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**To:** [LA Committees](#)  
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**Subject:** Opposition to the Territory Coordinator legislation  
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To the Parliamentary Scrutiny Committee

After reading through the draft bill I am writing to express my strong opposition to the appointment of a Territory Coordinator.

I am opposed to the power that the Territory Coordinator will have over 'development' projects that will go ahead regardless of the wishes of Traditional Owners and the effect on environment.

I am opposed to the 'step-in powers' that the Territory Coordinator will have to make decisions on behalf of other departments or Ministers without having the expertise or scrutiny required to safeguard Aboriginal Culture and the environment.

I am opposed to the power that the Territory Coordinator will have to exempt works and projects from any stature requirements.

I am opposed to the broad scope of power that the Territory coordinator will have to circumvent statutory requirements for example the Environmental Protection Act.

I am opposed to the power that the Territory Coordinator will have to authorise people to enter private land without warrant or permission to conduct works they deem necessary for 'Territory development'. I am very concerned about the impact this will have on the rights of Traditional Owners to make decisions about what happens on their land - for example with regard to exploration, mining and fracking.

Much of the community is concerned about issues this bill raises. And yet the bill has hardly been publicly discussed. How, for example, are people living in remote communities going to have a say about this?

The appointment of a Territory Coordinator, and the subsequent powers they will have, is a terrifying prospect, all too closely resembling the current political upheaval in the United States. We live in a democracy where overarching power should not be given/taken by a few who are then free to make decisions about 'development' without the necessary checks and balances to safeguard heritage, culture and the environment.

I urge you to recommend to parliament NOT to let this pass.

With best regards,

Jess Wallace

