



Submission re – proposed changes to the Local Government Act – July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

We thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the proposed changes to the Local Government Act here in the Northern Territory.

The Extractive Industry Association of the Northern Territory Inc. ([EIA](#)) represents the interests of sand, gravel, soil and rock extractive operations across the Northern Territory. EIA's members and operators provide the essential resources that underpin the infrastructure, health, and wealth development of the Northern Territory. There is no construction or physical development without the foundational materials that our industry supplies.

EIA members are strongly against the removal of the conditional rating for extractive industry mining tenements.

In our opinion the Northern Territory is over governed. The attached AI generated article "Over Governed" articulates that clearly and the Parliament of Australia, House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport February 2025, [Interim report into local government sustainability](#), reeks with the need for local government structural change. It clearly identifies that the value of services provided has not changed with the times and no longer and perhaps never justified the expenses incurred. It suggests Local Governments have strayed into areas already addressed by the Territory Government and Federal Government and the Devil is in the "Double ups", of layer upon layer of government bureaucracy.

The proposed removal of conditional rating appears to be an attempt to refund or prop up an unnecessary or at least a very inefficient level of government, particularly in the non-township areas of the Northern Territory. There is no corresponding proposal of added value being provided to the extractive industry mining tenement holders, simply a request for more funds through increased tax rates to provide the current double up of services. Our view of the value of conditional rating is detailed in the attached "The value of Conditional Rating in the Northern Territory".

Extractive Mining Tenement Owners/Operators already pay significant annual licence fees, and a Legacy Mine Levy, to the Territory Government and are rarely in a location that is afforded the

services Local Government are known for e.g., street lighting, waste management, community amenities.

The attached ABC article of Coolgardie is an example [here](#) of the radical challenges EIA members are likely to experience, should this proposed change away from conditional rating to Local Government rate setting eventuate.

Should you have any questions or need for clarification please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim

Timothy J Burrow
Chief Executive Officer
Extractive Industry Association of the Northern Territory