



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Petition

Registration No.	38
Title	Suburban development in the Holtze/Howard Springs area
Presented on	27 August 2014
Presented by	MR WOOD (Member for Nelson)
Referred to	Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment (Chandler)
Date referred	27 August 2014
Response due	2 nd sitting day of 2015
Response received	4 November 2014
Response to be presented	25 November 2014

Petition

To the Minister for Lands and Planning

We the undersigned respectfully say to you

- That we strongly oppose any suburban development in the Holtze/Howard Springs area,
- Oppose the name Palmerston North,
- Support development of Weddell as the new town and
- Support rural subdivisions of 1 ha and above in the Holtze/Howard Springs area

Response

In response, I note the sentiment of the petition to protect the existing lifestyle enjoyed by rural residents. Many of the issues presented appear to arise from the Draft Darwin Regional Land Use Plan prepared by the NT Planning Commission, which endorses the legitimate lifestyle choice people make to live on large parcels of land in the rural area.

Development around the Palmerston Hospital is designed to make the best use of public investment in infrastructure and to provide a reliable supply of residential land. An area plan is being developed to guide the development of this area, and will provide a clearer understanding of how the transition from urban densities will occur to ensure that there will not be an unreasonable future impact to rural residents. It should be noted that a large proportion of the land identified for development includes the Kowandi defence facility - an area never zoned or identified as rural land.

'Palmerston North' was a term used in "Towards a Darwin Regional Land Use Plan" released by the NT Planning Commission in December 2013. Public feedback at the time indicated a preference for use of 'Holtze', the formal name for the locality and the use of Palmerston North was ceased.

The Darwin Regional Land Use Plan 2014 includes Weddell as an appropriate site for future urban development, when the provision of infrastructure becomes cost effective.

Area plans will be developed to give guidance to future development in accordance with the land use structure in the Darwin Regional Land Use Plan 2014, including how the areas will integrate with established localities. The adoption of area plans into the NT Planning Scheme will include a period of public exhibition to allow residents and interested parties to make submissions that will be heard by a Reporting Body and provided to me for consideration in determining an outcome.