



**Delia Lawrie**

MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

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## **Work Starts on New 10 Year Infrastructure Plan**

The Territory's infrastructure needs for the next decade will be the focus of an independent report to Government.

Ms Lawrie said the Territory Government is determined to deliver improved infrastructure to meet growth demands as a result of the strong economy.

"The Territory Government has already invested \$3.3 billion in infrastructure since 2001 and we are working to meet the demands of our growing population and economy," she said.

"This must be planned – we know the needs now and the needs in five years time, but we want a program for the next decade to anticipate and keep ahead of needs.

"Acil Tasman and Evans and Peck have been awarded a \$190,000 tender to develop the 10 Year Infrastructure Plan.

"In Budget 2007 the Territory Government committed a record \$645 million cash infrastructure spend and this strategy will ensure we get the most out of every dollar in future budgets.

"This plan will examine the changing needs of the Territory, harness economic opportunities such as increased export trade and mining activity, and ensure Government infrastructure spending is focused on priority areas.

"In 2001 we inherited an economy on its knees - today we have one of the strongest economies in the nation and the new 10 Year Infrastructure Plan will further build our economy."

A recent Access Economics report forecast that the Territory would experience the highest economic growth for the next five years.

"A 10 Year Infrastructure Plan will give industry improved certainty to increase their capacity to deliver these vital projects," said Ms Lawrie.

"Infrastructure spending creates jobs, increases services and drives economic activity and investment in the Territory.

"The Henderson Government is committed to managing and delivering the infrastructure needs of the Territory so the economic and social benefits flow on to all Territorians."

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