



2016 Territory Election

August 2016

Here's what ECNT thinks are the major issues to consider at the 2016 Territory Election.

1. Real action on climate change:

- Adopt a target and a plan for net zero carbon pollution
- Recognise the need to keep fossil fuels in the ground as per Paris Agreement
- Develop Regional Climate Adaptation Plans in Consultation with Local Governments
- NT government fleet transition to electric vehicles

2. Ban on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) in the NT:

- No new mine approvals that involve the process of hydraulic fracturing
- No Tenant Creek/Mt Isa gas interconnector pipeline

3. Action on groundwater management:

- Substantial investment in mapping the groundwater resources of the region
- Removing exemptions for petroleum and mining activities from Water Act and Waste Management Pollution Act
- Review of all water allocation decisions based on the incorporation of mining and energy projects into the water balance and equity of supply
- Re-establish Strategic Indigenous Reserves in water allocation plans and build capacity for people to make use of them

4. Strengthen NT environmental laws:

- Strengthening environmental assessment, approvals and compliance system – more powers to an independent EPA.
- The Environment Minister and the Mines and Energy Department no longer have the power to approve and also assess/audit development, mining and other activity.
- NT Government to ratify Section J of the Building Code of Australia to support energy efficiency in all buildings in the NT – both residential and commercial buildings
- Strengthen land clearing laws – Native Vegetation Management Act

5. Investment in renewable energy:

- 100% renewable energy target for Darwin by 2030
- 50% renewable energy target in remote communities by 2030
- Financial incentives to encourage home and business rooftop solar investments, including enabling Environmental Upgrade Agreements

6. Increase marine and coastal protection:

- Develop a Coastal and Marine Management Strategy to manage current and future threats
- Protect our marine environment from inappropriate development
- “No”, to the proposed Bayview development
- Reinstatement Darwin Harbor advisory committee
- Develop a Plan of Management for Darwin Harbour

7. Establishment of an Independent Commission Against Corruption:

- Increased transparency and accountability for decisions, particularly those affecting the environment
- Commitment to releasing Oil and Gas Environmental Management Plans

8. Funding for NT community groups:

- Adequately support the valuable work NT community groups, including environmental groups, make to the NT community and to safeguarding our environment
- Greater community consultation for decisions affecting the environment through formal consultation structures and processes

9. Funding for indigenous ranger programs:

- To support permanent funding for the indigenous ranger programs to continue providing social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits

Plus:

- Support for a national inquiry into nuclear waste
- Evidence-based policies that limit baiting of dingoes with 1080
- Investigate reported increase in the illegal use of strychnine
- Evidence based action to protect threatened species
- Evidence based action to improve and protect river health