



Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

GOVERNMENT OWNED CORPORATIONS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ABN 84 085 734 992
Telephone: (08) 8946 1438
Facsimile: (08) 8981 6158
e-mail: pac.la@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3721
DARWIN NT 0801

REPORT

FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2009

The Government Owned Corporation Scrutiny Committee examined the activity, performance, practices and financial management of the Power and Water Corporation with reference to its Statement of Corporate Intent for 2009/2010.

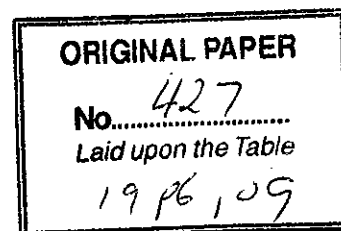
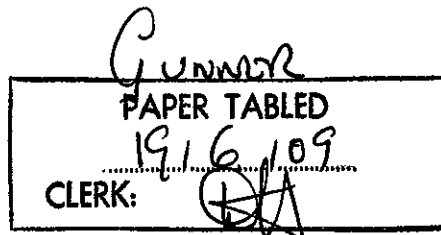
The Committee notes the information provided by the Chairman of the Board of the Power and Water Corporation, the Managing Director and other Officers who provided advice throughout the Public Hearing.

The Committee notes the following points of concern:

- Clarence Strait Tidal Energy Project, NT
- Debt Portfolio
- Financial Sustainability/ Commercial Sustainability
- Capital Investment
- Sewage Infrastructure
- Bio-Fuel Trial

Michael Gunner
Chairman

June 2009



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 2009

REPORT

TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2009
WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2009
THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2009
FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2009

The Estimates Committee examined the estimates of proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation Bill 2009/10, in particular on the estimates relating to the portfolios of the:

Speaker
Treasurer
Minister for Justice and Attorney General
Minister for Planning and Lands
Minister for Infrastructure
Chief Minister
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services
Minister for Major Projects, Employment and Economic Development
Minister for Education and Training
Minister for Climate Change
Minister for Territory-Federal Relations
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Business
Minister for Tourism
Minister for Trade
Minister for Asian Relations
Minister for Defence Support
Minister for Health
Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources
Minister for Racing, Gaming and Licensing
Minister for Alcohol Policy
Minister for Housing
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Essential Services
Minister for Public Employment
Minister for Children and Families
Minister for Child Protection
Minister for Statehood
Minister for Senior Territorians
Minister for Young Territorians
Minister for Women's Policy
Minister Assisting the Chief Minister on Multicultural Affairs and Education
Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage

Minister for Parks and Wildlife
 Minister for Arts and Museums
 Minister for Indigenous Policy
 Minister for Regional Development
 Minister for Sport and Recreation
 Minister for Information, Communications and Technology Policy
 Minister Assisting the Chief Minister on Major Projects and Economic Development
 Minister for Central Australia
 Minister for Transport
 Minister for Correctional Services

The Committee notes the Outputs contained in the estimates of the proposed expenditure for the above portfolios and reports that there was concern expressed by some Members of the Committee in respect of:

PORTFOLIO	KEY AREAS OF CONCERN
Legislative Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy cost for Parliament House • Costs associated with extra sitting days • Electorate Offices expenses associated with renovations/relocations • Cost of functions • Portraits • Alice Springs sittings • Statehood Steering Committee • Process associated with any Tendering requirements • Involvement and Fee charged by Department of Business (management costs) • Repairs and Maintenance
Treasury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiscal Management/ Planning • Level of Debt • Global Financial Crisis • Job Protection • Private Sector Contraction • Infrastructure Spend • Revenue Estimates • Efficiency Dividends • Moody's Credit Ratings • Treasurer's Advance • Auditor-Generals comments on the Treasurer's Advance • Commonwealth State Relations (Planning) • Future Revenue • Contingent Liability

Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One stop shop for Justice Alice Springs • Crimes Victim Services Unit Alice Springs • Costs involved with Blue Mud Bay • Higher and Lower Courts • Pre-recording equipment Alice Springs (Witnesses) • New Recording equipment Darwin, Alice Springs, Nhulunbuy (Higher Courts) • Recruitment of Magistrates • Sentencing Act, Bail Act • Alcohol Courts • Facilities (Client Satisfaction) • Information within the IJIS System • Restorative Justice (Evaluation) • Fines Recovery Statistics/ value • FOI (Performance measures) • Work Safe • Berrimah Prison • 1000 Bed Correctional Facility • Rehabilitation Programs • Sex Offenders Treatment Programs • Work Training Programs for Prisoners • Elders Visiting Program • Alcohol Rehabilitation Programs • Prisoner Work Camp • Pre-release facilitation • Women in Prison Report
Planning and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Information Mapping • Rezoning • Growth Towns Model (20 Towns) • External Ports • Old Hospital Site • Francis Bay Development Proposal • Darwin Prison • Berrimah Farm • Fatigue Management standards • Taxi Industries Review • Commercial Passenger Vehicles Review • CCTV/ Security • Drug Testing • CPV Board • Centralised Training Funds • Accreditation • MVR Locations • Transport of Dangerous/ Hazardous Materials • Heavy Haulage Vehicles – Speed Restrictions – Rural Roads • Alternate Fuels in Public Transport • Marine Safety

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil Spills • Park and Ride Facilities
Chief Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal funding to schools • Local Council Election Process • Closing of Ombudsman Office in Alice Springs • Advertising/ Tendering Process • Recruitment/ Core Services Campaign • Carbon Footprint – Assessment • Multicultural facilities, upgrades • Multicultural broadcasting service • Definition of Major Project • Gas security for Darwin • INPEX – allocation of site for construction village • Waterfront financial structure • Waterfront – Public facilities • Employment – workforce growth NT unit • Assistance to private sector and industry representative – re-migration VISAS • Grants Program
Police, Fire and Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Light Disco's • Youth Hub • Police required to attend school yard incidents • Youth Diversion • ICC TV Cameras
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Schools in Hub Towns • Suspensions • Chaplaincy • Home land learning centres
Business and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeships • Credit Card Transactions • Auditor-General Reports • Sprout LTD • Procurement Processes • Probity Audits • Review Board • Training of Procurement Officers • Procurement Board • School/ Councils/ Stimulus Package

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenders • Weighting (Non Pricing Aspects) • Value for money Tender Assessment Criteria • Human Resource Services shared services • Office Leasing Management • Green Leases Program • Data Centre Management • Business Grants • Government Printer • NT Fleet • Vehicle Turnover/ Leasing/ R&M • Defence Hub • Development of Industrial Land (Indigenous Policy) – sits under M.Hampton • Community Hubs (20 Growth Towns) • A working Future <p>I&CT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National broadband network rollout • Digital Television rollout • Expansion of mobile phone coverage throughout the NT
Tourism NT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultants working for Tourism NT • Promotion of the NT • Support to NT Businesses • Public Servants working for Territory Discoveries
Health and Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swine Flu – Media Campaign • Use of ABS Data • Collection of Data – Indigenous Population • Process for Hospital funding • Minor New Works • CCTV in Maternity Ward • Maternity and Paediatric Wards • Hospital Board Act Review • Chronic Disease • Renal Dialysis • Mobile Dialysis Bus • Self Care (Haemodialysis) • Bush Bus (Alice Springs and Tennant Creek) • Patient Assisted Travel (PAT's) • Review of PAT's • Oncology unit • Dentist • Employment of Aboriginal Health Workers • Child Protection Workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recruitment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deployment ○ Case Loads ○ Notifications ○ Investigations • Child Abuse Task Force • Children in Care • Parental/ Family responsibility orders • Youth • Emergency Accommodation • Mandatory Reporting of Sexual activities for underage children • Family violence on Young People • Dawn house • Children's Workers • Outreach Capacity • Mental Health • Hospital Security • Patient Security • Coroners Reports • Admissions/ Re-admissions • Data Availability • Office of Disability • Pensioner Concession Schemes
Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive Travel • Structure of Department • Staff not residing in the NT • Regional Economic Development Fund • Indigenous Pastrol program • Indigenous Business Foundation • Tennant Creek Foundation • Battery Hill • Nyinkka Nyunyu Art and Cultural Centre
Racing, Gaming and Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol Consumption/ Statistics • Volatile Substance Abuse • Alcohol license buy backs • Liquor license Moratorium
Local Government and Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Employment • Agency structure • Agency budget • Rate notices • Rate structure • Pastoral properties • Mining Lease • Yirrikala Shire Council • Super shires • Swimming pools • Housing stock/ Re-stocking • Tenancy issues

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenure mix Housing Policy/ Direction • Bond Assistance • Rental arrears • Complaints • Waiting Times • Building Program
Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Joint Management Scheme • Parks Lease Back • Signs – Maintenance • George Brown Botanical Gardens • Subsidies for visitors • Wild Life Management Plan • Hunting – Lead Shot • Mataranka – Bores • Water Licenses • Field workers – Safety programs • Water development Plans • Darwin Harbour Plan • Storm water drainage • Tiger Brennan Drive • Eastpoint Military Museum • Libraries (Sharing Facilities) • Sports Grants • Acquittal of Funds • School Sport • Elite athlete role in sport (juniors) • Elite athletes Role After Sport • Women in sport • NTIS (Darwin and Alice Springs) • Government Funding • Private/ Commercial funding assistance to individual athletes • Scholarships • Peak bodies • AFL Games (Darwin and Alice Springs) • Marrara Athletics Track • Funding for Interstate representation