



MINISTER FOR LANDS, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

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Dr Paul Vogel
Chairperson
Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

Via email: Paul.Vogel@nt.gov.au

Dear Dr Vogel

Thank you for your letter of 30 October 2024 recommending I rescind the former Ministerial request under section 29B of the *Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2017* (NT EPA Act) requiring the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) provide advice on all Environment Management Plans (EMPs) submitted under the *Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016* (the Regulations).

I understand since 2019, the NT EPA has provided advice on 43 EMPs across a broad range of exploration and gas appraisal activities. I note your observations during that time that there have been significant changes in the regulatory framework for onshore gas and that the Petroleum Regulation team has gained significant experience and expertise in assessing EMPs and grown to be a mature and trusted regulator.

I support your view that the NT EPA's purpose and function would be better met through providing independent expert advice to me on strategic environmental matters relating to onshore petroleum developments and administering the environmental impact assessment process for projects with a potentially significant environmental impact under the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

Considering this and your confidence in the environmental regulator and view that the regulatory framework for onshore petroleum in the Northern Territory is sufficiently robust, I rescind the Ministerial request under section 29B of the NT EPA Act, dated 25 February 2019. As a result, I no longer require NT EPA to provide advice on all EMPs submitted under the Regulations.

Thank you for the invaluable role the NT EPA has played in the early stages of exploration that has helped establish a robust regulatory framework for onshore petroleum in the Northern Territory.

Yours sincerely



JOSHUA BURGOYNE

27-11-2024

Kirra Hill-Carter

From: Kirra Hill-Carter
Sent: Friday, 29 November 2024 6:01 PM
To: Paul Vogel
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon Joshua Burgoyne MLA
Attachments: 0289_Ltr_Dr Paul Vogel.pdf

Dear Dr Vogel,

Please see attached correspondence on behalf of the Hon Joshua Burgoyne MLA, Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment.

Kind regards,

Kirra Hill-Carter

Ministerial Assistant

Office of the Hon Joshua Burgoyne MLA

Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment

Minister for Corporate and Digital Development

Minister for Water Resources

Northern Territory Government of Australia

Parliament House, Darwin, NT

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