

# BUSINESS MANAGEMENT



Central Land  
Council  
Alice Springs

## WHAT IS THE MEASURE?

The National Emergency Response Act (Cth) gives the Minister a broad range of new powers over Entities which perform functions or provide services in Business Management Areas.

The Minister may:

- unilaterally alter funding agreements
- direct how services are to be provided where the Minister is not satisfied with the current service
- direct how assets are used by Entities or acquire assets from Entities
- appoint observers to attend meetings of Entities including committee meetings
- suspend community government councils or appoint managers for associations on service related grounds.

The Act also creates civil penalties where Entities fail to comply with a direction or to inform observers of meetings when required.

## WHAT IS AN ENTITY?

An Entity can be:

- a community government council
- an incorporated association under the Associations Act (NT)
- an Aboriginal corporation under the Corporations (ATSI) Act (Cth), or
- another Entity specified by the Minister that performs functions or provides services in a Business Management Area

## WHERE ARE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AREAS?

Business Management Areas are:

- major Aboriginal communities being Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Amoonguna, Ampilatwatja, Aputula, Areyonga, Atitjere, Canteen Creek, Daguragu, Engawala, Haasts Bluff, Hermmansburg, Imangara, Imanpa, Kalkarindji, Kalkukatjara, Kintore, Lajamanu, Laramba, Mt Liebig, Mutitjulu, Nturiya, Nyirripi, Papunya, Pmara Jutunta, Santa Teresa, Tara, Titjikala, Wallace Rockhole, Willowra, Wilora, Wutunugurra, Yuelamu, Yuendumu



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- other areas in NT declared by the Minister

## **WHEN DOES IT START?**

18 August 2007

## **WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE PROBLEMS?**

The Government says these powers are reserve powers but the powers are not restricted in any way in the Act.

The powers are very broad in scope and there are many uncertainties as to how the rules could operate. For example, the Minister appears to be able to direct bodies that do not receive government funding. Overall the powers do not contain sufficient procedural safeguards.

## **WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?**

Northern Territory National Emergency Response Act 2007 Part 5