

27 March 2026

Secretary  
Legislative Scrutiny Committee  
Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory  
Parliament House  
Darwin NT 0800



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**Re: Pipelines and Petroleum Legislation Amendment Bill (Industry Development) Bill 2026 (NT)**

Submitted via: [LSC@nt.gov.au](mailto:LSC@nt.gov.au)

Dear Committee,

Jemena welcomes the **Pipelines and Petroleum Legislation Amendment (Industry Development) Bill 2026** and supports its objective to promote industry development in key onshore gas projects. We particularly welcome measures that reduce duplication and streamline licence administration, variation and compliance, as these reforms can materially improve regulatory efficiency and project delivery outcomes.

Jemena owns and operates a diverse portfolio of gas and electricity infrastructure across northern and eastern Australia, with more than \$12 billion in assets delivering energy to millions of households, institutions and industries each day. This includes the Jemena Gas Network in New South Wales, the Jemena Electricity Network in northwest Melbourne, and major transmission assets such as the Eastern Gas Pipeline, Queensland Gas Pipeline and Northern Gas Pipeline.

Natural gas continues to underpin Australia's energy security and standard of living, supplying more than a quarter of the nation's energy needs. It supports households and essential services, enables industrial production, contributes to emissions reduction from higher-emitting fuels, and plays a critical role in firming renewable electricity. The majority of gas transported through Jemena's networks serves commercial and industrial customers, many operating in hard-to-abate sectors where long-lived infrastructure and investment certainty are critical.

Delivering these outcomes depends on strong gas infrastructure that reliably connects supply with demand. To maintain reliability, support productivity and enable long-term economic growth, Australia requires a robust regulatory and policy framework that promotes market-led investment. Clear, contemporary and proportionate regulatory processes—supported by appropriate oversight and safeguards—are essential to ensuring infrastructure can operate safely and efficiently while adapting to evolving market and industry needs.

In this context, the Bill's focus on industry development is welcome, provided its implementation remains predictable and investment-enabling, particularly for pipeline infrastructure that underpins reliable energy supply for Territorians and supports the broader energy transition.

In practical terms, Jemena's key message is simple: reforms should make it easier to develop new gas supply and infrastructure, without changing the rules after investment decisions have been made and assets are operating safely. Regulatory certainty for existing pipelines is essential to maintaining reliability, supporting ongoing maintenance and upgrades, and preserving investor confidence.

The Bill should not unintentionally expand obligations, alter licence terms, or re-characterise existing approved activities for current pipeline operators. Definitions and approval frameworks should be applied in a way that avoids regulatory duplication and ensures that pipeline-related equipment and activities already authorised

under existing pipeline licences continue to be regulated as part of the pipeline, rather than being inadvertently captured under new or separate licensing regimes.

Just as important as the legislative framework itself is how it is administered. Transparent, predictable and proportionate application of licence variations, management plans and compliance requirements will be critical to enabling operators to respond to changing gas specifications, maintain system integrity and invest with confidence over the long term.

Pipeline infrastructure is a cornerstone of the Northern Territory's energy system. It provides critical connections to broader national energy markets, supports industrial development, and is a key lever for economic growth. Protecting and promoting the role of gas in the Territory — alongside reforms that lower barriers to new supply and infrastructure investment — will materially strengthen energy security outcomes for the Northern Territory and Australia more broadly.

Jemena appreciates the opportunity to engage on the Bill and looks forward to continuing to work constructively with the Government to ensure the final framework delivers on its industry development objectives while maintaining regulatory certainty for critical energy infrastructure.

Jemena would welcome any opportunity to assist the Northern Territory Government on the Bill or subsequent implementation, as required. For more information on this submission or to arrange a discussion please contact Joeb Northey, Manager Policy and Government Relations via [REDACTED].

We trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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Cameron Dorse,  
**Executive General Manager**  
Gas Markets  
Jemena