



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee

Associated Minutes of Proceedings

Inquiry into the Pastoral Land Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

March 2018



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

ECONOMIC POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 2

12.05 pm, Wednesday, 18 October 2017
Elsey Room

Present: Mr Jeff Collins, Member for Fong Lim
Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan
Ms Selena Uiho, Member for Arnhem
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly
Mr Gerry Wood, Member for Nelson

Secretariat: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Collins moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 1 of 11 September 2017 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the correspondence.

3. STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

Mr Collins moved and Ms Uiho seconded that:

The Committee adopts the following standard procedure for inquiries into Bills referred by the Assembly:

- (1) The Committee will call for submissions on the Bill to be due by the Wednesday in the second week before the next sittings of the Assembly;
- (2) Following the end of a sittings period, the Chair of the Committee will issue a notice listing the Bills on which the Committee is calling for submissions and the date by which submissions are due;
- (3) Notices calling for submissions will be distributed on the Assembly's website, by email to subscribers of the committee email alert service, by Facebook and Twitter posts, by media release, and by email or letter to persons and organisations determined by the Chair following consultation with Committee Members;
- (4) After the due date for submissions, the Chair will determine whether and when to hold public hearings and who shall be invited to appear at the hearings, following consultation with Committee Members;
- (5) Unless circumstances require otherwise, the public hearings will be held on Wednesday mornings of sitting weeks;
- (6) If any Member wishes to amend this standard procedure for a particular Bill, they shall advise the Chair who will then convene a meeting to consider that Bill's inquiry process at the earliest convenient opportunity.

4. CONSIDERATION OF ANY BILLS REFERRED BY THE ASSEMBLY

The Committee agreed to call for submissions to be due by 8 November 2018 for the:
Biological Control Amendment Bill
Pastoral Land Amendment Bill

The Committee agreed to write to the following stakeholders inviting submissions to the Inquiry into the Pastoral Land Amendment Bill:


NT Cattleman's Association
NT Farmers Association
Minerals Council of Australia (NT)
Chamber of Commerce NT
Northern Territory Business Council
Tourism Top End
Environment Centre NT
Environmental Defenders Office
Arid Lands Environment Centre
Central Land Council
Anindilyakwa Land Council
Tiwi Land Council
Northern Land Council
National Native Title Council
Local government councils
Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
Productivity Commission
NT Valuer-General
Pastoral Land Board
Indigenous Land Corporation
Land Development Corporation
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

5. NEXT MEETING

TBA

Meeting closed at 12.17 pm

Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair





LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

ECONOMIC POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 3

1.04 pm, Wednesday, 22 November 2017
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Jeff Collins, Member for Fong Lim
Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan
Ms Selena Uibo, Member for Arnhem
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly
Mr Gerry Wood, Member for Nelson

Secretariat: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Higgins moved and Mr Collins seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 2 of 18 October 2017 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the correspondence.

3. PASTORAL LAND LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2017

Mr Collins moved and Mr Higgins seconded that the Committee:

- a) authorises the publication of submissions 1 – 12A.
- b) agrees to keep submission 12B confidential.

The Chair advised that the Minister did not need to proceed with the Bill before March 2018 and would be happy for the reporting date for the Committee to be extended if required.

The Committee agreed to hold public hearings in late January, inviting those who made submissions and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

4. BIOLOGICAL CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2017

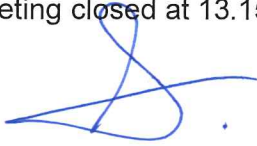
Ms Uibo moved and Mr Higgins seconded:

That the Committee adopts the 'No Issues Report' for the Biological Control Amendment Bill 2017 for tabling in the November meeting period.

5. NEXT MEETING

A hearing date is to be set for late January 2018.

Meeting closed at 13.15 pm



**Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

ECONOMIC POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 4

10.30 am, Friday, 2 February 2018
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan (Chair)
Mr Jeff Collins, Member for Fong Lim (Deputy Chair)
Ms Selena Uibo, Member for Arnhem
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly
Mr Gerry Wood, Member for Nelson

Secretariat: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

1. PUBLIC HEARING

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mrs Helen Armstrong, Gilnockie Station
- Mr John Armstrong, Gilnockie Station

Mr Armstrong tabled a supplementary submission (paper PPL1).

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Paul Burke, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association
- Mr Tom Ryan, Executive Officer, Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association
- Mr Troy Setter, Chief Executive Officer, Consolidated Pastoral Company

Mr Burke tabled his opening statement (paper PPL2).

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Geoff Crowhurst, President, Katherine Mining Services Association (via telephone)
- Ms Teresa Cummings, Corporate Manager, North Australia Rural Management Consultants (via telephone)
- Mr John Jansen, Director, North Australia Rural Management Consultants (via telephone)

The witnesses withdrew

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Frank Peacocke, Director, Herron Todd White (Northern Territory) Pty Ltd

Mr Peacocke tabled his rent change estimations under the Bill (paper PLL3). The Committee agreed to keep the paper confidential.

The witness withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Joe Morrison, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Land Council
- Mr Michael O'Donnell, Principal Legal Officer, Northern Land Council

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Mitch Hart, Northern Territory Manager - Outback to Oceans, The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Mr Pepe Clarke, Deputy Director (Terrestrial), The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Ms Shar Molloy, Coordinator, The Environment Centre NT
- Mr Jimmy Cocking, Chief Executive Officer, Arid Lands Environment Centre (via telephone)
- Mr Alex Read, Policy Officer, Arid Lands Environment Centre (via telephone)

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Ms Joanne Townsend, Chief Executive Officer, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Ms Tania Moloney, Director, Pastoral Lease Administration & Board, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Mr Luis Da Rocha, A/Executive Director, Rangelands Division, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

The witnesses withdrew

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Higgins moved and Mr Wood seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 3 of 22 November 2017 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the correspondence.

The Committee resolved to authorise the publication of submission 1A

4. PASTORAL LAND LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL PUBLIC INQUIRY

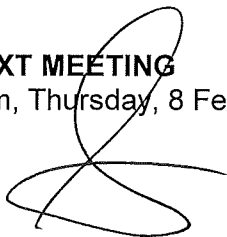
The Committee asked the Chair to seek for the Assembly to change the due date for its report on the Pastoral Land Legislation Amendment Bill to 13 March 2018.

5. EVIDENCE (NATIONAL UNIFORM LEGISLATION) AMENDMENT (JOURNALIST PRIVILEGE) BILL

The Committee resolved to authorise the publication of submissions 1 – 4.

6. NEXT MEETING

1pm, Thursday, 8 February 2018



Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

ECONOMIC POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 5

1.04 pm, Thursday, 8 February 2018
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan (Chair)
Mr Jeff Collins, Member for Fong Lim (Deputy Chair)
Ms Selena Uibo, Member for Arnhem
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly
Mr Gerry Wood, Member for Nelson

Secretariat: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Collins moved and Mr Wood seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 4 of 2 February 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the correspondence.

Mr Higgins moved and Ms Uibo seconded that the Committee authorise the publication of:

- a) Submission No. 1B and submission No. 11A
- b) Tabled papers PLL1 (Armstrong supplementary submission) and PLL2 (Burke opening statement) tabled during the previous hearing

3. EVIDENCE (NATIONAL UNIFORM LEGISLATION) AMENDMENT (JOURNALIST PRIVILEGE) BILL

The Committee agreed to invite the Department of the Attorney-General and Justice to a public hearing to address issues raised in the submissions.

4. RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES AMENDMENT BILL 2018

The Committee agreed to call for submissions to be due by 9 March 2018.

The Committee agreed to invite the Department of the Attorney-General and Justice to a public hearing on the Bill.

The Committee agreed to write to the following stakeholders inviting submissions to the inquiry:

- Department of Housing and Community Development
- Northern Territory Consumer Affairs
- Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal
- Housing Industry Association NT
- Property Council of Australia
- Real Estate Institute of the Northern Territory

- TICA (tenancy database)
- National Tenancy Database
- Trading Reference Australia (tenancy database)
- Northern Territory Council of Social Services
- Sommerville Community Services
- Amity Community Services Inc
- Catholic Care NT
- Anglicare NT
- Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory
- Dawn House Inc
- Alice Springs Women's Shelter
- Ngannyatjarr Pitjantjajara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council
- Tennant Creek Women's Refuge
- Darwin Aboriginal & Islander Women's Shelter
- Domestic and Family Violence Centre
- YWCA of Darwin Inc.
- NT Shelter
- Council on the Aging
- Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation
- Venture Housing Company Ltd
- Central Australian Affordable Housing Company Ltd
- Anthepe Housing Association Incorporated
- Bathurst Island Housing Association Incorporated
- Northern Land Council
- Central Land Council
- Anindilyakwa Land Council
- Tiwi Land Council
- North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency
- Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission
- Top End Women's Legal Service
- Darwin Community Legal Service
- Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service
- Law Society Northern Territory
- North Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Service
- Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit
- Domestic Violence Legal Service NT
- Central Australia Women's Legal Services
- Katherine Women's Information and Legal Service

5. NEXT MEETING

TBA

Meeting closed at 1.30 pm



Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

ECONOMIC POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 6

9.04 am, Wednesday, 28 February 2018
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan (Chair)
Mr Jeff Collins, Member for Fong Lim (Deputy Chair)
Ms Selena Uibo, Member for Arnhem (via telephone)
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly
Mr Gerry Wood, Member for Nelson

Secretariat: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Higgins moved and Mr Wood seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 5 of 8 February 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. PUBLIC BRIEFING - EVIDENCE (NATIONAL UNIFORM LEGISLATION) AMENDMENT (JOURNALIST PRIVILEGE) BILL

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Ms Leonique Swart: Deputy Director of Legal Policy, Department of the Attorney-General and Justice
- Ms Caroline Heske: Senior Policy Lawyer, Department of the Attorney-General and Justice

Ms Heske took a question on notice.

The witnesses withdrew

3. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the correspondence.

Mr Higgins moved and Ms Uibo seconded that:

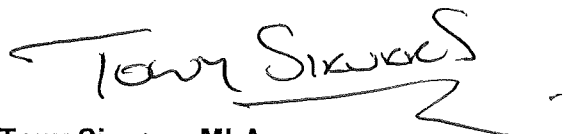
The Committee authorises the publication of Submission No. 13 – Aboriginal Carbon Fund
Question put and passed.

4. PASTORAL LAND LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL INQUIRY

The Committee discussed the draft report and agree to consider a revised version at the next meeting at 8.30 am on 6 March 2018.

5. NEXT MEETING
8.30am 6 March 2018

Meeting closed at 10.30 am

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Sievers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

ECONOMIC POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 7

8.35 am, Tuesday, 6 March 2018
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan (Chair)
Mr Jeff Collins, Member for Fong Lim (Deputy Chair)
Ms Selena Uibo, Member for Arnhem (via telephone)
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly (via telephone)
Mr Gerry Wood, Member for Nelson (via telephone)

Secretariat: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Wood moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 6 of 28 February 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the correspondence.

Mr Collins moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Committee authorises the publication of Submission No. 1 – Law Society Northern Territory

Question put and passed.

3. PASTORAL LAND LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL INQUIRY

The Committee considered the draft report.

Mr Collins moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Committee adopt the report *Inquiry into the Pastoral Land Legislation Amendment Bill 2017*.

Question put and passed.

4. EVIDENCE (NATIONAL UNIFORM LEGISLATION) AMENDMENT (JOURNALIST PRIVILEGE) BILL INQUIRY

The Committee considered the draft report.

Ms Uibo moved and Mr Wood seconded that:

The Committee adopt the report *Inquiry into the Evidence (National Uniform Legislation) Amendment (Journalist Privilege) Bill 2018*.

Question put and passed.

5. RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES AMENDMENT BILL

The Committee agreed to hold a public briefing with the Department of Attorney-General and Justice.

6. NEXT MEETING

12 pm, Thursday 15 March 2018

Meeting closed at 8.50 am

Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair