



**Delia Lawrie**  
TREASURER

1 July 2009

## **Easing The Costs For Construction Projects**

Small and large construction developers will find it cheaper to do business in the Territory after the Territory Government today announced a cut to the NT Build levy.

Under the NT Build scheme, the Territory Government levies eligible construction projects to fund workers' long service leave entitlements.

Treasurer Delia Lawrie today said building projects that commence on or after 1 July 2009 that cost between \$200,000 and \$1 billion would have their levy reduced by 20% - from 0.5% to 0.4% - for the next two years.

"This will save \$10,000 for a \$10 million project," Ms Lawrie said.

"And for projects which exceed a \$1 billion threshold, a project specific rate will be determined by the scheme actuary to apply to construction costs above the threshold in legislative amendments to come into Parliament later this year.

"The reduced levy will help make it attractive to invest in Territory construction projects.

"Reduction of the NT Build levy recognises the important role played by the construction industry in providing jobs and supporting local businesses during tough economic times.

"These savings will be immediately applied to new construction projects and, in an environment of tight credit markets, will make the Territory an even more attractive investment option.

"The Territory is not immune to the effects of the global financial crisis – that's why we're providing a temporary levy reduction and delivering a record \$1.3 billion infrastructure spend as part of Budget 09 to support Territory jobs.

"A review by the scheme's actuary has found scope to reduce the levy rate and introduce a threshold while still ensuring that workers entitlements are funded.

"We established NT Build in 2005 to establish the Territory's first ever portable long service leave scheme for construction workers to reward, retain and attract this important workforce.

"There are now more than 11,000 workers and 245 employers registered under the scheme, with \$18 million currently held in the scheme."

The scheme covers all public and private sector construction projects worth \$200,000 or more including buildings, roads, schools, sheds and housing (single detached houses are excluded).

Go to [www.ntbuild.com.au](http://www.ntbuild.com.au) for more information.

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