



**The Hon Anthony Albanese MP**

Minister for Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development  
and Local Government  
Leader of the House



Reference: 01326-2009

24 FEB 2009

The Hon Gerry McCarthy MLA  
Minister for Transport  
GPO Box 3146  
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Minister

I am writing to advise you of Black Spot Program funding for the Northern Territory (NT) following the announcements by the Australian Government on 12 December 2008 and 3 February 2009 of additional Black Spot funding under the Nation Building packages.

The NT will receive \$2.257 million in 2008-09 (comprising \$0.757 million under the standard program, \$1 million under Nation Building 1 and \$0.5 million under Nation Building 2). The NT's Black Spot Program allocation in 2009-10 is \$2.0 million (comprising \$1 million under the standard program and \$1 million under Nation Building 2). The NT will then receive \$1 million per annum from 2010-11 to 2013-14.

A portion of the extra funding announced on 3 February 2009 will be allocated to black spots on the National Network. My Department has previously advised the Department of Planning and Infrastructure that the amount of funding currently identified for black spots on the National Network under the Nation Building 2 funding is \$15 million in 2008-09 and \$15 million in 2009-10 nationally. The maximum amount of funding currently available to the NT for Network black spot projects from the allocations set out above is \$0.250 million in 2008-09 and \$0.250 million in 2009-10. This can be used for state and local road projects if the NT chooses not to put forward Network projects.

At the Special Council of Australian Governments meeting on 5 February 2009 it was agreed that States are to submit nominations for Black Spot funding to the Commonwealth as soon as possible and no later than 31 March 2009. I note that at the Strategic Committee on Transport meeting on 11 February 2009, the NT agreed to submit recommended Black Spot projects by 27 February 2009. I would be grateful if you would work toward meeting this agreed deadline. It is important that proposals are submitted as soon as possible as this will assist in meeting the deadline and enable approvals and payments to commence.

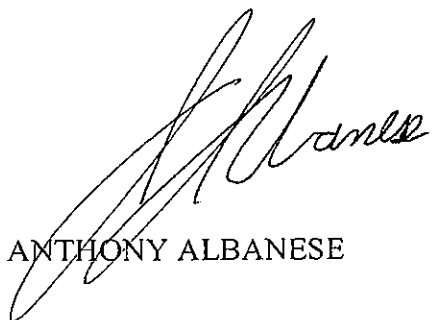
The additional Black Spot funding for the NT in 2008-09 will be paid prior to 30 June 2009 for approved projects expected to be complete by 31 December 2009. The NT is required to hold the funds and any interest earned in such a way that it is able to be identified separately. Savings on particular projects and/or any interest earned may be expended on other approved projects or new projects subject to the agreement of the Australian Government.

The NT will be required to provide a report on the progress of projects approved for the 2008-09 additional funding by 31 July 2009 and by 31 January 2010. The additional Black Spot funding for the NT in 2009-10 will be paid during 2009-10 on the basis of status reports. My Department will liaise directly with your department in relation to these reporting requirements. In addition, if required, statements of expenditure and details of any balance of funds will be provided on request to the Australian Government.

Project variation requests in relation to projects approved under the additional Black Spot funding should be made in accordance with the Black Spot Program Notes on Administration (the Notes). The recognition and signage requirements set out in the Notes also apply to the Nation Building Package projects.

I seek your agreement to the conditions outlined in this letter relating to the Nation Building Package projects and I look forward to working with you on these important safety works.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Albanese', written in a cursive style.

ANTHONY ALBANESE