

From: [Martin](#)
To: [LA Committees](#)
Subject: Territory Coordinator Submission
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Territory Coordinator Bill. This opposition is based on a number of concerns, such as concerns for its impact on the NT environment, but I want to highlight, in this submission, its dangerously anti-democratic basis.

The ability for a government-appointed bureaucrat to decide that the protections and safeguards provided through project assessment by regulators like the EPA can be ignored in favour of their assessment of 'economic prosperity' is a serious threat to the democratic power of Territorians/ Australians. Suppose the Controller reads 'economic prosperity' to mean 'profits for resource extractors' and minimises measures of environmental damage. How are they to be voted out by citizens? If the EPA considers a proposal to be, overall, detrimental to the public interest, fully conceived, why should the contrary beliefs of an unelected individual trump that view? They should not, in a true democracy, and this legislation should be withdrawn and reconsidered, in my view, to better reflect the democratic oversight that our Australian democracy expects.

Faithfully,

Martin Richardson

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