September 12, 2014

CLP BLACKOUTS CREATE CONCERN

Opposition Leader Delia Lawrie said Territorians are asking why they pay hefty power bills for a system of increasing blackouts.

“The CLP has spent more effort breaking up PowerWater than having a system that can deal with single points of failure like an interrupted gas supply,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Territorians were left scrambling for information for hours yesterday afternoon before alerts started to roll out from Minister for Essential Services Willem Westra Van Holthe.

“With the heightened focus on our power supplies after the disastrous system-wide blackout in March, Territorians are entitled to expect a more reliable supply and backup system.

“Questions are being asked about the maintenance of our generation and distribution system.

“What exactly was the cause of gas failure at the Blacktip offshore platform? Why didn’t the dual back-up generators cope effectively with the load?

“The Minister revealed the CLP waited to inform Territorians this afternoon after knowing earlier. How long was information withheld from Territorians?

“We all remember the catastrophic power failure earlier this year and the devastating impact this had on businesses and households.

“Thanks to the great efforts of PowerWater workers electricity was restored but the Government must invest in a reliable back up system to avoid these sorts of potentially catastrophic events.”

*Media contact: Mandy Taylor 0414 634159*