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I am a long term Darwin resident who cares about Darwin now and for its long term future.

It is absolutely essential that the NTEPA conduct a full environmental assessment of the Santos proposed 100 Km pipeline to be build to come into Darwin Harbour. An environmental assessment will show that this construction is not a benefit to Darwin or the world.

Darwin's healthy environment supports enormous numbers of jobs in tourism, fishing, life style activities and food production and all this could be lost if more destruction of our harbour occurs. The Barossa Gas Field is a small, poor quality project on the world scale and will create long term destruction for a very short term project. It will leave damage for many future generations that may never repair and leave toxins in our environment.

The construction of the pipeline in Darwin Harbour will be highly destructive to the sea bed and the animals and creatures that are living in and on our harbour floor. The works will be highly disturbing to marine life such as migrating crayfish, fish, shell life, dolphins, turtles and dugongs. The movement and breeding patterns of these creatures in the harbour is little known so the consequences of the disturbances cannot be foreseen. The potential for accidents is high and the consequences can last for hundreds of years.

The proposed Barossa Gas Field, that the pipeline will service, is a low grade gas field and should not be developed when the planet is trying to reduce emissions and slow global warming. Such a development is absolutely irresponsible. Duplicating the pipeline in Darwin Harbour will cause unnecessary and destructive environmental damage.

This must be reviewed by the NTEPA.

The inquiry should also look at the proposal for carbon sequestration and storage (CCS), a process that is costly and unproven. Another justification for the pipeline is the remove emissions for possible sequestration so this proposal needs to be publicly scrutinised too. The CCS proposal is just a distraction to make the gas industry sound like it can manage its emissions. Gas industry evidence shows that it is releasing large amounts of emissions into the environment in the extraction and production of gas, even before burning the gas.

The NTEPA needs to hold a public enquiry at the highest level so the effected population can hear the details of the project proposal.