



27 March 2026

Committee Secretariat
Legislative Scrutiny Committee
PO Box 3721
Darwin NT 0810
By email: LSC@nt.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretariat,

Pipelines and Petroleum Legislation Amendment (Industry Development) Bill 2026 (Serial 57)

The Minerals Council of Australia – Northern Territory Division welcomes the opportunity to comment on the *Pipelines and Petroleum Legislation Amendment (Industry Development) Bill 2026*.

As the peak industry organisation representing the Northern Territory's exploration, mining and minerals processing sector, the MCA NT advocates for policies that support a safe, productive and environmentally responsible industry that delivers economic and community benefits.

Energy reliability and cost competitiveness are critical to industry development and investment attraction. Industry is increasingly seeking access to gas supply and shared infrastructure to meet operational needs. At the same time, the minerals industry supports Australia's net zero objectives and requires predictable policy settings that enable least-cost abatement technologies.

The Bill introduces targeted and technical amendments to modernise the Territory's pipelines and petroleum legislation. The amendments support emerging industries, including carbon capture and storage (CCS) and hydrogen, and improve flexibility for joint venture arrangements, including checkerboarding, consistent with industry best practice.

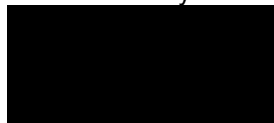
The proposed amendments align with regulatory approaches established for the minerals industry under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010*, the *Environment Protection Act 2019* and the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011*, providing greater certainty for industry and regulators.

The Bill strikes an appropriate balance between strengthening energy security, maintaining industry competitiveness and supports net zero objectives through least-cost abatement, including CCS.

With 21 minerals projects in the pipeline representing \$6.37 billion in potential investment and thousands of future jobs, the Northern Territory is well positioned to continue delivering economic and community benefits from responsible resource development. Coordinated policy settings will be critical to translating this opportunity into regional prosperity.

The MCA NT supports the Bill and does not recommend further amendments.

Yours sincerely



Cathryn Tilmouth
Executive Director, Northern Australia