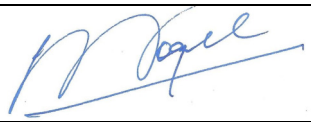
ntepa Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

NOTICE OF DECISION

This notice of decision is made under regulation 105(1) of the Environment Protection Regulations 2020 (EP Regulations)

Proposed action name	Project Ares
Proponent name	Energy North Pty Ltd
NT EPA reference	EP2026/052
Nature of proposed action	Utilities and services and Energy (renewable)
Description of proposed action	The proposed action is for a hyperscale data centre campus located on Murranji Station (NT Portion 851), approximately 52 km north-west of Elliot and 100 km south-west of Daly Waters. The proposed action includes: • a hyperscale data centre with a total information technology capacity of 1 gigawatt (GW) • up to 4 GL/yr of groundwater extracted from the Wiso Basin and water treatment facility • a large scale (7,000 ha) solar farm • gas fired power generation infrastructure up to 1,038 megawatt (MW) and onsite gas storage • solar photovoltaic generation up to 3,000 MW peak • battery energy storage systems up to 16 GW hours • non-process infrastructure (access roads, airstrip, workers accommodation, laydown areas, workshops, rail siding, waste management) • a preliminary disturbance footprint of 19,150 ha within a Project area of 186,000 ha. The proposed action is anticipated to have an operational life of at least 25 years for the data facility, with the overall duration exceeding 30 years.
Person authorised to make decision	Dr Paul Vogel AM, Chairperson Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) Delegate of the NT EPA under section 36 of the Northern Territory *Environment Protection Authority Act 2012*
Decision	In accordance with EP Regulation 104(3)(b), approve the draft terms of reference with any changes the NT EPA considers appropriate after considering any submissions received in relation to draft terms of reference published under EP Regulation 51(2)(d).
Signature	

Date of decision	20 November 2026
Matters considered	Advice received from the National Environmental Protection Agency under EP Regulation 88. Submissions received under EP Regulations 52 and 53. The consultation period was from 9 July to 20 August 2026. • 6 government authority submissions • 63 public submissions