



## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### Petition

Registration No:	25
Title:	Marrakai Downs Bus Route
Presented on:	14 June 2006
Presented by:	Mr Knight
Referred To:	Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (Burns)
Response due:	17 October 2006
Response received:	4 September 2006
Response presented:	10 October 2006

#### **Petition**

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

We the undersigned, respectfully showeth that the existing bus route collecting children from Marrakai Downs is too dangerous for all those who use the main highway and for those waiting for the bus (being 14 children on the side of the highway) being passed by trucks from the mines and coaches for tourism.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the bus route be changed as a matter of safety reasons to Marrakai Road where the children will be picked up on the Burnside Road away from the busy highway.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray.

#### **Response**

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure have assessed the area where buses pick up and drop off school children on the Arnhem Highway, particularly near the Marrakai Road area.

I am advised that the pick-up and drop-off area near Marrakai Road is consistent with many rural school bus stops.

Parents and guardians of children who wait at the roadside for the school bus generally take appropriate safeguards for their children when waiting in these areas.

The option to relocate the bus stop to Burnside Road is not practical at present. Ideally, a diversion off the Arnhem Highway along Marrakai, Burnside and Wyatt Roads could be undertaken. Unfortunately, Marrakai and Burnside Roads are currently unconnected.

Three-point turns by large buses are highly undesirable for safety reasons. Hence, the bus pick up and drop off points needs to remain on the Arnhem Highway for the time being.