

From: no-reply@nt.gov.au
To: [eia_consult](#)
Subject: NTEPA Consultation - Project Ares
Date: Friday, 14 August 2026 11:56:52 AM

Your details

First and last names: Louise Harrison

Post code of where you live: 0810

Email: [REDACTED]

Are you making this submission on behalf of an organisation: No

If yes, please enter the name of the organisation:

Submission contents

Submission details:

Submission on the proposed Project Ares data centre and gas power station at Murrnaji Station As a Territory resident based in Darwin, I am concerned about the environmental, cultural and social impacts of the proposed Project Ares data centre and approximately 1,000 MW gas-fired power station at Murrnaji Station. Lake Woods and downstream impacts: The project's creeks drain approximately 80 km to Lake Woods, a nationally important wetland that is also recognised as a Site of International Conservation Significance (SOCS) and Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) due to waterbird and shorebird congregations. I have lived, worked, and camped near Elliott and Lake Woods and have personally witnessed thousands of pelicans, egrets, brolgas, ducks and other waterbirds. The NT EPA should require a comprehensive assessment of the project's downstream impacts on Lake Woods and the waterways that feed it. Gas supply and emissions: The proposed power station would be larger than the Territory's biggest existing power station, yet the gas source is not clearly identified. The NT EPA should require disclosure of the gas supply source and a full lifecycle greenhouse gas assessment, including emissions from upstream gas extraction, processing and transport. I do not support hydraulic fracking in the Northern Territory because of its potential impacts on water, communities and the environment. Threatened species: Threatened species, including the Greater Bilby, have been recorded in the area, while other listed species may also occur. The assessment appears to rely substantially on desktop studies.

Comprehensive seasonal field surveys are needed across the entire project footprint before impacts are assessed. Groundwater: The project could extract up to 4 billion litres of groundwater annually from the Cambrian Limestone Aquifer—approximately 30% of the water allocated to all industry under the regional water allocation framework. A rigorous cumulative assessment should establish whether this extraction is sustainable and protect other users, groundwater-dependent ecosystems and cultural values. Connected projects and footprint: The project depends on an off-site gas pipeline and shares water and infrastructure with a separate ammonia project. These connected developments should be assessed together to capture cumulative impacts. Assessment should also be based on the maximum potential disturbance area of approximately 19,150 hectares, with any subsequent reduction made legally binding. Cultural heritage and social impacts: This is determined native title country with significant cultural heritage values. The NT EPA

should require comprehensive cultural heritage and social impact assessments, led in partnership with Traditional Owners through the Northern Land Council, with adequate time and resources for meaningful engagement. I ask the NT EPA to ensure these matters are included in the Terms of Reference and fully assessed before any decision is made. Territory water, wildlife, cultural heritage and landscapes are irreplaceable and must be protected for future generations. L. Harrison Darwin, Northern Territory

Submission files

1: No file uploaded

2: No file uploaded

3: No file uploaded

4: No file uploaded

5: No file uploaded