

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committees](#)
Subject: Opposition to the NT Government's Revised Proposal for a Territory Coordinator
Date: Thursday, 13 February 2025 2:30:57 PM

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To whom it may concern,

As a long-term resident and practicing Landscape Architect in the Northern Territory for over 30 years, I feel compelled to voice my opposition to the government's revised proposal for a Territory Coordinator endowed with extraordinary powers. This initiative raises significant concerns regarding the erosion of local governance and community input in decision-making processes.

The proposed role of the Territory Coordinator, which effectively places immense authority in the hands of a single individual closely aligned with the Chief Minister, threatens to undermine the democratic principles that should govern our territory. It risks sidelining community voices, including those of professionals like myself who have dedicated decades to understanding and shaping the unique landscapes and communities of the NT.

The complexity and diversity of our environment require collaborative approaches that involve local expertise and perspectives. A singular figure with sweeping powers may not grasp the intricate nuances necessary for effective governance and sustainable development. Additionally, this concentration of power could lead to decisions that prioritise political expediency over the long-term welfare of our communities and ecosystems.

I urge fellow residents and stakeholders to critically evaluate this proposal and advocate for a governance model that ensures transparency, accountability, and inclusivity.

Let us protect our democratic rights and the integrity of our territory.

Thank you for considering my perspective. I had previously submitted this concern to , the Office of the Territory Coordinator Consultation(OTC Consultation) but did not receive a personal response.

Sincerely,
Marisa

Marisa Fontes, AILA FRLA
Fellow Registered Landscape Architect
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects
Principal, Outsidesign

Outsidesign



I acknowledge the many Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognise their enduring connection to beautiful lands, waterways and skies and their vital role in their cultural and environmental stewardship.

I honour all Elders past, present and emerging, in particular, the Larrakia people, traditional owners and custodians of the land on which I work and live.

Wherever we are, we are always on Country.