Submission

Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011 and two related bills

January 21st , 2012

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary,

Re: **Social Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2011**
Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory (Consequential &Transitional Provisions) 2011
Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011

Request the Commission to call on the Federal government to withdraw the above legislation.

Main reason why, is people of the Northern Territory were *tired of 'outsiders' telling them what to do.*

Until the people who wrote the above legislation spend time with the people who will be affected by the above legislation, the Federal Government withdraws the above legislation.

A huge amount of money is being wasted on:

Expansion of income management
SEAM trials
Intervention areas: retention of the very expensive government business managers and indigenous engagement officers,
expensive service provision by outsiders, reviews, consultations, research, reports.

Funds would be better spent on evidence-based supporting community-based initiatives. This would increase feelings at the grass roots level of Aboriginal people being valued and respected and enable them to take responsibility in their communities and have control over their lives.

People have the solutions to the issues affecting them. People need time, space and a local community development process of talking together to work through these issues, with the support of the necessary resources.

Request that the Government withdraw its *Stronger Futures* legislation and meet with Aboriginal leaders from the Northern Territory and listen to them on which is the best way forward.

Regards