



DEPARTMENT OF  
**THE CHIEF MINISTER**

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**File Ref:** TRIM No.

Senator Linda Reynolds CSC  
Chair  
The Senate Environment and Communications Legislation  
Committee  
PO Box 6100  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Reynolds

**RE: INQUIRY INTO THE CARBON CREDIT (CARBON FARMING INITIATIVE)  
AMENDMENT BILL 2017**

Thank you for your correspondence of 31 March 2017, inviting the Northern Territory Government to make a submission to the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee on the Carbon Credit (Carbon Farming Initiative) Amendment Bill 2017 (the Bill).

Savanna fire management projects registered with the Emissions Reduction Fund (the Fund) in the Northern Territory are operated by a wide range of participants and business models, including projects run by registered native title corporations, pastoralists, carbon service providers and Indigenous business enterprises. For many Indigenous groups, the Fund provides revenue for employment opportunities and to undertake traditional fire management practices on their lands.

The Northern Territory Government does not identify any issues with the amendments included in the Bill and supports efforts to address issues associated with the implementation of savanna fire management projects and to reduce unnecessary regulatory burden for projects.

In particular, I am pleased to see that the Bill takes into account feedback from savanna fire management proponents in Darwin on identified problems with the operation of the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011* for carbon storage and avoidance projects in savannas.

The Northern Territory Government has a strong commitment to address the issue of carbon abatement and sequestration and to promote this emerging industry to new potential partners, particularly on Indigenous land. The Northern Territory Government looks forward to engaging with the Commonwealth to pursue opportunities for savanna fire management projects and other carbon credit initiatives in the Northern Territory.

If you would like to discuss these matters further, please contact Dr Anne Walters,  
Director, Environment Policy, Department of the Chief Minister, on telephone  
or by email at

Yours sincerely

JODIE RYAN

27 April 2017