



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Social Policy Scrutiny Committee

Associated Minutes of Proceedings

Inquiry into the Interpretation Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

October 2018



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 23

1.00 pm, Thursday, 23 August 2018
Ormiston Room

Present: Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member for Katherine
Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett

Secretariat: Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 22 of 21 June 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. BILL REFERRALS

Mr Paech moved and Mrs Lambley seconded that:

The Committee:

- a) call for submissions to its inquiries into Bills referred during the August sittings to be received by Wednesday, 19 September 2018
- b) write to the responsible Ministers requesting a contact officer in relation to Bills referred and inviting representatives from the Department to appear before the Committee at a public briefing on Monday, 10 September 2018.

Question put and passed.

3. NEXT MEETING

Public Briefing: 10.00 am to 12.00 pm on Monday, 10 September 2018

Meeting closed at 1.20 pm

**Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 24

10.00 am, Monday, 10 September 2018
Litchfield Room

- Present:** Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member for Katherine
- Apologies:** Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett
- Secretariat:** Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant

1. PUBLIC BRIEFINGS

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

Interpretation Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

- Caroline Heske: Senior Policy Lawyer, Department of the Attorney-General and Justice

Tabled Paper: 58-2018 – TP1-1 – Department of Attorney-General and Justice - Briefing for Scrutiny Committee – 10 September 2018

Electoral Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

- Maria Mohr: Chief Executive Officer, Department of the Chief Minister
- Jean Doherty: Executive Director, Federal Policy and Strategic Coordination, Department of the Chief Minister
- Genevieve Mogridge: Director, Federal Policy and Strategic Coordination, Department of the Chief Minister
- Catherine Pledge: Principal Policy Officer, Department of the Chief Minister
- Tom McCrie: Principal Legal Officer, Federal Policy and Strategic Coordination, Department of the Chief Minister

Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018

- Joanne Townsend: Chief Executive Officer, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Kathleen Davis: Director Environment, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Michael Tennant: Chief Executive Officer, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- Nicky D'Antoine: Director, Project Facilitation, Strategic Infrastructure and Projects, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- Joseph Kuhn: Director, Strategic Policy and Research, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- Bradley Feldtman: Manager, Radiation Protection, Department of Health

Tabled Paper: 62-2018 – TP1-1 – Department of Trade, Business and Innovation – Questions and Answers, 10 September 2018

Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Amendment Bill 2018

- Joanne Townsend: Chief Executive Officer, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Karen Avery: Executive Director Environment Policy and Support, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Kathleen Davis: Director Environment, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Question Taken on Notice: From Member for Katherine: Does the legislation give the Minister any authority to intervene or override a decision made by the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority?

The Committee adjourned at 11.40 am



Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 25

10.00 am, Monday, 1 October 2018
Litchfield Room

Present: Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen until 10.45 am
Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member for Katherine
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett

Apologies: Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira

Secretariat: Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mrs Lambley seconded that:

The Minutes of Meetings No. 23 of 23 August 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Lambley moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Minutes of Meetings Meeting No. 24 (Public Briefing) of 10 September 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed

2. TABLED PAPERS

Mrs Lambley moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the papers tabled by the Department of the Attorney-General and Justice and the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation at the public briefing on 10 September 2018.

Question put and passed.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Lambley seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the Answer to the Question Taken on Notice from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources regarding the Environment Protection Authority.

Question put and passed.

4. INTERPRETATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the submissions received.

Question put and passed.

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Chair's draft report outline the issue raised and recommend that the definition of 'business day' be amended to clarify its operation in instances where public holidays do not occur on the same day across the Northern Territory.

Question put and passed.

5. ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the submission received.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Lambley moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee invite the Northern Territory Electoral Commissioner and representatives from the Department of the Chief Minister to appear before the Committee at its public hearing on Monday, 15 October 2018.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Lambley moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee forward the proposed questions of the Department to the Chief Minister for consideration ahead of the public hearing, requesting a response in writing by 15 October 2018 and advice as to any objections regarding publication of the Department's response on the Committee's website.

Question put and passed.

6. NUCLEAR WASTE TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL (PROHIBITION) AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of submissions received with the exception of submission 9 which the author has requested be kept confidential.

Question put and passed.

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

For inquiries where multiple copies of proforma submissions are received, the Committee adopt the practice of only publishing one example of each type of proforma submission with the number of submissions received noted in brackets.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Chair's draft report address the issues raised in submissions received and incorporate the proposed recommendation as agreed to by the Committee.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the Department's response to the Committee's queries on the Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018.

Question put and passed.

The Committee also agreed to write to the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources and invite representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to appear before the Committee at a further public briefing on 15 October 2018. Committee members agreed to forward written questions of the Department regarding clarification of the Bill to the Committee Secretary by close of business Thursday 4 October 2018. It is noted that Member for Araluen left the meeting at 10.45 am and was not party to the decisions on the Nuclear Waste Transport,

Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill or the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Amendment Bill.

7. NORTHERN TERRITORY ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the submissions received.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Chair's draft report address the issues raised in the submissions received and incorporate the proposed recommendation as agreed to by the Committee.

Question put and passed.

8. NEXT MEETING

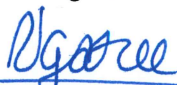
9.00 am to 12.00 pm on Monday, 15 October 2018 as follows:

Additional Public Briefing – Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill: 9.00 am to 9.30 am

Public Hearing – Electoral Amendment Bill: 9.30 am to 10.30 am

Deliberative Meeting: 10.30 am – 11.30 am.

Meeting closed at 11.08 am



Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 26

9.00 am, Monday, 15 October 2018
Litchfield Room

Present:	Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member for Katherine Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett
Apologies	Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
Secretariat:	Julia Knight, Committee Secretary Sasha Lynch, Acting Administration/Research Officer

1. PUBLIC BRIEFING

Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Joanne Townsend: Chief Executive Officer, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Karen Avery: Executive Director Environment Policy and Support, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Kathleen Davis: Director Environment Policy, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Michael Tennant: Chief Executive Officer, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- Nicky D'Antoine: Director, Project Facilitation, Strategic Infrastructure and Projects, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- Bradley Feldtman: Manager, Radiation Protection, Department of Health

Committee adjourned at 9.30 am.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

Electoral Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Iain Loganathan: Electoral Commissioner
- Maria Mohr: Acting Chief Executive Officer, Department of the Chief Minister
- Jean Doherty: Executive Director, Federal Policy and Strategic Coordination, Department of the Chief Minister
- Catherine Pledge: Principal Policy Officer, Department of the Chief Minister

The Committee adjourned at 10.15 am.

DELIBERATIVE MEETING

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 25 of 1 October 2018 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted

5. INTERPRETATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Mr Paech move and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report *Inquiry into the Interpretation Legislation Amendment Bill 2018* for tabling in the Assembly on Tuesday, 23 October 2018.

Question put and passed.

6. NORTHERN TERRITORY ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report *Inquiry into the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Amendment Bill 2018* subject to any amendments being received by the Committee Secretary by 10 am Wednesday 17 October, for tabling in the Assembly on Tuesday, 23 October 2018.

Question put and passed.

7. NUCLEAR WASTE TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL (PROHIBITION) AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

- 1) The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report *Inquiry into the Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Amendment Bill 2018* subject to any amendments being received by the Committee Secretary by 10 am Wednesday 17 October, for tabling in the Assembly on Tuesday, 23 October 2018.
- 2) Following tabling, the Committee forward a copy of its report to the Secretary of the Public Accounts Committee as background information when considering the Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Regulations.

Question put and passed.

8. ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

1. The Committee authorise publication of the Department of the Chief Minister's responses to written questions.
2. The Chair's draft report outline the issues raised by the Electoral Commissioner and the advice provided by the Department of the Chief Minister, for consideration at the Committee's deliberative meeting scheduled for 1 November 2018.

Question put and passed.

9. NEXT MEETING

Deliberative Meeting: 12 noon, Thursday 1 November 2018

Meeting closed at 10.40 am

Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair