

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committees](#)
Cc: [Kat McNamara](#)
Subject: my Response to the Territory Coordinator Bill
Date: Monday, 17 February 2025 2:19:37 PM

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As a Territory resident of 53 years and former teacher and active member of several community organisations, I thank you for the chance to contribute to this decision making process

Having read the proposal by the CLP government for the establishment of a Territory Coordinator, I am letting you know I strongly reject the need for so much power to be given to our Chief Minister and an unelected bureaucrat.

Specifically, I am extremely shocked that the changes to the former DRAFT bill have been altered to include the removal of the limitations of the Territory Coordinator to interfere with decisions and processes under the Heritage Act.

Since 2009, Friends of Kahlin have been in communication with Territory Government members and Chief ministers, urging them to give proper acknowledgement and recognition of the Kahlin compound and work done by its Aboriginal inmates in the building of Darwin. All have given us verbal support.

During the last 3 years, the site has been Heritage listed and plans for a Kahlin Remembrance Project progressed to a stage where work was about to begin with the guarantee of \$3.1m funding.

We are told we live in a democracy, which means for the people, I believe it important to take part in the process towards good governance.

Adoption of the Bill would make it possible and easy for serious changes to be made to our Territory laws relating to environment, water, land clearing, without community input.

Our Territory laws are already under resourced and very few penalties are paid for breaking those laws. To have unqualified people given power to exempt companies from these laws undermines the jurisdiction of independent regulators, overriding their functions and undermining their experience and mandate.

The elevation of so-called economic prosperity above all other considerations, such as health, safety, and environmental considerations, represents a dangerous provision that could lead to worse outcomes for people and the environment. We know that projects like fracking and big agribusiness don't actually lead to better economic outcomes for the vast majority of Territorians.

It is already established and known that our air quality is damaged by Impex's operation – a matter causing serious concerns to many local doctors and other health workers as well as teachers.

Stuart Knowles former Impex General Manager has been chosen as the Interim Coordinator to establish the Office....

Impex - a foreign owned company- paid no corporate income tax and no Petroleum Resource Rent Tax on its \$20.4 Billion income PRRT on the sale of the Australian gas it exported in 2022-23.

It also paid nothing for the gas itself.

This is not a good economic result for Territorians.

Any Economic benefits for Territorians claimed is disputed by many reputable organisations.

I have many other concerns, but particularly the fact that the rights of community and individuals to challenge these new procedures is severely restricted.

This is a right at the core of our democracy.

On a wider scale is the increasing move by many gas using countries towards renewables.

Demand for fossil fuels is decreasing.

Of course, as agreed by the worlds' leading climate scientists, (the IPCC) the ABSOLUTE need is for us to immediately reduce the use of fossil fuels to keep a planet which can support life as we know it.

Climate change is undeniably happening – even faster than predicted – anyone living in the Territory has felt the ever increasing temperatures and long periods of extreme heat warnings

Di Koser,

Friends of Kahlin

