



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Petition

Registration No:	23
Title:	Marrakai, Leaning Tree and Mount Bundy Excluded from Council or Body Corporate
Presented on:	17 August 2009
Presented by:	Member for Goyder (Purick)
Referred to:	Local Government (Knight)
Date referred:	20 August 2009
Response due:	1 st sitting day of 2010
Response received:	23 September 2009
Response presented:	12 October 2009

Petition

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY:

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH that the residents of the unincorporated area of Marrakai, Leaning Tree and Mt Bundy, request that the present government adhere to its undertaking of excluding the present unincorporated areas from any form of council or body corporate at the time when the super-shires were formed and at any time in the future

We request that the Government cease wasting our tax dollars to hire various forms of consultants whose only role is to force an undemocratic impost on residents.

Further, we require that this Government and Mr. Rob Knight, Member for Daly in particular, ceases to promulgate all forms of misinformation which claim in any manner, shape or form that these residents are a burden on the Northern Territory community and that this can only be eased when they 'pay their fair share of taxation'.

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY THAT the Northern Territory Government immediately cease forcing residents through an undemocratic situation.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS, AS IN DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

Response (Pursuant to Standing Order 100A)

The Northern Territory Government is committed to a community-driven approach to local council boundary expansion that takes in currently unincorporated areas of the northern part of the Territory.

Coomalie Community Government Council, Belyuen Community Government Council, Wagait Shire Council and Litchfield Council are consulting with residents and stakeholders to share their insights on a future vision for the region.

These consultations, conducted by independent facilitators, seek to engage in dialogue with community members about local government and its implications for the region. The councils have sought to ensure that all sections of the community are able to participate in the consultations and express their views.

In particular, I recognise the opportunity to build consensus on a way forward, taking into account and respecting the diversity of views within the region. The issues and ideas raised during the consultations will guide the councils on determining the next steps in expanding local council boundaries.

The Government acknowledges the residents in Marrakai, Leaning Tree and Mt Bundy as valued members of the Northern Territory community. I invite all interested people to share their knowledge and expertise about their region to identify arrangements that enhance service delivery and strengthen representation for residents.