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Our reference: 04-D26-14744
Please quote in response

Ms Laurie Zio MLA
Chair
Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
LA.Committees@nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Zio

I write in response to correspondence received from Dr Tanzil Rahman MLA, dated 4 February 2026, calling for submissions to the Inquiry into the Review of Historical Regulations (**the Inquiry**). Under the Administrative Arrangements Order, the Northern Territory Fire and Emergency Service (NTFES) administer three Acts, and a further three Regulations made under them:

- ❖ The *Bushfires Management Act 2016*
 - The Bushfires Management (General) Regulations 2017
 - The Bushfires Management (Volunteer Bushfire Brigades) Regulations 2017
- ❖ The *Emergency Management Act 2013*
- ❖ The *Fire and Emergency Act 1996*
 - The Fire and Emergency Regulations 1996

None of the legislation administered by the NTFES was made prior to 1990, as mentioned in the Inquiry Terms of Reference. However, all of the administered Acts did, at the time of their enactment, replace older pieces of legislation which had been in place for a significant length of time, including Ordinances. A summary of identified legislation is at Attachment A.

An examination of the statute book appears to show that all obsolete legislation administered by the NTFES has been properly repealed, and the only legislation now in force is that which is listed above. NTFES is proposing to undertake legislative reform into the future to ensure that the legislation which it administers remains contemporary and fit for purpose.

If you require any further information, please contact the Assistant Director of the NTFES Legal Unit on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Andrew Warton
Commissioner of Fire and Emergency Services

23 February 2026

The *Bushfires Management Act 2016* commenced on 1 November 2016 and repealed:

- the former Bushfires Act 1980 (Act No. 33 of 1980) which in turn had previously repealed:
 - the Bush Fires Control Ordinance 1965 (No. 45 of 1965)
 - the Bush Fires Control Ordinance 1966 (No. 36 of 1966)
 - the Bush Fires Control Ordinance 1967 (No. 23 of 1967)
 - the Bush Fires Control Ordinance 1968. (No. 32 of 1968)
 - the Bush Fires Control Ordinance 1970 (No. 19 of 1970)
 - the Bush Fires Control Ordinance 1976 (No. 31 of 1976).
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 1982 (Act No. 26 of 1982)
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 1984 (Act No. 32 of 1984)
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 1985 (Act No. 70 of 1985)
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 1988 (Act No. 25 of 1988)
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 1989 (Act No. 48 of 1989)
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 1992 (Act No. 13 of 1992)
- the Bushfires Amendment Act 2003 (Act No. 6 of 2004).

The *Emergency Management Act 2013* commenced on 27 November 2013 and repealed:

- the former Disasters Act 1982 (Act No. 96 of 1982) which in turn had previously repealed:
 - the Northern Territory Disasters Ordinance 1976 (No. 31 of 1977)
 - the Northern Territory Disasters Act 1978 (No. 91 of 1978)
 - the Northern Territory Disasters Act 1979 (No. 7 of 1980)
 - the Northern Territory Disasters Act 1981 (No. 74 of 1981).
- the Disasters Amendment Act 1988 (Act No. 52 of 1988); and
- the Disasters Amendment Act 2007 (Act No. 21 of 2007).

The *Fire and Emergency Act 1996* commenced on 1 May 1996 and repealed the former:

- Fire Service Act (Act No. 29 of 1983) which in turn had previously repealed:
 - the Fire Brigades Ordinance 1956 (No. 9 of 1956)
 - the Fire Brigades Ordinance 1963 (No. 67 of 1963)
 - the Fire Brigades Ordinance 1973 (No. 88 of 1973)
 - the Fire Brigades Ordinance 1976 (No. 50 of 1976).
- Fire Service Amendment Act 1988 (Act No. 14 of 1988).