

12 June 2019

To the Secretary, Social Policy Scrutiny Committee
GPO Box 3721, DARWIN NT 0801
E: SPSC@nt.gov.au
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RE: Submission to the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee on the Environment Protection Bill 2019

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important bill.

I am local and the inventor of the Cupresso infuser cup. My passion and actions are helping to build a 'sustainability infrastructure asset building capacity' in Darwin.

Darwin has been my home for a total of 28 years. I was here from 1980 for 17 years and returned again 11 years ago when I belatedly started my family. It's great to be back and I am well and truly embedded in the community. The NT is one special place in the world you can successfully return to.

The majority of my working life in Darwin was as a Senior Quantity Surveyor with RLB NT. I am very familiar with the built and natural environment and feel very comfortable being here. I am on Jingili Primary School council and my three children are thriving.

When the construction industry slowed in 2016 I was made redundant and became a Disability Support Worker which continues to be immensely satisfying. I'm moving around, engaged and communicating meaningfully with others to help create great outcomes. Love goes a long way!

Importantly, I am also able to self-reflect and improve. I feel better than I ever have about who and where I am.

I dearly feel for the NT, others and how we are placed. The NDIS is providing me and my wife with steady incomes and are taking steps to become NDIS service providers to procure our own work. The NDIS is providing us with opportunities and we are reinventing ourselves.

These are exciting times. We are at a pivotal time in our history where we are all transitioning. The NT will find new industries to support us.

My wish is for the NT to find a sustainable path that averts danger and provides a safe place for my children to grow and start their own families.

Please help make this **Environment Protection Bill 2019** fit for purpose.

I think that the Bill should only be passed with amendments to support greenhouse gas emission reductions across the NT.

These must include:

1. Reducing the Territory's greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing action to draw down atmospheric greenhouse gases, must be an Object of the Bill, and must be a mandatory consideration for every decision-maker and authority throughout the Bill, including under section 73. To be truly effective the Minister and the EPA must have the power to consider climate impacts to set conditions related to offsets.
2. The word 'economy' must be deleted from the definition of Environment. Economic considerations are not the responsibility of the Environment Minister, nor the EPA.
3. Anyone affected by a decision under the Bill, including anyone who has made a submission about a proposal, must have standing to request a merits review, and to seek judicial review. It is only fair that if proponents have special rights to review the decision against them that there should also be rights for review for them.

Thank you again for this opportunity to make a contribution.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick O'Loughlin', written in a cursive style.

Nick O'Loughlin