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Dept Re: 19-0803-sec

Ms Julia Knight
Secretary to the Committee
Social Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Northern Territory Government

Email: SPSC@nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Knight

Re: Submission to the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee - Inquiry into the Marine Pollution Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

The Department of Primary Industry and Resources (DPIR) has examined the Marine Pollution Legislation Amendment Bill 2019, Serial 109, and its Explanatory Statement and offers the following comments in response to the Social Policy and Scrutiny Committee's call for submissions and the questions raised by the committee as follows:

a) whether the Assembly should pass the Bill?

DPIR supports the Assembly passing the Bill.

b) whether the Assembly should amend the Bill?

DPIR has not identified any changes required to the Bill.

c) whether the Bill has sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals?

DPIR considers the rights and liberties of individuals has been paid due regard within the Bill

d) whether the Bill has sufficient regard to the institution of Parliament?

DPIR considers the institution of Parliament has been paid due regard within the Bill.

General Comments

The Bill contains a range of amendments designed to improve the administrative operation of the legislation to provide both the agency administering the legislation and the shipping industry with increased clarity certainty on the implementation of the legislation.

The Bill broadens and strengthens the Territory's power to bring action against shipping owners and operators who are suspected of polluting Territory waters.

On this basis the legislation is supported by DPIR.

Yours sincerely



Alister Trier
Chief Executive

13 November 2019