



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

15th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

INQUIRY INTO THE DARWIN SHIP LIFT PROJECT CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Public Accounts Committee is calling for submissions to its inquiry into the Darwin Ship Lift Project. As set out in the referral from the Treasurer, the Hon Bill Yan MLA, the Committee is to inquire into the following:

Economic & Strategic Benefits

- Updated demand (defence, offshore energy, coastal shipping, super yachts, fishing).
- Direct/indirect jobs, supply chain impacts, skills development.

Contractual Commitments & Optimisation Options

- Key obligations and risk allocation in the executed agreements.
- Feasible design, staging or pricing refinements that do not breach current contracts.

Cost, Funding & Fiscal Exposure

- Capital and lifecycle cost including escalation and contingency.
- Funding sources (Territory, commonwealth programs such as NAIF).
- Ongoing budget impacts.

Governance & Project Control

- Adequacy of oversight, probity and cost control processes.

Regulatory & Legislative Settings

- Legislative and regulatory requirements.

Delivery Risks & Mitigation

- Construction, supply chain, workforce and inflationary risks.
- Interface with naval, port and land use planning.
- Contingency plans for cost or schedule overruns.

Opportunity Costs & Regional Impact

- Economic losses from past delays.
- Possible further action needed to fully realise the benefits.

A copy of the inquiry referral can be found [here](#).

The Committee invites interested people and organisations to make a submission to its inquiry responding to one or more of the above points. Submissions are due by **Friday 27 June 2025** and should be emailed to LA.PAC@nt.gov.au. Information on making a submission is available [here](#).

The Committee will consider your submission and may authorise its publication and make it available on its website. If the submission contains information you do not wish to be made public, please advise the Committee when making your submission. A submission to parliamentary committees is the property of the Committee and should not be made public unless the Committee authorises its publication.

To be kept up to date with what is happening with the inquiry you can subscribe for email updates [here](#). Should you require any further information, please contact the Secretary to the Committee, on 8946 1485 or LA.PAC@nt.gov.au.