

LABOR'S PLAN FOR RESOURCES, MINING AND PETROLEUM



Territory
Labor



POLICY POSITION PAPER

OUR PLAN

Labor will support and encourage the growth of a safe, competitive, innovative and sustainable resources industry that builds a stronger economy for all Territorians. The resources industry will be supported to create local jobs for Territorians, support local Territory businesses and protect our unique natural environment. We will ensure the actions of Government and industry are transparent and accountable.

The Northern Territory is in a unique and exciting position to facilitate significant growth in the resources industry.

The Northern Territory has abundant, valuable and diverse mineral, gas and petroleum resources, including critical minerals for new and emerging technologies. The Territory also has an established and highly successful minerals production industry, large under-explored areas providing tremendous opportunities for further discoveries, as well as a world class harbour situated close to the rapidly growing Asian markets.



OUR PLAN

Territory Labor will:

- Support and encourage the growth of a safe, competitive, innovative and sustainable resources industry that builds a stronger economy for all Territorians. The resources industry will be supported to create local jobs for Territorians, support local Territory businesses and protect our unique natural environment. We will ensure the actions of Government and industry are transparent and accountable.
- Continue to support the Resourcing the Territory initiative (\$26 million over four years 2018 to 2022).
- Implement the remaining Recommendations from the Independent Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing in the Northern Territory to ensure risks associated with an emerging onshore petroleum industry are minimised.
- Ensure our regulatory regime for the mining industry is an effective risk-based, transparent, robust and fair regime that provides certainty to business and industry to encourage and promote investment in prospective and existing projects. This will include delivering Stage 2 of the environmental regulatory reform program by incorporating the Mining Management Act 2001 and the Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998 into the new Environmental Protection Act 2019.
- Support all prospective projects, including the 'Five Mines' in central Australia.
- Implement the Recommendations from the Northern Territory Economic Reconstruction Commission's First Report as they relate to the resources industry.
- Collaborate with industry to:
 - a. Encourage and promote investment in manufacturing and associated industries that leverage the Territory's resources.
 - b. Strengthen Aboriginal partnerships and enhance sustainable Aboriginal economic development, including providing real and genuine employment and training opportunities for Aboriginal Territorians.
 - c. Develop and implement innovative strategies to actively reduce and manage climate change-related risk to drive low-carbon and energy-efficient economic growth in the Northern Territory.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

The Northern Territory currently has 18 potential mining development projects in various stages of approvals. Combined, these projects have the potential to deliver \$5 billion in capital expenditure, up to 5000 jobs during construction and up to 2800 jobs in operation. At least two significant mining projects are planning a final investment decision in coming months.

Under the Territory Labor Government, the Northern Territory set a new record for the value of mineral production in the last financial year, with a total of \$4.92 billion.

Minerals exploration in the 2018/19 calendar year totalled \$131.9 million, up 21% on the previous year, and up 68% over two years.

The 2018/19 figure is the highest figure recorded since 2011/2012 - at the end of the last mining boom. That is an eight year high under a Territory Labor Government.

Territory Labor is committed to ensuring the Northern Territory's onshore petroleum industry emerges and our unique environment is protected.

In our first term, the Territory Labor Government completed an independent Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing, and accepted and committed to implementing all 135 Recommendations from the Inquiry.

Implemented Recommendations include:

- Separated the responsibility of environmental approvals from those responsible for the promotion of the onshore petroleum industry;
- Implemented a new Code of Practice: Onshore Petroleum Activities in the Northern Territory;
- Implemented the monitoring and compliance strategy for onshore petroleum;
- Developed the Reserved Block Policy for onshore petroleum activities; and
- Passed the Petroleum Legislation Miscellaneous Amendments Bill 2019 to amend existing key petroleum legislative requirement to empower the making of regulations relating to land access, compensation (including a mechanism to resolve disputes) and environmental security bonds.

THE ALTERNATIVE

We said we would undertake an Independent Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing, which we have done.

We accepted and supported all 135 Recommendations from the Final Report of the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing.

The CLP think the Scientific Inquiry was completely unnecessary. How can anyone trust the CLP to put appropriate safeguards in place for our water, our environment and our communities?

Under the CLP Government – from financial year 2013-14 to financial year 2015-16 - mining production values were falling.

Terry Mills also cannot be trusted when it comes to developing the resources industry.

Last time he promised a lower cost of living – and then raised power prices by 30%.

Last time Terry Mills announced fracking is safe – this time Terry Mills has announced a ban on fracking.

There is only one party Territorians can trust to deliver: Territory Labor.

