port operational and a Darwin convention centre in the pipeline we have a very well developed and exciting business case to show Australia.

"This investment tour - and the others to follow - will sell the many strong points about our Northern Territory and now is the time to ramp up efforts to tell investors about the many opportunities that await them."

Tomorrow Ms Martin will talk to the Today Show and local NSW media before addressing the 2003 National Infrastructure Summit (on public/private partnerships), the Australian Business Limited Boardroom lunch and a cocktail party for 100 business people at the Paspaley Pearls Showroom.

On Thursday Ms Martin will meet with shipping agencies, Macquarie Bank and conduct interviews with national and local newspapers before returning home that night.

NT Chamber of Commerce President, Bruce Fadelli, will join the Chief Minister in Sydney.

"During all of these meetings we will be promoting the Territory by highlighting the location, business opportunities, people and products," Ms Martin said.

"An investment booklet and multi-media campaign have been developed over the past few months and will be aired nationally during the cricket tomorrow and throughout NSW during the week.

"For the NT to grow we need to attract, and keep, more people here and this campaign is aimed squarely at achieving this.

"My government is confident that this investment campaign will greatly increase Australia’s awareness of the Territory and what it has to offer."

Ms Martin said that - aside from the marketing campaign - the Government’s investment strategy also included the Major Project Taskforces, continuing improvement of the business environment and better systems of working with government.

The investment tour, video, booklet and other marketing tools have been allocated more than $500,000 from the 2003/04 budget.

The Territory web-site www.theterritory.com.au has also been upgraded to include relevant information for anyone thinking of living, working or investing in the NT.