

29 October 2021

Please quote: 4573183 EY:el

Office of Climate Change
Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security
PO Box 3675
DARWIN NT 0801

Email: environment.policy@nt.gov.au

Dear Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets Policy and Technical Guidelines Submission

The City of Darwin welcomes the opportunity to make a submission in support of the development of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets Policy and Technical Guidelines (Policy and Guidelines).

As the local government responsible for the capital city of the Northern Territory, as well as the proponent of the Top Ends only waste and resource recovery facility that complies with the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) framework under the Clean Energy Regulator, City of Darwin has committed to enhance the environmental, social, cultural, and economic heart of the region.

To mobilise this commitment, City of Darwin has declared a Climate Emergency and has adopted a [Climate Emergency Response Strategy](#), which recognises the urgent need to decarbonise our society with every available tool and across all levels of government and in partnership with industry and community stakeholders.

Decarbonising our society has already spurred new low-carbon industries in the Darwin region. Darwin has the potential to host vibrant industries with the potential for new jobs and flow-on benefits to the region. Importantly, fostering industries that align to a net-zero economy diversifies Darwin's economy and enhances economic resilience to emerging economic impacts.

One critical tool required to embrace new industries and economic opportunities is policy and regulatory certainty. The draft policy and technical guidelines provides such certainty.



We acknowledge that the draft policy and guidelines provide greater certainty than the current Australian Government response, including with the current NGER Safeguard Mechanism under the Clean Energy Regulator. This can be commended.

We acknowledge that the draft documents are designed with innovative mechanisms to ensure that greenhouse gases that are emitted within the NT will benefit the NT, particularly in the context of a foreseeable shortage of NT-generated offsets. If applied correctly, these mechanisms should spur further economic opportunities in Darwin and the NT with net-zero (and net-negative) emissions.

The City of Darwin is happy to be involved in any discussions needed to provide further information from a Local Government perspective as the draft documents are finalised.

Yours sincerely



DR. EMMA YOUNG
A/GENERAL MANAGER ENGINEERING AND CITY SERVICES

