

Submission to the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly Regarding the Territory Coordinator Bill 2025

Date: 18/02/25

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to strongly oppose the **Territory Coordinator Bill 2025**, currently under review in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly. While I understand the importance of development, I have concerns about the excessive powers granted to the Territory Coordinator and the lack of safeguards in the bill.

My main concern is the centralization of authority in one individual. I do not think that anyone should have this level of authority and influence over large-scale projects that affect the lives of so many people. This level of power risks conflicts of interest, with decisions potentially influenced by political or personal motives rather than community needs. The bill also lacks enough checks and balances to ensure fair and transparent decision-making. As written, large developers and corporations could end up being favoured over smaller businesses and local initiatives, undermining fair competition and community well-being.

The bill's provisions for fast-tracking projects also raise concerns about the exclusion of local communities—such as First Nations peoples—from meaningful consultation. Excluding local input could lead to resentment and opposition from those directly impacted by development. Development should be sensitive to local needs, and this bill does not allow for that.

Despite requiring some reporting and reviews, the bill lacks adequate mechanisms for scrutiny, which is necessary given the Coordinator's significant powers. The centralization of authority could also create inefficiencies and delays, contradicting the bill's goal of speeding up projects.

In conclusion, while the bill aims to streamline development, it grants too much unchecked power to one individual, leaving communities vulnerable. I urge the Legislative Assembly to reconsider the bill and adopt a more balanced approach that includes robust oversight and local input.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ailsa Leibrick