MEDIA RELEASE

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INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR BRAITLING

Date : 19 August 2005

STOP THIS CLOSURE MINISTER

“8CCC FM Community Radio Station is in grave danger of being closed down by Charles Darwin University (CDU).”

The Member for Braitling asked the Minister for Education in question time this week if he would intervene and ensure CDU honours their original commitment to support the locally run 8CCC FM radio station.

“In spite of their reassurances in March this year that the University had no intention of changing the arrangements, recent advice is to the contrary.”

“CDU has indicated they they may withdraw their support for the community organisation to use its facilities and the station will have to find new premises.”

“8CCC has operated out of the CDU (formerly Centralian College) premises for nearly 20 years.”

“This sudden decision is received with dismay by many of the volunteers and supporters of 8CCC FM community radio.”

Mrs Braham said, “I urge the Minister for Education, Employment and Training to intervene and to stop this ridiculous decision. The Minister advises that the Northern Territory government supports 8CCC with an allocation of $104,500 provided to CDU for the community radio station.”

“The consequences of the transfer of assets previously belonging to Centralian College means the University owns the studio infrastructure.”

“Did the government ever foresee this situation when they granted this facility in good faith to the University?”

“I think not,” said Loraine Braham.

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