

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Ms J Carney

to Minister for Business and Economic Development

Manufacturing Base of Territory

1. What has the Government done over the past four years to attract a manufacturing base to Darwin given the overwhelming trade imbalance of the trade?

ANSWER

The Territory's goods trade balance in the year to June 2005, was a surplus of \$219 million.

In terms of manufacturing the Government has:

- Over the last four years provided financial assistance of \$336,040 to the Chamber of Commerce NT to support the operational activities of the Manufacturing Council.
- Over the last four years provided financial assistance of \$2M to the NT Industry Capability Network to support the marketing of NT business capability to the major projects.
- Developed and implemented the 'Building Northern Territory Industry Participation' Policy.
- Implemented the requirement for Industry Participation Plans (LIPP) as a result of the above Policy.
 - Developed Local Industry Participation Plans for:
 - Alcan G3 Project which has seen over \$72M of manufacturing, construction, goods and services being placed with Northern Territory businesses. This also includes \$35M being spent in Nhulunbuy;
 - Natural Fuels Bio Diesel Plant, a \$73M project, which will see local businesses as an integral part of the construction of the plant;
 - ConocoPhillips LNG Plant which has seen 18 major sub-contracts valued at \$230M awarded to Territory based businesses;
 - Palmerston Recreation Centre valued at \$8.2M, awarded to local construction company Norbuilt Pty Ltd; and
 - Darwin East Arm Port Bulk Materials Handling Shiploading Facilities, a \$19.7M project which will further expand the capabilities of the East Arm facilities.
- Developed the Manufacturing Industry Strategy and implementation plan.
- Established the Manufacturing Consultative Group related to the Manufacturing Industry Strategy – made up of NT Unions, the Northern Territory Industry Capability Network, the NT Manufacturers Council, key manufacturing firms and relevant government agencies.
- Appointed a dedicated Manufacturing Industry Client Manager within the Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development.
- Assisted members of the Manufacturing Council and Manufacturing Consultative Group to attend the National Manufacturing Summit in Melbourne in December 2005.