

From: [Karen Edyvane](#)
To: [LA Committees](#)
Subject: Territory Coordinator Bill 2025
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Dear Secretary, Legislative Scrutiny Committee

I wish to convey my deep opposition to the proposed Territory Coordinator Bill 2025.

As a professional, environmental scientist and senior manager with >35 years of experience working with government in the Northern Territory, South Australia and Tasmania (including working closely with Federal Government agencies) - I have a unique perspective on the status of the Northern Territory's current environmental governance, particularly in relation to major projects and environmental impact assessments.

The Northern Territory currently has the weakest Nature Laws in Australia - in relation to biodiversity conservation, threatened species, Protected Areas, bioregional planning, introduced pests/invasive species and native vegetation clearance. This alarming lack of effective 'environmental governance' (ie. policies/action plans, legislation, regulations, resources, skills) is so alarming that the Northern Territory as a jurisdiction can only correctly be defined or classified as a 'failed state'.

For further details, please find attached my keynote presentation at a 'State of Environment' Conference in Darwin, in September 2023.

In the absence of basic Nature Laws (ie. laws/regulations which are found in all other jurisdictions) - the Northern Territory URGENTLY needs stronger environmental legislation, and stronger environmental protection safeguards.

To this end, to consider establishing a Territory Coordinator (role, legislation) to further prioritise economic development interests over environmental protection, can only be described as gross environmental negligence - and criminal.

Finally, this dangerous legislation only strengthens national perceptions of the Northern Territory as a 100% captured by industry.

Regards

Karen.

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