

NT EPA

GPO Box 3675

DARWIN NT 0801

Email ntepa@nt.gov.au

24/01/2025

CONSULTATION SUBMISSION REGARDING THE AROWS PROJECT:

LAKE BENNETT COMMUNITY CONCERN REGARDING CROCODILE RISK TO THE ONLY FRESH WATER COMMUNITY SWIMMING AND BOATING FACILITY FOR THE PEOPLE OF DARWIN

Dear Sir,

I am writing as the Chair of the Lake Bennett Body Corporate on behalf of the 64 bungalow owners of Lake Bennett, their guests and general public visitors.

Lake Bennett is a unique facility for water recreation in the NT. Visiting families regularly stay at the lake along with the permanent residents. These families enjoy a saltwater crocodile free lake for swimming, boating and general recreation.

Being only one hours drive south of Darwin it is accessible for all Darwin families. The top end of the NT has very few fresh water swimming and boating facilities. The people of Darwin need Lake Bennett to remain saltwater crocodile free. The body corporate community maintains crocodile traps and monitoring to ensure the lake remains available to residents and guests as well as the day-tripping public.

There is community concern that the AROWS project may facilitate saltwater crocodile movement into the lake. Exploration by the community has uncovered several routes that a crocodile could easily use to move from the AROWS facility into Lake Bennett. These routes are at the southern end of the AROWS catchment.

It is imperative that the AROWS Project team plan and implement crocodile movement mitigation measures. We suggest fencing and rigorous monitoring and catchment management. We would expect an open and transparent process including ongoing advice from the management team regarding actions taken to mitigate crocodile infestation of the AROWS catchment as well as the integrity of the barriers placed to prevent migration to Lake Bennett. We ask that you confirm that this will be an integral part of the construction and on-going management of the AROWS facility.

Yours sincerely

Alan Langworthy

Chair

Lake Bennett Body Corporate

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17th February 2025.

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The Lake Bennett Community previously submitted their concerns regarding this project. We now submit a additional submission instigated by some owners who wish their names to be submitted and added to the first submission. (also attached).

MPW Gunathilake and MDLSS Abeywardana

Treena and Robert Millar

Giulio and Louisa Leschi

Yvonne Fitzgerald

Jesse Heinrick and Janina Innes

Tim and Fiona Earl

Cara Burke and Mark Talbot

Alan and Bronwyn Langworthy

Philip and Collete Petherick

Janette Jewell

Robert and Rebecca Adams

Rachel Mara and Scott Gibson

Natalie Robinson

Shani Bryson and Timothy Modra

Bo and Lindsey Wharton

Kim Yates and Robert Yates

David Stock, Julie Kellam, Jaylene Kellam Stock

Kylie Hird

We hope that this can be added to the submissions

Yours sincerely

Alan Langworthy

Chair

Lake Bennett Body corporate