Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 16
Tuesday 25 March 2025

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1. **MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY**
The Assembly met at 10.00 am. The Speaker, the Honourable Robyn Lambley, took the Chair, read the prayer and delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

2. **SPEAKER'S STATEMENT**
The Speaker advised of correspondence from the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee noting the receipt of a referral from the Treasurer to conduct an inquiry into the Acacia Digital Patient Record System.

3. **LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS STATEMENT**
The Leader of Government Business made a statement advising the Assembly that, pursuant to Standing Order 80, business will be interrupted at 6.00 pm for a condolence motion for the Honourable Grant Tambling AM.

4. **VISITORS**
On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Manunda Terrace Primary School and young people and their leaders from Galiwin'ku as part of the Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre Education Program present in the gallery.

5. **PETROLEUM, PLANNING AND WATER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (SERIAL 11)**
Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Petroleum, Planning and Water Legislation Amendment Bill (Serial 11).

Mr Burgoyne (Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Paech, Mr Maley.

Visitors: On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Manunda Terrace Primary School present in the gallery.

Mr Howe, K McNamara, Mr Brown, Ms Uibo.

Debate interrupted.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00 pm.

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6. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day:

   That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:
   - Recognise the importance of rolling out high-voltage underground power in the northern suburbs to deliver more reliable and safer electricity for residents, schools and businesses, particularly over the Wet Season; and
   - Condemn the Finocchiaro CLP Government for failing to tell Territorians before the 2024 election of its plans to scrap the 10-year program to underground power to the northern suburbs.

2. Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Domestic and Family Violence and Victims Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 22).

3. Mr Young will move on the next General Business day:

   That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:
   - Recognise the importance of investing in the regional and remote road network across the Territory, to drive economic development and improve connectivity, flood immunity, safety and access for all Territorians.

4. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day:

   That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly:
   - Recognise the importance of the Northern Territory's regions and their role in developing the Territory economy; and
   - Recognise and support their plans for economic growth.

7. LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS STATEMENT

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) informed the Assembly of the absence of Minister Cahill and asked that questions relating to the Children and Families portfolio be directed to him, and that questions relating to Trade, Business and Asian Relations be directed to Minister Boothby.

8. QUESTIONS

2.01 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.05 Mr Kerle to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.09 Mr Paech to Mr Edgington
2.13 Mr Paech to Mr Edgington – Supplementary
2.13 Dr Rahman to Mr Yan
2.17 Mr Brown to Mr Edgington, redirected to Mr Maley
2.22 Mr Mackay to Mr Yan
2.25 Mr Young to Mr Maley
2.29 Mr O'Gallagher to Mr Maley
2.33 K McNamara to Mr Maley
2.37 Mr Patel to Mr Maley
2.41 J Davis to Mr Maley
2.45 Mrs Zio to Mr Edgington
2.49 Ms Uibo to Mr Edgington
2.54 Mr Howe to Mrs Hersey
2.57 Mr Brown to Mr Charls

3.00 Mrs Carlson to Mr Edgington

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) asked that further questions be placed on the Written Question Paper.

9. PETROLEUM, PLANNING AND WATER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (SERIAL 11)

Order of the day read for the resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be now read a second time.

Ms Uibo (continuation of remarks), Mr Guyula, J Davis, Mr Young, Mr Mackay, Mr Burgoyne (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 32 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

Mr Burgoyne moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 16

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Mrs Carlson	Mr Charls
Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey	Mr Howe
Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher
Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio

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Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Guyula	K McNamara
Mr Paech	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	

Motion passed.

Bill read a third time

10. RESPONSE TO PETITION

The Clerk, pursuant to Standing Order 123, tabled a response to Petition Number 1, concerning the model of gender care provided to Northern Territory children (Paper 231).

11. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: INVESTMENT IN HEALTHCARE

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Ms Uibo had proposed a Matter of Public Importance in the following terms:

> That the NT Government ensures its investment in healthcare meets current and projected future needs of all Territorians.

Having received the necessary support, discussion ensued.

Mr Young, Mr Edgington, Mr Guyula.

Discussion interrupted.

12. CONDOLENCE MOTION: HONOURABLE GRANT TAMBLING AM

The Speaker drew the Assembly's attention to the passing of the Honourable Grant Tambling AM, former Alderman with Darwin City Council, Member of the Legislative Assembly representing the Fannie Bay electorate, Member of the House of Representatives, Senator, and the Administrator of Norfolk Island.

Mrs Finocchiaro (Chief Minister) moved that this Assembly expresses its deep condolences to the family and friends of the Honourable Grant Tambling AM.

Ms Uibo, Mr Patel, Mrs Carlson, Mrs Zio, Dr Rahman.

Question put and passed.

As a mark of respect members stood in silence for one minute.

13. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: INVESTMENT IN HEALTHCARE

Resumption of discussion on the Matter of Public Importance.

Mr O'Gallagher, J Davis.

Paper Tabled: J Davis, by leave, tabled: Report, The Risks of Oil and Gas Development for Human Health and Wellbeing: A Synthesis of Evidence and The Implications for Australia, Professor Melissa Haswell, Mr Jacob Hegedus, Emeritus Professor David Shearman (Paper 232).

Dr Rahman, Mr Brown, Mr Charls, Ms Uibo, Mr Mackay.

Discussion concluded.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly do now adjourn.

Mr Maley, Ms Boothby, Mr O'Gallagher, J Davis, Dr Rahman, Mr Patel, Mrs Hersey, Mrs Zio, Mr Kerle, Mrs Carlson, Mr Edgington, Mr Charls.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 9.14 pm until Wednesday 26 March 2025 at 10.00 am.

ATTENDANCE

All members attended the meeting, except Ms Cahill.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly