

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committees](#)
Subject: Opposition to the Territory Coordinator Bill
Date: Thursday, 13 February 2025 2:33:30 PM

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To the Legislative Scrutiny Committee of the NT Parliament,

I am writing to state my opposition to the proposed Territory Coordinator Bill.

I do not agree that someone with no other credentials than being deemed suitable by the government of the day should be vested with such powers. The Bill has the potential to give unchecked powers to the Chief Minister and Territory Controller, with potentially damaging consequences for the Territory and Territorians.

Projects which are sustainable and do not jeopardise our lifestyle or our future can withstand healthy scientific and public scrutiny. They do not need to be pushed through in such autocratic ways. I am concerned that the government feel that they need to put this Bill in place because they have plans which they know would not pass the public consultation or environmental assessment processes that would otherwise take place.

Short-term economic prosperity should not be the driving principle.

It may be driving the interests of governments who, by their very nature, are short-lived, and not accountable in the long term to the communities they should be serving. However, as a member of the community, I would like to remind these leaders that they have not been issued with a mandate to push through whatever they want and stifle concerns regarding the outcomes of their economic development proposals or alternative views. The actions of our leaders long outlive their short stint in power, sometimes with devastating and irreversible consequences for all of us, and future generations.

This email is not against economic development. I support healthy sustainable economic development with short- as well as long-term outlooks, and I do believe that the Territory could be home to exciting opportunities and innovations.

This email is about process, and the dangers inherent in this Bill.

Nobody expects our leaders to be experts in everything. Great leadership comes from gathering advice to make informed decisions in the best interest of all - not from overriding rules and removing all checks and balances.

I hope that you will take my views into consideration in your assessment of the Bill and your report.

Sincerely,

Catherine Martel