

**From:** [Lucinda Roper](#)  
**To:** [LA Committees](#)  
**Subject:** Scrutiny Committee Submission  
**Date:** Wednesday, 19 February 2025 4:45:32 PM

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Dear Scrutiny Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this decision-making process. My name is Lucinda, I am a Jingili resident who works in the NT health system and have started my family in Darwin. I love our community and our NT environment. I am inspired by the possibility of contributing to informed decision making, which is why I am writing today.

I have put together the following recommendations for your review during the drafting process of the Territory Coordinator (TC) Bill:

**1. Transparency and Accountability:**

- If the TC bill is passed, then all Step-in Notices (Section 56) and Exemption Notices (Section 64) should be **publicly posted in real time** and include clear, detailed justifications. This ensures transparency and public accountability.
- Require **affirmative parliamentary resolution and public consultation** for any regulation proposing to add to the Schedule.

**2. Regulation-Making Powers:**

- Remove the ability to add Scheduled laws via regulation (Section 3) to avoid unchecked expansion of TC powers.

**3. Environmental Protections:**

- Explicitly **prohibit Exemption Notices** from bypassing essential NT environmental and cultural laws. Please add back in and expand Section 64(3) to include a comprehensive list of protected safeguards.
- Explicitly **protect core environmental and cultural laws** (e.g., *Environment Protection Act 2019*, *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976*) from exemption, regardless of regulatory changes.

**4. Merits Review:**

- Introduce an **independent merits review process** for significant statutory decisions made by the TC, addressing the limitation in Section 62 that currently allows only judicial review.

**5. Balanced Decision-Making:**

- Amend Section 8(1) to ensure **equal weighting** of social, environmental,

and economic outcomes in decision-making, providing a more balanced and sustainable framework.

**6. Don't pass the TC bill at all:**

- I am deeply concerned by the possibility of rapid change to laws that exist for a reason, with permanent consequences for the environment.

Thank you for considering these recommendations. I look forward to the outcome of this valuable consultation process.

Kind regards,  
Lucinda Roper

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Lucinda Roper