



Monday 5th August 2024

Dear Blake & the board of ANTAR,

Thank you for reaching out with ANTAR's priorities in the lead up to the NT Election in August 2024. Find below the NT Greens position on policies outlined in your letter.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch for further detail or to clarify anything.

Kind regards,

Maud Mussared & Sib Hare Breidahl  
NT Greens Party Managers

## **ANTAR response from NT Greens NT Election 2024**

**1. The territory obligations under the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan as well as the National Agreement (2020) and Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap 2019-2029 including policy to address housing, infrastructure, employment and health disparities;**

Consistently with our [election initiatives on housing and homelessness](#), the NT Greens:.

1. are committed to transitioning Aboriginal housing into Aboriginal hands; and
2. support the calls from Aboriginal Housing NT for a sufficient supply of appropriate and affordable housing for Aboriginal people – delivered and managed by Aboriginal-controlled organisations.

This includes new housing for urban and remote housing, including homelands, Aboriginal-led design and construction, and energy-efficient, climate resilient housing.

In line with our [Economic Justice policy](#) and [Energy policy](#), the NT Greens support community-led, self-determined enterprises to ensure that First Nations communities can benefit from the natural assets and economic opportunities on Country as well as a just transition away from fossil fuels. This includes empowering Aboriginal Territorians to harness their native title and land rights through:

1. ranger programs and other caring for country initiatives; and
2. Indigenous-owned and operated renewables projects; and
3. carbon farming and human-induced regeneration (HIR) projects on their land.

As stated in our Economic Justice Policy, NT Greens support strong economies all across the Territory, not just in the main regional centres. Such economies can and should be powered by First Nations employment in meaningful work.

It is no secret that the NT's healthcare system is failing Aboriginal people in the Territory across a range of key indicators. Our [Health policy](#) acknowledges that increased rates of illness amongst First Nations communities is a lasting impact of colonisation, and that First Nations justice leads to improvements in the health of communities. Self-determined, culturally appropriate, community-controlled care in language is vital to attain the highest standard of health for our First Peoples.

**2. Ensuring the adequate protection of First Nations cultural heritage and the environment through consultation with Traditional Owners and First Nations communities that is structured around the principle and practice of free, prior and informed consent;**

The NT Greens wholeheartedly backs the principle and practice of free, prior and informed consent regarding First Nations cultural heritage and environmental protection. This has never been more important than right now: a time when we are seeing significant cultural and biodiversity loss without

adequate consultation, with corporations seeking to profit off the pillaging of the NT landscape. Accordingly, the NT Greens believe that:

1. Traditional Owners and affected First Nations communities, should be empowered to engage and participate in decision making throughout the life of a mining project;
2. A just transition to renewable energy must place Traditional Owners at the core of any decision making processes; and
3. Decisions about resource extraction projects must be guided by rigorous and independent assessments of their impacts on social and community values, including First Nations cultural heritage.

**3. First Nations over-incarceration rates and youth justice issues, specifically the implementation of the Northern Territory Aboriginal Justice Agreement (AJA) (2021–2027), including the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory;**

The NT Greens have long lamented the gross over-incarceration of First Nations people. We commit to implementing in full the AJA and the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory.

In our Justice policy platform we acknowledge that the ongoing impacts of racism and colonisation, coupled with the failure to commit to evidence-based policy has overwhelmingly impacted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities who are over-represented at every point of the justice system. Our initiatives for the NT Election 2024 on justice and community safety can be found here. We know that incarceration does not break the cycle of crime and disadvantage. Colonisation, social disadvantage and inequality are drivers of crime. Policies which reduce disadvantage and inequality and address the effects of colonisation will reduce crime rates. The NT Greens are committed to addressing the drivers of crime, applying evidence-based, community-led approaches to reduce crime and increase the safety of everyone.

**4. Addressing systemic racism including continuing the government-wide review committed to under the AJA;**

The NT Greens commit to addressing systemic racism including continuing the government-wide review committed to under the AJA, and condemn the current government's delay in rolling out said review.

The NT Greens would also advocate for a properly funded Anti-Discrimination Commission to monitor compliance with the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1992* (NT), investigate complaints, and raise awareness about rights and responsibilities. The rest of the NT Greens Human Rights policy can [be found here](#).

### **5. Progressing treaty and truth-telling processes in the NT in line with the core elements of the Uluru Statement from the Heart.**

The NT Greens are committed to progressing treaty and truth-telling processes in line with the core elements of the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

In accordance with the Federal Greens work, the NT Greens will advocate for progression on **A Treaty, or Treaties. This is an opportunity for us to tell the story of who we want to be as a country.**

The Federal Greens plan includes:

- \$250m for a national Truth and Justice Commission, an independent body with the powers of a Royal Commission. The Commission would investigate and reveal historic and ongoing human rights abuses, wrongdoing, and provide recommendations on how to heal from them.
- The Truth and Justice Commission will lay the foundations to engage and involve the community in discussing, raising awareness and developing the Treaty or Treaties.