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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **CTC HAS CONCERNS OVER TRANSPORT AND STORAGE OF SIHIP BUILDING MATERIALS**

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5 February 2011

CTC has raised concerns with the NT Government about the transport and storage of building materials.

On a recent visit to a community off the coast of Arnhem Land materials were seen to have been stored out in the weather without proper protection. These materials had been transported by barge and subjected to salt water spray and then stored at the barge landing. As seen in the photos attached the materials were not sea-wrapped adequately protecting them from the elements meaning the product may have a shorter life than if it had been protected.

CTC believes this will lead to extra costs if materials need replacing and there will be a likelihood that the life span of the house, expected to be 40 years, may not be achieved. This will put pressure on Territory Housing's repair and maintenance program.

CTC believes that Alliances should be using best practice when transporting materials, especially by barge, so the quality of houses built on these communities are the same that would be expected in Darwin.

After receiving written advice from manufacturers these issues have been raised, at a recent CTC meeting, with Department of Housing and the CTC expects that urgent action will take place to rectify the problem.

With the large number of Territory and Commonwealth public servants employed on this program why hasn't a regular inspection of the transport and storage of materials been carried out?

#### PHOTOS –

1. Photo showing timber which is Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL), not adequately sea-wrapped for barge transport and storage.
2. Photo of materials, both roofing purlins and timber on a trailer not adequately sea-wrapped.
3. Photo showing stack of timber doors stored out in weather.

**GERRY WOOD MLA – Chair**

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