



**Australian
Human Rights
Commission**

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Social Justice Commissioner**

Mick Gooda

6 November 2014

Senator Dean Smith
Chair
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights
PO Box 6100,
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Sent via email to: human.rights@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator

Committee inquiry into 'Stronger Futures'

I note and welcome the Committee's review inquiry into the Stronger Futures legislation.

In view of the previous work of the Commission in this area, a submission was not prepared for transmission to the review. However, I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the Commission's submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee. The submission *Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011 and two related Bills* (6 February 2012) is available at the following link: <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/submission-stronger-futures-northern-territory-bill-2011-2012>

I would also like to refer you to my opening statement to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee inquiry into the NTER (Stronger Futures) Bills. The Statement is available at this link: <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/opening-statement-senate-community-affairs-legislation-committee-inquiry-nter-stronger-futures-bills>

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any issues raised in the Commission's submission or in my opening statement.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gooda
**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Social Justice Commissioner**

Cc:

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- (ii) David Fredericks, Deputy Secretary, Civil Justice & Legal Services Group, AGD (david.fredericks@ag.gov.au);
- (iii) John Reid, First Assistant Secretary, International Law and Human Rights Division, AGD (john.reid@ag.gov.au); and
- (iv) Stephen Bouwhuis, Assistant Secretary, Human Rights Policy Branch, AGD (stephen.bouwhuis@ag.gov.au).