

To: Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee

From: Chien-Hue Chen (Ms.)

Subject: Northern Territory National Emergency Response Bill 2007

No time has been set aside for community consultation on such important legislation. I wish to ask for consultation with the community to take place. Previous health research have shown community consultation to be effective for sustainable solutions, as the community will feel strongly about the issues.

In putting measures which bypass the Racial Discrimination Act, the legislation also shows it has high potential in breaching the human rights of people. I ask for the legislation to be made so that it respects the rights of the people living in the area.

No permits system, allows outsiders to take advantage of the community and make governing of the legislation difficult. Outsiders, not within the community, are able to escape the measures placed on the communities and to take advantage by bringing substances into the community. The permit system should not be removed by the legislation, it should remain to protect the community.