



## **WARREN SNOWDON MP, MEMBER FOR LINGIARI**

Friday 23 May, 2008

### **CONNECTING ALICE SPRINGS BUSINESS**

#### **Government launches \$250 million Enterprise Connect network**

Alice Springs is set to benefit after the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Kim Carr, last night delivered on a key election commitment by launching the Rudd Labor Government's \$251 million Enterprise Connect network.

Member for Lingiari, Hon Warren Snowdon MP, said one of the centres will be in Alice Springs, which is great news for local businesses.

"Enterprise Connect's \$10 million Remote Enterprise Centre will provide a range of services designed to link remote small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Alice Springs and other remote regions to new ideas, technologies and markets," said Mr Snowdon.

"The centre will support businesses not only in remote regions of the Northern Territory, but also in remote areas of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia.

"Hands-on support will be provided to small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) dealing with the special challenges faced in remote areas."

The Remote Enterprise Centre will provide:

- assistance in business strategies and operations;
- benchmarking of business and manufacturing processes against best practice; • help in finding the latest research, technology and organisational knowledge to improve products and efficiency;
- access to prototyping and testing facilities to turn good ideas into products; and
- help to cut through red tape and get the best access to government programs.

"The Remote Enterprise Centre will work to identify new opportunities for Australian businesses to benefit from their cutting-edge technologies – providing pathways into new supply chains both at home and abroad."

A new website with more information on the Remote Enterprise Centre is live at [www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au](http://www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au) or email [remoteenterprisecentre@innovation.gov.au](mailto:remoteenterprisecentre@innovation.gov.au). Alternatively, interested businesses can call the Enterprise Connect hotline on 131 791.

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