

MEDIA RELEASE

KEN VOWLES

MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRY AND RESOURCES

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\$31.55 million investment in Territory Agribusiness and Primary Industry

23 June 2017

In a significant forward step for the Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DPIR), Minister Ken Vowles has today announced approved funding for projects totalling \$31.55 million at the Berrimah Farm research site.

Minister Vowles said the Berrimah Farm site has had no substantial investment in buildings and other infrastructure for nearly 20 years.

“This investment demonstrates the Territory Labor Government’s commitment to innovation, research and the importance of Primary Industry to the Territory’s future,” he said.

“This sector creates and supports jobs, it attracts investment and it grows our economy. These projects will also create construction jobs,” he said.

6.3 hectares of the Berrimah Farm site (now called Northcrest) was retained by the Northern Territory Government.

Today’s announcement cements the future of the Berrimah Research Farm.

Projects include:

- Accommodation upgrades for existing and new staff
- Upgrades to essential site infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, fencing)
- Upgraded field laboratory facilities
- A scientific services laboratory to replace the Berrimah Agricultural Laboratory and other associated infrastructure

Minister Vowles said the masterplanning process included input from staff and consultants..

“I thank the staff from Berrimah Research Farm for their patience and involvement. This is a strong contribution from Government, and will ensure the Territory has a competitive advantage in attracting major agribusiness projects such as Project Sea Dragon,” Mr Vowles said.

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