



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Petition

Registration No:	1
Title:	Protection of Daly River
Presented on:	16 August 2005
Presented by:	Mrs Marion Scrymgour
Referred To:	Chief Minister
Response due:	29 November 2005
Response received:	11 November 2005
Response presented:	29 November 2005

Petition

The Speaker and the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, We the undersigned respectfully showeth

That the Daly River is a natural wonder of the Northern Territory and needs to be protected now for the benefit of all Territorians.

We Petitioners therefore humbly pray that

1. That the Northern Territory Government immediately halt plans to subdivide Pastoral Leases in the Daly Catchment for the intensification of agriculture.
2. That the Northern Territory Government immediately stop issuing tree-clearing permits and water licences in the Daly Basin.
3. That the Northern Territory Government initiate public consultation and research into economic strategies for the Daly Catchment that do not result in large scale tree-clearing or intensive irrigation.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Response

- Moratoriums on land clearing and subdivision apply in the Daly Region outside of the Katherine and Flora River catchments;
- These moratoriums will remain in place until improved monitoring and management arrangements have been consolidated – this is expected to be achieved in 2007;
- The Territory Government has no plans to subdivide Pastoral Leases in the Daly River Catchment;
- No water licences requiring land clearing outside of the Katherine River and Flora River catchments will be issued while the land clearing moratorium is in place;
- All other water licences will only be issued on the basis that there will be no risk to water dependent ecosystems and the proposed use of water is within land capability; and
- The Territory Government is committed to ensuring ecologically sustainable development and conservation in the Daly River Region, as clearly demonstrated in the announced funding of \$3.5M for monitoring, research and public consultation over the next four years.