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Environment Protection  
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8/2/2023

From: Peter Tait

ACT 2602

Dear NTEPA

I am a former resident of Alice Springs Mparntwe and maintain close ongoing ties to the region and NT. I am a general practitioner who works in the public health field with a focus on human ecology – that is human’s relationship with the planet and its supporting, nurturing and protecting ecosystems.

I am seriously concerned that the Singleton horticulture proposal poses a significant and unacceptable impact to those ecosystems in this fragile arid region.

Particularly I am concerned about the groundwater loss on habitat for resident animals, threats to sacred sites and consequent adverse effects on the mental health of the traditional owners and custodians.

All this in the context of climate disruption and that impact on the local ecosystems.

Given this and the poor assessment to date of the groundwater changes on ecosystems, I suggest that this proposal requires Tier 3 level assessment to ensue sufficient rigor to discover effects which once occurred effectively cannot be reversed.

Finally this degree of rigor is required because we need as a species to recognise and respect the dependency we have on the functions provided by the ecosystem for our own species survival.

Regards

Peter Tait