Obj # 19/05102

Mrs Giulia Jones MLA

Chair

Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit

CANBERRA ACT 2601

**Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety (Legislative Scrutiny Role) (the Committee) Scrutiny Report No. 30.**

Dear Mrs Jones

I write in response to comments on the *Water Resources Amendment Bill 2019*.

The Committee seeks inclusion of an explanation as to why section 47(6) of the Legislation Act 2001 is being displaced in relation to notification requirements for instruments made under the water resource plan.

In this instance, it is appropriate to displace section 47(6) in anticipation that a future government may find it necessary to incorporate a document that is subject to another organisation’s copyright as part of the Territory’s water resource plan, noting that there are no current plans to take this option.

If a future government chooses to use the power to displace section 47(6), by incorporating a copyright document as part of the Territory’s water resource plan, then it would be appropriate at that stage to indicate whether access to that document will be made publicly available.  At this stage, with no current plans to incorporate documents drafted outside the ACT Government as the water resource plan, it is not necessary to determine public access arrangements.

Yours sincerely

Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage

actchiefminister