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0810 Rapid Creek, NT

To the NTEPA,

I am writing to make a submission on the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct (MASDP).

I am very concerned about the environmental and health impacts of the MASDP and how these will affect my family and my community, and the way we live in Darwin.

I love Darwin. And my favourite thing about this place is the Darwin Harbour. It contributes immensely to the quality of life of my family and community. I am worried that the environmental impacts of the MASDP will threaten the biodiversity of our dear Harbour and the recreational value it offers us. I am particularly worried about the pollution of our Harbour from toxic chemicals, and the impacts to marine and coastal ecosystems from dredging, infrastructure construction and shipping operations.

I am also worried about risks to the health of my family and community posed by the MASDP due to air pollution, given that the Precinct would contain petrochemical facilities located within 3 kms away from the City of Palmerston. Petrochemical industries around the world have been associated with an increase in the incidence of some cancers and cancer mortality. As someone who has had cancer, this worries me deeply.

Lastly, as the MASDP involves expansion of gas industries in the Territory, I am worried that the project will lead to an increase in emissions, undermining NT's ability to achieve its emissions targets and increasing the risk of climate change catastrophe. The project proposes carbon capture and storage (CCS), which is not a proven technology for reducing emissions. CCS has received billions of dollars in investment globally and has never succeeded in meeting its target for capturing carbon from the atmosphere. Furthermore, it's unknown how long or how effective the storage is.

I would like to see my community better informed about this proposal and its impacts on our environment and health. Thus, I urge the NTEPA to hold a public inquiry into the environmental, social and cultural impacts of the proposed petrochemicals facility under the Environment Protection Act, with public hearings.

Your sincerely,

Janina Murta

Rapid Creek, NT 0810

I agree for my submission to be published