



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

REPORT

Tuesday 12 June 2018
Wednesday 13 June 2018
Thursday 14 June 2018
Monday 18 June 2018
Tuesday 19 June 2018
Wednesday 20 June 2018

The Estimates Committee examined the estimates of proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation Bill (2018-2019) and the Statements of Corporate Intent 2018-19 for the Power and Water Corporation, Jacana Energy and Territory Generation. Questions were raised by some Members on the following issues:

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
Legislative Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know Your Assembly workshops• Search engine capacity for Hansard• Memorandum of Understanding between the Legislative Assembly and the Police regarding powers of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption and issues of Parliamentary Privilege• CPA Women's Network• Costs associated with travel for CPA programs and events• Commonwealth Youth Parliament• Impact of construction of underground carpark on the Legislative Assembly and precinct• Childcare facilities within Parliament House for Members• Updating of Members' Interests register• Number of Bills introduced and passed to 31 March 2018• Budget for Members' entitlements• Income generated from space use in Parliament House• Security issues• Power costs for Parliament House• Department of Legislative Assembly debtors
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GST• Credit rating• Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation• Debt and interest payments• Territory Wildlife Park competitive neutrality complaint• Net exports and economic growth• Prospective investment projects Nett debt to revenue ratio• Consultancy budgets

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalisation of the CBD • Mineral Royalties • Costs of implementing recommendations from Hydraulic Fracturing inquiry • Have Your Say website • Remote telecommunications investment and economic development in rural and remote areas • Northern Territory Infrastructure Development Fund • Economic forecasts • Treasurer's advances • Structural separation of Power and Water • Managing the transition to renewable energy • Payroll tax exemptions • Residential property market • Superannuation liability • Cost of the My Fuel website project • Management of Public Sector Workers Compensation Scheme • Underground power • Network pricing • Expenditure on ICT budget
<p style="text-align: center;">Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wadey Road • Litchfield Loop Road • Flood mitigation • Infrastructure spending • Myilly Point • Uptake of Hi Oscar ride sharing • Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum • Marine infrastructure development • Richardson Park • Cost of drainage works for Palmerston Regional Hospital • Pinelands project • Barneson Boulevard • Carpark upgrades at Howard Springs Nature Park • Consultation on the Coolalinga land use plan • Ship lift facility • Construction and upgrade of Health Clinics • Construction of morgues in remote communities • State Square Underground car park and cost benefit analysis for the project • Dundee Health Centre • Palmerston Regional Hospital hydrotherapy pool • Construction of Truck Central • Office accommodation upgrades • Indoor netball stadium project • Revote projects

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p>Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender assessment timeframes • Management of Stokes Hill Wharf • Asset management and maintenance • Master plan for Weddell • Development of Berrimah • Site of new Don Dale Youth Detention Centre • Northcrest development • Intersection at Allora Gardens • YMCA Doctors Gully lease
<p>Chief Minister</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auditor-General's office resources • Auditing of Government owned corporations • Internal audit • Electoral Commission resources • Electoral roll maintenance • Impact of loss of Australian Electoral Commission office • Participation in elections • Electoral education • Visit to New Zealand Electoral Commission • 2016 Election Report • Palmerston Election costs • Bitcoin electoral donations • Ombudsman office resources • Education regarding Ombudsman services • Response to Women in Prison report • Crime Services unit complaints • Remote Morgues report • Ombudsman's Office Aboriginal staffing • Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children • Cost of Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing • Implementation of Hydraulic Fracturing inquiry recommendations • Timeframe for the recommencement of exploration and production • City Deal including Assembly Park carpark, heat management in Darwin and Alice Springs • Cost and implementation of the Riley Review • ICAC • Renewable Energy policy • Incentivising the Northern Territory • Population Plan • Master Brand project • Statehood • Strategic partnership agreements • Production of hydrogen from renewables • Review of impacts of Cyclone Marcus • Role of community engagement officers • Cultural Competence and Awareness training undertaken by Indigenous Affairs advisor • Number and role of union liaison officers

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
Chief Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of cabinet members who have undertaken Company Directors course • Support for Independent members • Commemoration of 40th Anniversary of Self-Government • Agency staffing levels • Purpose of grant to NT Trades and Labour Union Council • Costs to review the allocation of water licences • ICT Expenditure • Advertising costs • Early Childhood Development Plan tender • Claims of bullying
Aboriginal Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local decision making agreements • Education, health and policing in remote communities • Development and implementation of Aboriginal Treaties • Appointment of Treaty Commissioner • Barunga Agreement • Kenbi land claim • Prioritising community development • Leadership and governance support • Effectiveness of community consultations • Aboriginal Affairs Strategy • Redevelopment of Jabiru post ERA mine • Nhulunbuy Space Base • Preservation of Aboriginal languages • Inter-tidal zone and compensation package • Native Title Rights and the Pastoral Lands Act • First Circles Program • Regional Coordination meetings • Capacity to deliver on the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio • Community cabinet meetings
Police, Fire and Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility of Aboriginal Liaison Officers to housing • Complaints about Police Officer at Wadeye • Attrition rates in Police Service • Police graduates • Staffing levels in Police Service • Auxiliary police liquor inspectors • Equipment issued to police auxiliaries on graduation • Metropolitan Alcohol Social Order Group • Palmerston Police Station • Upgrade to Nightcliff Police Station • Expenditure on overtime • Banned Drinkers Register • New Serve Pro IT system • Youth engagement officers • CCTV • Male to female staffing ratio • Police Officer suspensions – male to female ratio • Arrests for breaches of bail • Expenditure on electronic bracelets • Number of people taken into protective custody

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p>Police, Fire and Emergency Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of Taskforce Trident • Drug testing • Investigations of complaints against police • Budget for police prosecutions • Budget for police escorts • Resources for road safety services • Officers under investigation • Wongabilla Equestrian Centre • PFAS • Gender equity in the Fire service • ATSI Development Unit • Cultural sensitivity when investigating fatalities • Unmanned police stations in remote communities
<p>Attorney-General and Justice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic monitoring devices • Advice and litigation • Alternatives to prisons • Aboriginal Justice Agreements • Floor prices on alcohol • Cost of Barristers assisting Solicitor-General • Work camps • Review of Biz Secure program • Review of Anti-Discrimination Act • Consultation processes when drafting legislation • Review of Mandatory Sentencing laws • Victims of Crimes Services Unit • Funding of custodial services • Annual Report • Security of prisoners • Overtime • Hospital transfers • Indigenous incarceration rates • COMMIT Program and Hope Project • Transition from Public Interest Disclosures Office to ICAC • Child protection system reform • Follow-up of Children's Commissioner's reports • Reporting on poker machine income
<p>Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Lifeline • Provision of St John Ambulance Services • Funding to implement termination of pregnancy law reform • Renal services strategy • Number of renal patients • Partnerships with NGO's to deliver renal services on country • Relocation of renal ready room at Ngukurr • Role of Environmental Health Section regarding PFAS and asbestos • Vaccinations for meningococcus • Flu shots for children • Funding for HTLV-1 • Cost of the Riley Review • Number of Alcohol Management Plans across the Territory

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p style="text-align: center;">Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data linkage program • Cardiff Model Alcohol Program • Review of Sobering Up Shelters • Alcohol and Other Drugs Youth Grants • Alcohol rehabilitation and treatment programs • Referrals to Banned Drinkers Register • NDIS and funding for disability services • Budget for Disability Equipment Program • Funding for Suicide Prevention Strategy • Complex Behaviour Unit at the Darwin Corrections Facility • Housing support for mental health clients • Secure mental health facility in Katherine • Recruitment of mental health workers • Mental health services in remote communities • Secure care units • Medical misdiagnosis complaints • Governance of Health Services • Dundee Health Centre • Recruitment of fulltime GP for Jabiru • Staffing numbers and levels • Clinical Senate • Funding for cardiothoracic and neurological services • Budget improvement measures • Palmerston Regional Hospital Open Day
<p style="text-align: center;">Housing and Community Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public housing stimulus program • Housing accommodation support trial results • Homelessness strategy • Public housing construction projects for 2018-19 • John Stokes Square project • Master plan for use of public housing as women's shelters • Social head leasing • Title transfers to non-government organisations • Industry Housing Assistance Scheme • Public Housing Safety Officers – numbers and training • Number and type of call outs dealt with by Public Housing Safety Officers • Asbestos in public housing • Maintenance of ex Rio Tinto housing in Nhulunbuy • Public housing wait lists in urban and regional areas • Management of public housing wait lists • Community housing provider model • Closure of YMCA facility in Darwin CBD • Town Camps Review • Infrastructure stimulus projects • Aged care facilities and seniors housing in the rural area • Funding for housing on Homelands • Housing for skilled permanent residents in Nhulunbuy • Status of Shiers St complex • Use of Indigenous labour by Rocon Contracting • Government employee housing

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p>Housing and Community Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of Indigenous employees in construction projects • Room to Breathe program • Remote housing construction program • Development of new lots • Development of Aboriginal Peak Housing Body • Lease arrangements in Nguiu • Funding for concrete driveways for new remote housing • Cost of building houses in remote communities • Construction of independent living areas for seniors in remote communities • Homelands extra allowance • Funding for and use of Aboriginal Interpreter Service • Review of the Local Government Act • Proposed local government amalgamations • Review of rating for mining leases and pastoral properties • Rating of Aboriginal land • Review of the Thorak Cemetery • Budget Assistance funding • Department's role in the development of remote morgues • Home Build Access Scheme • Workplace Health and Safety Claims
<p>Public Employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters referred to the Solicitor for the Northern Territory • Wages Policy • Fixed term contracts • Aboriginal Career Development Strategy • Special Measures Program • Domestic Violence Policy • Secondments of public servants to non-government organisations • Employment of people with disabilities • Aging workforce policy framework • Public servants residing outside Australia
<p>Primary Industry and Resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydraulic fracturing • Boat ramps – Howard River and Point Stuart • Blue Mud Bay • Biosecurity • Water Allocation Policy • Impact of developing the north on the cost of water • Agri-business Memorandum of Cooperation with Japan • Opportunities to harvest water • Potential for pastoral industry to increase production and economic contribution to the Territory • Pastoral Land Legislation Amendment Bill • Major Projects - Quintis Ltd • Wagait Land Trust • Assistance provided to the Aboriginal Land Corporation • Indigenous Pastoral Program • Magpie geese in mango orchards • Decrease in departmental budget • Departmental Strategic Plan 2018-2022

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p>Primary Industry and Resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment of Key Performance Indicators • Outcomes of investment mission to India • Indigenous business development • Aboriginal coastal licences • Employment opportunities and skills development for Aboriginal people in remote areas • Funding allocation to implement recommendations from the Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing • Mango export industry • Use of Browsing Ant Detection dogs • Plant industry development programs • Funding for VOPA heat treatment equipment • Industry support for genetically modified organisms • Citrus canker disease • Panama disease resistance trials • Nitrogen Mango project • Future of the Sandalwood industry • Status of forestry industry in the Northern Territory • Livestock export industry • Live export of donkeys • Live export development strategy • Closure of AACO's Livingstone beef meat works • Impact of buffalo imports from India • Impact of wild dogs on beef herds • Donkey and camel industries in Central Australia • Agile Wallaby project • Livestock management on homelands • Project Sea Dragon • Outcomes of trips to USA, China, Japan and South Korea • Support for the Bush Foods industry • Support for Kakadu Blue and the Cypress Pine oil industry • Animal welfare and animal management issues • Prosecution of animal welfare offences • Economic and social impact of biosecurity risks • Virology facility at Berrimah Farm • Biological control options for Mango leaf hopper • Eradication of fruit fly from the Ti Tree area • Acquittal of industry development funding to AFANT • Promotion of commercial fishing industry • Sustainability of fish stocks • Consultation on recreational fishing infrastructure • Survival rate of fingerlings released in lakes and dams • Sediment sampling and DNA analysis of water • Hybrid mineral resource royalty scheme • Authorisation of new mines • Baseline data for the onshore gas industry • Resource exploration • Use of renewable energy to produce hydrogen • Streamlining of mineral exploration licences • Control of weeds and rehabilitation of extractive mines

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
Primary Industry and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental levy expenditure • Matters referred to the Solicitor-General for the NT • Role of departmental staff in Tennant Creek • Number of staff in the mining area in Alice Springs • Moratorium on sea bed mining • Number of operational iron ore mines • Maintenance of access road to Bing Bong port • Legacy mines • Rehabilitation of mine sites – Redbank and Mt Todd • Responsibility for inactive gas pipelines • Timor Sea gas exploration • Role of department in East Timor cattle program
Arafura Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arafura Games Facebook page • Badminton facilities
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of performance indicators • Major challenges for the agency • Difference between Traditional Owner and Custodian • Authority Certificates for land clearing
Environment and Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Aboriginal Water Reserve Policy • Pastoral Land Legislation Amendment Bill • Bag limits and commercial harvest of Magpie Geese • Dieback of mangroves in Gulf of Carpentaria • Carbon farming projects • Five Year Management Plan for Crocodiles • Use of remote camera technology • Eradication of feral cats • Impact of rising sea levels • Number of infringement notices for Gamba grass • Eradication of sagittaria and cabomba weed • Control of Neem trees on the Victoria River • Dieback of mimosa on Melaleuca Station • Review of the Water Act • Amount of water used fighting bushfires • Funding and resources to implement Hydraulic Fracturing inquiry recommendations • Water charges for stock and domestic bores • Banjo lines • Water resources and development in the rural area • Strategies to reduce water consumption in the rural area • Review of water licences • New Bush Fires NT facility at Townend Rd, Acacia Hills • Funding for volunteer bush fire brigades • Motor Trades Association study of the end-of-life of tyres • Container Deposit Scheme • EPA prosecutions • Industry compliance checks • Risks to prawn farmers from birds
Tourism and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakdown of visitor numbers • Alice Springs National Indigenous Art Gallery and Cultural Centre • Passenger numbers on Donghai Airline flights from Shenzhen

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p style="text-align: center;">Tourism and Culture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative marketing arrangements with domestic and international airline services • Year round access to Kakadu National Park • Budget for engaging Indian and Chinese tourism market • Promotion of military history sites • Portrait of a Senior Territorian Competition • Grant to TopCroc • Budget for sporting facilities in the rural area • Access to public liability cover by Summernats spectators • Support for the development of remote tourism projects • Recreational Fishing Access Plan • 40th Anniversary of Self-Government celebrations • Visitor numbers for Territory Wildlife Parks • Funding to repair cyclone damage to Howard Springs Nature Park
<p style="text-align: center;">Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government employee housing for local employees • Reporting arrangements for Katherine Regional Office • Funding for the Early Childhood Development Plan • Starting Early for a Better Future Plan • Abecedarian approach • Families as First Teachers sites • Early childhood KPI's • Children commencing school with developmental delays • Early years services provided to Emu Point community • Funding available for community play groups • Indigenous Education Strategy • Community led schools and local decision making • Strategies to address decline in Indigenous teachers in remote schools • Funding for improving acoustics in classrooms • School budgets • Read Write Inc. literacy program • Strategies to address high turnover of staff in remote schools • Building Better Schools funding for Woolianna School • Natural disaster emergency management plans • Learning outcomes and performance indicators • NAPLAN • Direct Instruction teaching method • Literacy and Numeracy Essentials (LANE) curriculum • Attendance KPI's for Aboriginal students • Number and location of truancy officers across the Territory • Participation in Water Safety Life Skills program • Early identification of student needs • Support for children on the autism spectrum • Recruitment of teachers • Incidence of bullying in schools • Prevalence of substance abuse in primary schools • Implementation of recommendations from the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children • Number of students involved in home schooling • Budget for educational infrastructure

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p style="text-align: center;">Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student demographics study for the Palmerston area • Use of transportable classrooms in Palmerston schools • STEM education • Government school at Zuccoli • Abuse of teachers by students • Bullying and Stress related Workplace Health and Safety claims • Living Away from Home Allowance for students attending boarding schools interstate • Remote Indigenous Parent's Association • Funding to Charles Darwin University • National Safe Schools Framework • School Based Constables program • Roof Top Solar for Schools Program • Upgrade of sewerage system at Girraween Primary School • Car parking at Humpty Doo Primary School
<p style="text-align: center;">Territory Families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth outreach • Support for victims of youth crime • Community education about sexual abuse • Notifications about the sexual exploitation of children • Notifications about the neglect of children • Investment in new case management system • Professional notifiers portal • Budget allocation for clinical practice directorate • Early childhood and family centres • Improving regional and remote service delivery • Recruitment and retention of child protection staff • Information provided to the Children's Commissioner • Implementation of findings from Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children • Secondment of Territory Families staff to non-government organisations • Funding for Starting Early for a Better Future program • Adoption, permanent care orders and guardianship options • Child protection notifications and resources in the Tennant Creek office • Care and protection applications to Local Courts • Budget for child protection • Child protection caseloads • Evaluation and measurement of outcomes • Actions taken by Department in Tennant Creek case • Implementation of recommendations from the <i>Growing them Strong, Together</i> report • Management of notifications and investigations • Reasons for and strategies to address high turnover of frontline staff • Number of staff that have taken stress leave • Number of Indigenous frontline staff • Number of Aboriginal controlled organisations providing out of home care services • Audit of outcomes of children with multiple notifications • Number of children in the various types of out of home care

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
Territory Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of registered foster carers • Reasons for foster carers exiting the system • Formal complaints from and against foster carers • Survey results of children in out of home care • Responsibility for children in care when they turn 18 years • Aboriginal Child Placement Principle • Reunification and after-care support services • Expenditure on existing youth detention facilities • Location, design and construction of new youth detention facilities for Alice Springs and Darwin • Options for animal husbandry in youth detention centres • Model of care for young people in detention • Development of rural and remote youth training centres • Mount Theo Program • Operation Flinders • Youth Diversion Infrastructure Site Study • Loves Creek rehabilitation camp for young offenders • Youth outreach and engagement officers • Pre-court and court ordered Youth diversions from detention • Reconsideration of place-based services • Access to recidivism data • Expenditure on third party youth diversion programs • Number of Aboriginal children in detention • Funding for community based, culturally appropriate youth detention programs on country • Bail support services • Electronic monitoring • Tennant Creek Action Plan funding • Alice Springs women's shelter • Galiwin'ku safe house • IT services infrastructure and role of DCIS • Reform Management Office staffing • Seniors Recognition Scheme
Power and Water Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in executive management • Uranium contamination • Water testing in urban, rural and remote areas • Managing water quality • Banjo lines and provision of water to rural areas • Prioritisation of works • Research into water resources in the Territory • Bringing Manton Dam back on line • Zuccoli water tower and issues with water pressure • Risks relating to Australian Energy Regulator determination – tariff levels and revenue to provide services • Impact of staffing vacancies on capacity to respond to Cyclone Marcus • Risks for Gas Business Unit – sales, renewable target • Opportunities to sell gas on the open international market • Value of Blacktip gas reserve • Impact of renewables on the network • Rollout of smart meters

PORTFOLIO	ISSUES
<p>Power and Water Corporation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergrounding of power lines • Cost of Cyclone Marcus • Lessons from Cyclone Marcus • Consideration of non-network options • Sewerage pond odour reduction in the northern suburbs • Responsibility for headworks for the Northcrest development • Staffing levels and salaries post structural separation • Cost of solar rollout at Daly River • Communities included in the Solar Set-Up project
<p>Jacana Energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition to new billing system • Complaints or inquiries regarding new billing system • Retail tariffs • Impact of rooftop solar and feed-in tariff on revenue • Uptake of solar • Cost competitiveness of solar • Changes to senior management roles in the past 12 months • Number of fly-in fly-out staff • Staffing numbers and levels • 'Cost to Serve' compared to other retailers in Australia • Decreasing profit margin • Changes to shopfront services • Withdrawal of payments made in advance • New customer services and products • Number of wrongful disconnections and reconnection process
<p>Territory Generation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board appointment • Changes in executive management • Asset impairment • Impact of renewable energy • Retirement of assets • Employee numbers • Future profitability • Overall financial effect of move to renewables • Government funding • Efficiency savings • Fair market rules • Hydrogen or ammonia as an alternative fuel source to gas • Ongoing viability • Status of Alice Springs energy storage project • Expressions of interest for Katherine energy storage project • Building storage capacity to manage solar • Staffing levels and salaries post separation • Ensuring system reliability • Consideration of thermal solar energy



**Ms Selena Uibo, MLA
CHAIR**