company. The potential sponsor could not commit the funds for a new building without a guarantee of longevity, requiring the Hall of Fame to seek formal tenure over its land. However, a sub-division of the site could not occur without the provision of separate water supplies. I am pleased to report that the government has approved funding of $65 000 from the works program to install a separate water supply. Work is now under way and should be completed next month. I will shortly be making an offer of a grant of land which will allow the Hall of Fame to have a separate Crown lease.

This will ensure the National Transport Hall of Fame has a permanent home, securing its long-term future here in Alice Springs, along with the capacity to secure very substantial private sponsorship.

I understand the identity of the sponsor is an open secret in the town. It is one of Australia's great trucking companies, but it is appropriate that this generous sponsor choose its own timing to announce this major sponsorship. I am advised that the company will announce its sponsorship deal at its dealer conference in August - I suppose I have already given it away - which will be held here in Alice Springs and will include the official opening of the building that it is funding.

Madam Speaker, the Territory government is pleased to have been able to assist the Road Transport Hall of Fame as it builds for the future.

Madam SPEAKER: Thank you for that report, minister. Obviously, there is going to be no reply from the opposition. Yes, we are well aware of what is happening out there. We congratulate the very active committee on the work they are doing to promote the Hall of Fame. We are also looking at the Ghan Preservation Society and it perhaps becoming one large precinct so that visitors can visit both transport exhibits when they are open. The convention is going to be fantastic, and the old vehicles that will be there will be great, too. I hope all members will support it.

Reports noted pursuant to Sessional Order.

TRANS-TERRITORY PIPELINE AND BLACKTIP GAS PROJECTS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) BILL (Serial 285)

Bill presented and read a first time.

Ms MARTIN (Chief Minister): Madam Speaker, I move that the bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this bill is to make special provisions in connection with the trans-Territory pipeline and Blacktip gas projects. These projects represent a $1bn investment in the Territory. The trans-Territory pipeline project involves the construction of an underground gas pipeline from Wadeye to Gove, including all the associated infrastructure to operate and maintain the pipeline.

The Blacktip gas project involves three elements: an offshore gas platform, an onshore gas plant near Wadeye community, and a pipeline from the gas platform to the onshore gas plant. Most major projects, such as the trans-Territory pipeline and the Blacktip gas projects, require special legislation to be enacted. In the Northern Territory, such projects as the AustralAsia Railway, Merlin diamond and Granites gold mines have all resulted in special project legislation.

As with the AustralAsia Railway, the approach for the trans-Territory pipeline and Blacktip gas projects has been to identify and clearly set out in legislation the modifications to existing Territory legislation. Following consultation with the project proponents for each project and their legal advisors in relation to the impact of Territory laws, I am pleased to report that only a handful of changes have been found necessary to support the projects.

The bill creates statutory rights in relation to road and water way crossings. These rights are required to maintain continuity of the pipeline corridor. The rights are exercisable with the relevant minister's consent, after which the consortium can construct and operate the trans-Territory pipeline. The grant of this right may be subject to conditions concerning matters such as safety and construction.

The bill creates a mechanism to enable authority certificates issued under the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* in connection with the projects, to be relied upon by the consortium subject to the same conditions, whether the consortium was the applicant or not. This mechanism enables future owners of the pipeline to have the benefit and the obligations imposed by the authority certificates.

Finally, the bill applies the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act* to the Blacktip onshore gas plant near Wadeye. The application of the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act* means that the construction and operation of the onshore gas plant will be subject to environmental protection practices and procedures under that act.

Madam Speaker, I commend the bill to honourable members.

Debate adjourned.