

To: LSC@nt.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretariat,

I applaud a Safe Air Amendment for the Northern Territory, but question why we have had Hydrocarbon Industries working around our beautiful harbour for twenty years, with what appears as minimal regulation from the EPA, without adequate legislation and regulations. Sadly the current proposal does not uphold the community's rights, and the Bill should be amended.

The Bill is too vague and should include clear, measurable limits based on the best public health standards.

For Example:

- (1) It could restrict flaring from hydrocarbon industries;
- (2) Require acid gas incinerators to be always in use;
- (3) Set strict emission limits for air toxics; and
- (4) Ensure constant checks of ambient air quality.

Without these steps, the community's health and safety will remain at risk.

The name 'Safe Air' gives the allusion that the bill has the goal of keeping our air clean and safe to breathe. But Territorians are concerned and fearful that the air we breathe could be affecting our health. Late last year we were alarmed to find that major gas industries were releasing much more gas (methane and toxic compounds) into our air, than they had estimated and our Environment Protection Authority was not “watching” monitoring! Minister Burgoyne emphasised that environmental monitoring will be important to regain Territorian's Trust. Yes, quality monitoring and strong enforceable regulations, are needed urgently. Unfortunately, the Bill does not include any clear protective measures or restrictions that would reassure Territorians that establishing and maintaining clean air is a government priority. Air quality standards, listing air pollutants and acceptable limits and enforcement through monitoring, and penalties for breaking air quality rules, should be part of the Safe Air bill.

Thank you for having looked at my submission.

Sincerely,

Grace Matarazzo
7/09/2026