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I am opposed to the Territory Coordinator Draft Bill. It completely by-passes existing processes designed to regulate projects and reduce their risks and impacts to the Territory.

While the Bill may have an initial economic benefit, I fear for the longer term effect on the environment, health and culture of NT if current processes are not followed.

I agree that some projects such as solar farms need fast tracking. Past problems in this area could be from a lack of resources in the various departments.

I do not agree with the fact that the Territory Coordinator and Chief Minister can take over the assessment process from other approval bodies and that the Chief Minister can issue an exemption notice which could exclude the application of a law to a significant process.

My family boasts 4 generations in the Territory and we own/manage a SME as well as work in government. How do I explain to my grandchildren that the Chief Minister has the power to exempt projects from laws and regulations. In fact how do you explain it to people in prison for breaking the law.

The proposed Territory Coordinator bill has the potential to bypass important checks and balances and ignore existing legislation. Economic development in the NT should be carried out under the legislation which has been put in place to protect the Territory.

Elizabeth Benson

John Punch