Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says the announcement by the Treasurer today that the Government would scrap the proposed swimming pool in Litchfield and the remainder of sporting grants for Freds Pass Reserve is a kick in the guts for all rural residents.

Gerry says that the reason for these changes was not because of fiscal discipline but as a means of getting back at the Member for Nelson for his agreement with the previous Government. In plain terms, it is revenge.

Gerry says that he doesn’t mind the government disagreeing with him over something that occurred over three years ago but to take their hatred and to vent their anger at him by removing important funding for the rural area just shows how low they can go and total disregard for rural Territorians.

The pool was for all rural people not Gerry Wood or the Nelson Electorate. In fact it was first proposed by a previous Member for Goyder. The funding for Freds Pass was also for all the rural area sporting bodies and of course Freds Pass is in the Member for Goyder’s Electorate and of course many people in the Member for Daly’s Electorate use Freds Pass also. I am sure those Members will be happy and their constituents.- not!

Gerry says that the Sports Minister claimed the pool was only 25m and $10m was too much but that not what was stated in the budget, that could have been negotiated if he was serious. But he is simply trying to divert from the real reason – revenge.

Gerry says that rural people are now being discriminated against and punished for voting for Gerry and it makes hollow the statements by this new Government that it will govern for all – only if you support them.