

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committees](#)
Cc: [Electorate Nightcliff](#); [Electorate Johnston](#); [Electorate Braitling](#)
Subject: Submission to Legislative Affairs Scrutiny Committee regarding the Territory Coordinator Bill 2025
Date: Sunday, 16 February 2025 9:46:20 AM

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Good morning,

I am writing to the Legislative Affairs Scrutiny Committee to express my concerns about the Territory Coordinator Bill 2025.

Specifically I am concerned that:

1. The consultation summary provided by the Government does not tell us enough about who was consulted and whether they supported or opposed the Bill. There should be a list of all the stakeholder groups and industry peak bodies who were consulted. I attended the consultation in Alice Springs and know a number of people who attended the consultation Darwin/Palmerston. The feedback at these sessions was overwhelmingly negative, yet this is not noted anywhere in the consultation summary. The community was concerned with the significant concentration of power in the hands of the Territory Coordinator and the Chief Minister, yet the new Bill seems to concentrate that power even more. This leads me to believe that the Government has not listened to the views of the community at all.
2. Step-in notices are no longer a pre-condition for the use of the exemption power. This makes it easier for the Territory Coordinator and the Chief Minister to employ this draconian measure.
3. The previous exposure draft prevented the TC from exercising powers in a way that would interfere with an agreement between the Territory and the Commonwealth. I am deeply concerned that the TC will be able to undermine important Aboriginal heritage laws and risk the ability of First Nations Territorians to exercise their rights and practice their culture.
4. Limitations of who can be appointed as TC have been removed. Section 79 of the consultation draft stated that a person would be ineligible if they have a recent political affiliation, which includes being an office holder at a body corporate that made a reportable donation to a political party in the preceding three years. Under this rule the interim TC, Stuart Knowles would have been ineligible as he was a senior executive at Inpex when they made donations in the NT last year. I am concerned and disappointed that this limitation appears to have been removed in order make way for Mr Knowles to be the TC. There is a clear revolving door between the fossil fuel sector and the NT parliament, and

Territorians deserve assurance that the Government is taking action to prevent conflicts of interest.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my views.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]