

**From:** [Kate Stephens](#)  
**To:** [LA Committees](#)  
**Subject:** Submission Opposing the Territory Coordinator Bill  
**Date:** Wednesday, 19 February 2025 5:04:07 PM

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To the Legislative Scrutiny Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Territory Coordinator Bill. I believe this legislation poses a significant threat to democratic processes, environmental protections, and the wellbeing of Territorians.

The concentration of power in the hands of the Chief Minister and an unelected Territory Coordinator is an unacceptable overreach. The proposed powers represent a dangerous attempt to bypass deliberative processes and centralise control. For a government apparently hell-bent on upholding law and order, the hypocrisy of the proposal, which seeks to circumvent these laws and processes, is startling.

This legislation has the potential to jeopardise the environmental values and public health of Territorians. By prioritising economic considerations above all else, including environmental safeguards and community wellbeing, the bill creates an unacceptable risk. The Northern Territory already faces significant environmental challenges, including water over-extraction and the expansion of the fossil fuel industry. This bill weakens the existing oversight and scrutiny of projects, potentially eliminating crucial public consultation and environmental assessment processes.

I am particularly concerned that the reduced eligibility criteria for the Territory Coordinator position increases the risk of an unqualified individual being appointed to this powerful role.

I urge the Legislative Scrutiny Committee to carefully consider the serious implications of this bill. I request that the Committee recommend that the Assembly not pass the bill, or at minimum, that the bill be significantly amended to address the concerns outlined above. The bill does not have sufficient regard for the rights of individuals, nor does it have sufficient regard for the democratic processes of Parliament.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kate Stephens