

From:
To: [Committee, JSCNA \(REPS\)](#)
Subject: Submission to the New Inquiry - Development of Northern Australia

Dear Dr Pender,

Thank you for your most welcome letter of 11 Feb which indicates that some positive thinking is now being applied to what may be termed "Australia's most exciting opportunity" – Developing the Northern Territory.

While now comfortably retired, I would like to think that I may be able to contribute to the project.

My business background:- 28 years with the Nestle company: one year in Switzerland, 17 years in the "Far East" (our Far North) with four years as General Manager of Nestle Thailand , three and a half years as Manager in Singapore and four years in Marketing management in Japan. In addition to ten years in senior management in Australia, I also enjoyed ten years as a marketing consultant to Nestle in the Pacific Islands.

I have submitted some thoughts previously on the subject to the Hon Andrew Robb but I will send copies by "snail mail" to you personally.

At the risk of being grossly impertinent , I would suggest that the Select Committee should rigidly establish two priorities:

- 1) That everyone involved must read the history books to ensure they are aware of the reasons why numerous attempts to develop the North have failed abysmally.
- 2) Establish an effective organisation that will avoid the internecine warfare between States and Territories, Departments and Ministries and all parties involved.

This is the most vital project ever. The future of Australia depends on it!

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Johnson
