



Dear Senate Committee members,

This letter is regarding The Middle Arm Industrial Precinct (Precinct) which is being developed as a sustainability, advanced manufacturing, and renewable energy hub.

The Extractive Industry Association of the Northern Territory Inc. (EIA) represents the interests of sand, gravel, and quarry operators across the Northern Territory. Our operators provide the resources that underpin the infrastructure, health, and wealth development of the Northern Territory. There is no construction or development without the base materials that our industry supplies.

EIA consider the Northern Territory Government's planning of the Precinct to be a critical contributor to the Northern Territory's (NT's) future economic prosperity. The Precinct will create enduring and high paid jobs for Territorian's, including enhanced opportunities for First Nations peoples, and will necessarily bestow broad, durable, and enduring benefits to the living standards of urban, regional, and remote communities.

EIA are writing to you to request that you ensure the Precinct remains on track for approval in a timely manner by avoiding any unnecessary administrative or regulatory delays. All Territorian's deserve to benefit from the Precinct's social, environmental, and economic potentials as a world class development.

EIA strongly believe the Precinct will provide much needed value-adding to our economy by enabling and processing our abundant domestic resources including natural gas. This will help reverse the long-term trend of Australia's declining manufacturing sector as measured by its share of Gross Domestic Product. At the same time, it will help reduce our global economic vulnerability and market volatility by enhancing our economic complexity.

EIA recognise the Precinct's strong regulatory standards and oversight will help address the urgency of climate change by preventing carbon related and environmental leakages. This is critical to achieve a global net zero emissions future. The Precinct will afford export-oriented, energy-intensive, and value-adding processing facilities access to reliable, secure and affordable low and zero emissions energy. When coupled with technically and commercially viable mitigation solutions such as carbon capture and storage, it will avoid any need for projects relocating to countries with less stringent climate and environmental approval and oversight regimes.



EIA are encouraged by the Precinct's rigorous environmental assessment processes which continue to be deeply informed and shaped by over 200 detailed studies and reports on environmental deliverables. EIA are confident that all environmental quality issues can and will be overcome with normal systems engineering solutions and sensible risk management plans.

The Precinct will support socially, environmentally, and economically responsible resource development and value-added processing activities. By mobilising high quality private sector investments to support and realise the true economic value of the NT's and Australia's natural resources, the balance sheets of all levels of government will be significantly added to enabling much needed public investments in social and environmental infrastructures and services.

Industry continues to demonstrate that it will operate in an environmentally responsible manner in the Precinct. The location is already hosting a globally significant LNG export hub, with operational facilities such as the Santos-led Darwin LNG and INPEX-led Ichthys LNG onshore processing. Both companies have public commitments to net zero emissions by 2040 and 2050 respectfully; and the Darwin Harbour remains a pristine natural environment despite supporting heavy industry for many decades. These companies serve as beacons for what the Precinct's future will be.

EIA urge the Committee to consider the Precinct on its merits. Planning for the Precinct rightly continues to be held to the highest of public scrutiny, technical standards and approval frameworks and it continues to satisfy them all.

EIA believe the Precinct will bestow economic benefits to current and future generations for many decades. It will also serve as a catalyst for industry to innovate faster by developing and adopting smarter practices and solutions in support of the climate goals of the Paris Agreement. EIA are sure you that you will agree this is arguably the most significant economic opportunity of our generation both in the NT and for Australia.

Sincerely

Timothy J Burrow

CEO