

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# annual report



Northern Territory Government

2005 – 2006





Northern Territory Government

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DEPARTMENT OF  
PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

The Hon. Chris Natt, MLA  
Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries, Mines and Energy  
Parliament House  
Darwin NT 0800

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AUSTRALIA  
[www.nt.gov.au/dpifm](http://www.nt.gov.au/dpifm)

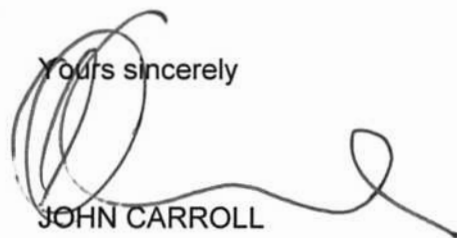
Dear Minister

Pursuant to section 28 of the Public Sector *Employment and Management Act 1993*, I submit to you a report on the operations of the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

In respect to my duties as Accountable Officer, pursuant to section 13 of the *Financial Management Act 1995*, I advise to the best of my knowledge and belief that:

- a. Proper records of all transactions affecting the agency are kept, including the recording of this agency's transactions undertaken by the Department of Corporate and Information Services. Employees under my control observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act*, the Financial Management Regulations and the Treasurer's Directions;
- b. Procedures within the agency afford proper internal control through use of the accounting and property manual prepared by DPIFM in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*;
- c. No indication exists of fraud, malpractice, material breach of legislation or delegation, major error in or omission from the accounts and records;
- d. In accordance with the requirements of Section 15 of the *Financial Management Act*, the internal audit capacity available to the agency is adequate and the results of internal audits have been reported to me;
- e. The financial statements included in the annual report have been prepared from proper accounts and records and are in accordance with Treasurer's Directions; and
- f. All Employment Instructions issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment have been satisfied.

Yours sincerely



JOHN CARROLL  
Chief Executive

27 September 2006



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DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# Introduction and Overview







# Chief Executive's Foreword

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*John Carroll*

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) was created on 11 July 2005. The department's functions were previously undertaken by the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) which was abolished on the same day. In allocating resources from the previous department, there was close cooperation with our former colleagues in the new Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development (DBERD). The reallocation of resources was undertaken co-operatively and reflected the Government's objectives in creating the new organisations. I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance provided by the Chief Executive of DBERD, Mr Mike Burgess, and his team in making our transition to the new arrangements as smooth as possible.

DPIFM provides a range of services to a significant sector of the Northern Territory economy. It is a values-based organisation that seeks to provide high quality and timely services to its diverse client base. The department's values, which were developed in consultation with all staff members, provide guidance to staff on expected workplace behaviours as well as informing clients how they will be treated when they deal with the department. The values are detailed later in this report.

Following a review of the options for the department's organisational structure, I announced a top structure organisation in August 2005 based on the main functions of the department to provide clear guidance for our clients on the areas of the department that deal with their issues. A feature of this organisation is the flat structure and the recognition that human resources, financial management, information management, marketing and communications and strategic planning and policy play a significant role in the delivery of real client-focused outcomes. By the end of the year under review, the structure had been implemented substantially and the arrangements have been delivering outcomes for all stakeholders.

A new Strategic Plan 2006–2015 was prepared and endorsed by the Minister in June 2006. It will be the basis for future planning for the delivery of our services. The plan was developed in consultation with staff and the department's major stakeholders, including industry associations and representatives of community groups with an interest in the work of the department. The plan will be a subset of the Government's Economic Framework 2006–2015 and will underpin the business planning for 2006–07 and future years. To ensure it remains current it will be reviewed annually in consultation with all those interested in the outcomes the department is working to achieve.

A program of reviews of departmental activities has been developed. Reviews of its major functions will ensure the department's activities align with the Government's priorities and the directions established in the Strategic Plan 2005–2015. The first review, of the Fisheries function, commenced in July 2006. There is also a continuing program of ensuring that administrative functions are delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible. The first major reviews in this area were of minerals and

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petroleum titles administration, ministerial liaison services and motor vehicles, resulting in better utilisation of resources. Another example of this approach is the publication of this Annual Report in electronic format which will save printing costs while still meeting the department's accountability requirements and the needs of its clients.

The department has devoted considerable effort and resources to Indigenous development issues. A major achievement in the year was the completion of negotiations for a further extension of five years for the Indigenous Pastoral Program with our existing partners in the Indigenous Land Corporation and the Northern and Central Land Councils and the addition of the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association and the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to the program. Work with Indigenous communities on supporting the work of sea rangers continued and the development of horticultural programs for communities commenced. Continuing efforts are being made to increase the number of Indigenous employees in the department.

A significant issue facing the department is the age profile of its workforce and the difficulty in attracting and retaining professional staff. This issue is being addressed in a number of ways, including developing an organisation which recognises the needs of its people and is seen as an employer of choice. As part of this strategy, a number of innovative approaches to promoting the department and its image in the community have been adopted.

During the year, a review of the department's corporate governance was undertaken. A Board of Management was created following the establishment of the department. The membership of the board included senior managers and a staff member who was elected by staff. The staff member was Mr Michael Knox. At the conclusion of the year the role and composition of the board was reviewed and it was decided that new arrangements would apply for governance from the beginning of 2006–07. This will include renaming the board as the 'Strategic Leadership Team' to better reflect its public sector role and the appointment of a non-executive member to assist the team in discharging its responsibilities. Professor Ian Thynne, Professor of Governance, Charles Darwin University, has been invited to become a member of the team under the Northern Territory Government/Charles Darwin University Partnership Agreement.

The department is only able to deliver its services because of the commitment and dedication of its staff. It provides a diverse range of services across the Territory and works with many clients and partners to deliver outcomes for the Northern Territory's economy. I express my thanks and gratitude to all the staff of the department who have contributed to the outcomes set out in this report. I also thank our clients and partners for their contribution and support over the first year of operation of the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines.

John Carroll  
Chief Executive

# Purpose of this Annual Report

Pursuant to section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*, this annual report identifies the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) outputs and outcomes. It details the performance measures and related information which explain achievements against the DPIFM approved budget, as published in 2005–06 Budget Paper No.3 to:

- Inform the Parliament, Territorians and other stakeholders about the significant activities during the 2005–06 financial year; and
- Provide information on those factors which affected the performance of the functions of DPIFM.

## About the department

### Key Stakeholders

In the reporting period the Hon. Kon Vatskalis MLA had ministerial responsibility for the agency.

During the reporting period DPIFM identified its core business as working in partnership with industry to facilitate, regulate and promote industry and resource development across the Territory's mining, petroleum, gas, pastoral, horticulture, agriculture and fishing sectors.

These sectors are well established in the Northern Territory with continuing prospects for future growth and expansion that will benefit all Territorians.

### Statutory Responsibilities

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines is responsible, under the Administrative Arrangements Order, for the following principal areas of government:

- Primary Production (including pastoral, agricultural and horticultural industries)
- Fisheries Development and Research
- Aquaculture Development
- International Agricultural Quarantine
- Interstate Agricultural Quarantine
- Mining Development
- Mining Titles Administration
- Northern Territory Geological Survey
- Mining Occupational Health and Safety
- Environmental Management of Mining Operations
- Petroleum Industry Development
- Petroleum Titles Administration
- Petroleum Occupational Health and Safety

- 
- Environmental Management of Petroleum Operations
  - Administration of Petroleum Industry Operations (Onshore and Offshore)
  - Energy Policy, Planning and Development.

### **Acts Administered by the Department**

During the reporting period, the department was responsible for the day-to-day administration of the following Acts and associated Regulations:

- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use)
- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Northern Territory)
- Biological Control
- Brands
- Exotic Diseases (Animals) Compensation
- Fisheries (except enforcement)
- Gene Technology (Northern Territory)
- Meat Industries
- Plant Diseases Control
- Stock (Control of Hormonal Growth Promotants)
- Stock Diseases
- Stock Routes and Travelling Stock
- Veterinarians
- Energy Pipelines
- Gas Pipelines Access (Northern Territory)
- McArthur River Project Agreement Ratification (except royalties)
- Merlin Project Agreement Ratification (except royalties)
- Minerals (Acquisition)
- Mining
- *Mining Act 1939–1979*
- Mining (Gove Peninsula Nabalco Agreement) (except royalties)
- Mining Management
- Petroleum (except royalties)
- Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) 1954–1981
- Petroleum (Submerged Lands)
- Tanami Exploration Agreement Ratification
- *The Northern Territory Mining Act 1903*
- Validation (Mining Tenements).

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## **Legislative Changes in 2005–2006**

### ***Veterinarians Amendment (Fees and Penalties) Act 2005***

The principal amendments to the Act introduce a modified registration scheme for veterinarians in the Northern Territory. It provides for primary registration for local veterinarians and secondary registration for those non-resident and registered interstate. The new scheme accords with interstate practice and the principles of mutual recognition.

The opportunity was taken to convert the monetary penalties into penalty units throughout the Act, in accordance with government policy. Prior to introducing the new penalty regime a thorough review was conducted of the existing level of penalty to update and modernise.

### ***Repeal of the Mt Todd Agreement Ratification Act.***

Repeal of the Act was necessary to terminate the original agreement between the Northern Territory Government and the company on the grounds that the company had abandoned the Mt Todd Project, in that the mining operations had ceased in July 2000 and had not recommenced. The repeal was included in the Department of Justice *Legislative Repeal Act 2005*.

### ***Repeal of the Mining Management (Consequential Amendments) Act 2000.***

The *Mining Management Act* commenced in early 2002 and consequential amendments were required at the time it commenced operation. However, the application of the amendments was no longer applicable and it was necessary to repeal the Act, as it had no further use. The repeal was included in the Department of Justice *Legislative Repeal Act 2005*.

### ***Energy Pipelines Act and Petroleum Act***

Amended section 59 of the Energy Pipelines Act and section 61 (10) of the Petroleum Act to add interpretation of the particular provisions in both Acts and to clarify their application. The amendments were included in the Department of Justice *Legislative Repeal Act*.

### ***Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Amendment Act***

Minor amendments to accommodate changes made to the similar Commonwealth Act to maintain consistency. The amendments recognise the unitisation of the Greater Sunrise offshore area of the Timor Sea.

The changes will only commence once the Commonwealth proclaims its amendments. This is dependent on Australia and the Republic of Timor Leste finalising the Timor Sea Agreement.

# Establishment of DPIFM

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In July 2005 the Chief Minister announced a realignment of Ministerial portfolios and complementing arrangements for Northern Territory Government agencies. The establishment of the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) incorporated the major industry and resource development functions of the former Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD).

This reorganisation required the re-allocation of staff, including 122 to the new Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development (DBERD) and eight to the Department of Chief Minister (DCM). About 530 positions remained with DPIFM.

In 2005–06 the agency began a program of consolidation and improvement of coordination between business areas to provide a focus for resource and industry development activity for the NT Government.

## Functional Responsibilities

In this reporting period DPIFM's key priorities and directions included:

- Providing value-added information;
- Facilitate resource industry development within the Northern Territory;
- Monitoring resource development to encourage sustainability;
- Working with stakeholders to identify opportunities in regional areas and support Indigenous economic development;

See diagram 1 – [DPIFM's\\_Functional\\_Structure](#) – on page 8.

To ensure effective performance DPIFM's offices and research facilities are dispersed across the Territory and located at:

- Head Office, Paspaley Centrepoint Building – Darwin
- Berrimah Research Farm – Darwin
- Beatrice Hill Farm
- Coastal Plains Horticulture Research Farm
- Katherine Research Station – Katherine
- Douglas Daly Research Farm via Adelaide River
- Tennant Creek office, Barkly House – Tennant Creek
- Arid Zone Research Institute – Alice Springs
- Old Man Plains Research Station
- Ti Tree Research Farm
- Victoria River Research Farm

*Click here to see contact details. [DPIFM\\_Contact\\_details.pdf](#)*

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## Organisational Structure

DPIFM underwent a number of changes during the reporting period because new structural arrangements were required to refocus the department's objectives, streamline management and improve lines of communication. The organisational structure was reviewed with the following aims:

- A management structure based upon modern principles of public administration;
- Natural and supportive points of reference and contacts for staff, clients and the community;
- More democratic, collaborative and delegated management styles; and
- A comprehensive approach to service delivery ensuring all inter-related aspects of sustainable and responsible resource management and development in the Territory work together.

As a result DPIFM's services have been arranged into two output groups (Resource Industry Development and Resource Industry Management) supported by outputs (business areas) that align with the key Territory industry sectors of primary industry, fisheries and mines and energy.

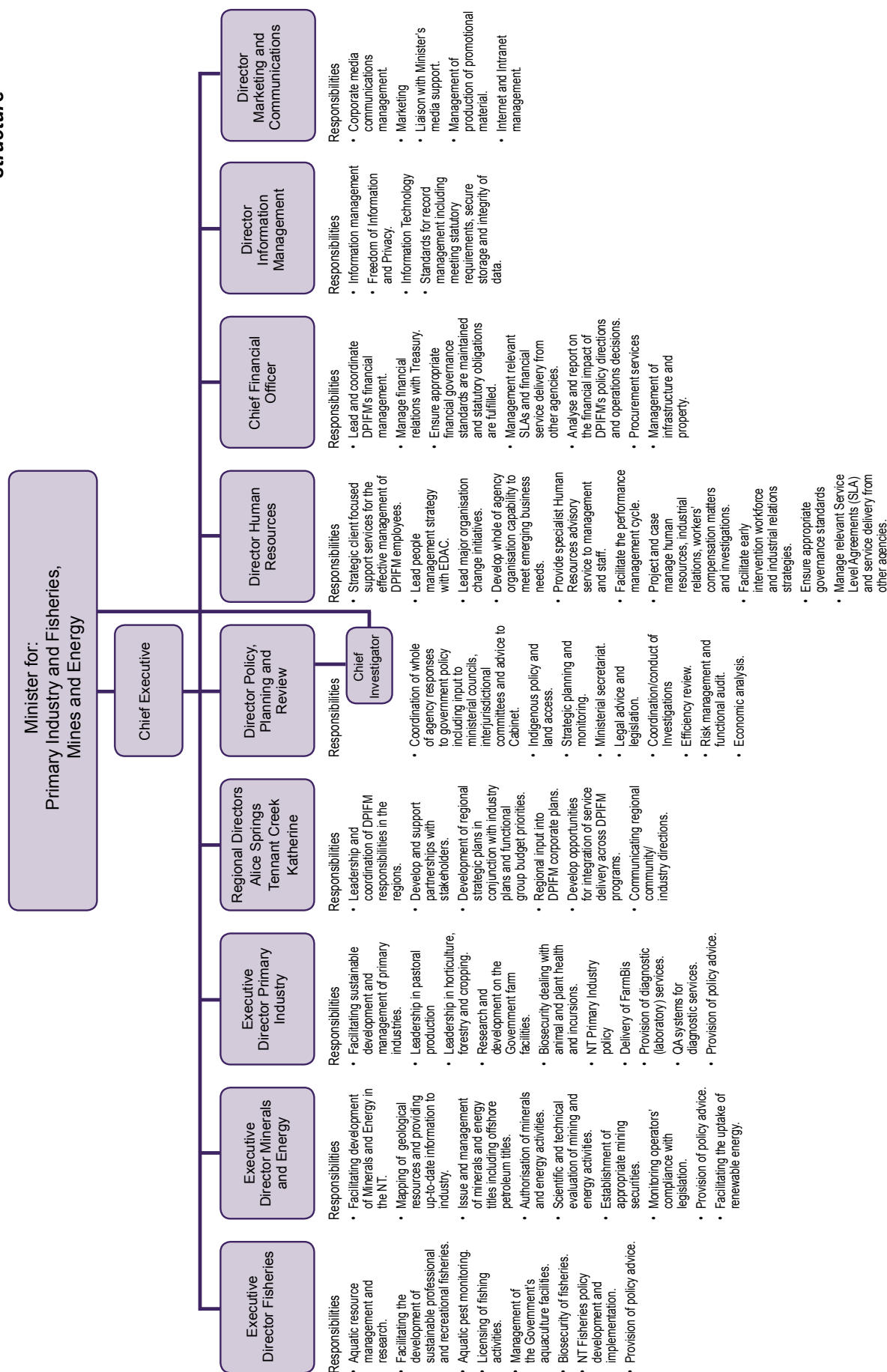
For the purposes of planning, monitoring and reporting, at an operational level, sub-output programs of the business areas deliver services to the community and industry in support of government priorities.

*Click here to see DPIFM's Outcomes Framework diagram – in the Performance Reporting Section of this report. [DPIFM\\_Outcomes\\_Framework.pdf](#)*



# Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines

Figure 1 – DPIFM's functional structure





# DPIFM's Corporate Plan

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During this reporting period the former DBIRD Corporate Plan was redefined to describe and communicate DPIFM's purpose, business, goals and strategies and to guide business planning and assist in allocation of resources.

Late in 2005 work also commenced on the development of a new Strategic Plan for DPIFM. This will incorporate projections for the next 10 years as well as shorter range planning horizons. It was anticipated that this would be launched early in the 2006–07 financial year.

## **Our Vision**

Through a diverse range of services promote and develop:

*'A strong, vibrant, growing and sustainable Northern Territory.'*

## **Our Mission**

The agency is committed to delivering outcomes to Territorians supporting whole-of-government priorities and strategies such as economic development, employment and industry growth, regional development and indigenous economic growth. Our mission is:

*'To work with our partners for the sustainable development of primary industries, fisheries, and mines and energy in the Northern Territory.'*

## **Organisational Principles and Values**

In September 2005, the following sets of principles and values underpinning the new organisational structure were implemented to ensure DPIFM accomplished its vision and core business. Essential to this success was the need for DPIFM to be an adaptive organisation that provides opportunity for career and leadership development and one which is driven by continual improvement in the delivery of client services.

### ***Principles***

- Employ a flat management structure with reduced hierarchy;
- Align services with close synergies and responsibilities under the same management structure;
- Provide program structures that align with interstate and national arrangements;
- Increase opportunity for collaborative working relationships in groups and teams that provide similar programs or services;
- Increase strategic policy, planning and review capacity across DPIFM while retaining specific policy expertise within key industry groups;
- Provide capacity for independent investigations of DPIFM's regulatory responsibilities;
- Increase the profile for human resources management and development;
- Increase staff development opportunities by reducing 'silos'; and
- Establish clear individual and collective accountabilities.

# DPIFM Values Statement

DEPARTMENT OF  
PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## D P I F M • V A L U E S • S T A T E M E N T

### DEDICATED PROFESSIONALISM



Maintains highest professional standards and delivers excellent customer service

- Committed to serving the Government of the day
- Takes a whole of government approach
- Maintains diverse, positive relationships
- Achieves outcomes in our culturally diverse working environment
- Presents self and information in a culturally appropriate and convincing manner
- Provides advice based on unbiased and accurate information

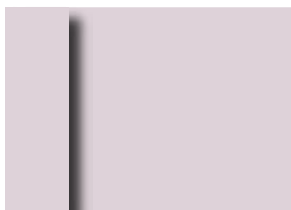
### PASSION WITH PURPOSE



Demonstrates drive, energy and enthusiasm

- Seeks to be the best
- Actively engages stakeholders in planning projects
- Inspires others
- Innovates with creative and workable solutions
- Willing to invest effort to tackle challenges
- Embraces flexibility and individual differences

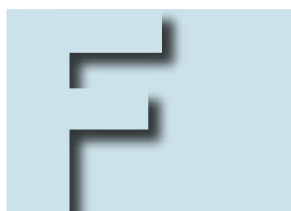
### INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY



Acts ethically and genuinely and accepts personal responsibility for their actions

- Upholds DPIFM's values and NTPS Code of Conduct
- Ensures a safe and healthy workplace
- Understands how personal effort contributes to DPIFM's outcomes
- Accepts responsibility for delivering individual and team outcomes
- Committed to self management and learning
- Embraces change as a normal way of doing business

### FUN AND CELEBRATING SUCCESS



Has fun and celebrates success

- Gives credit for good work
- Takes the time to celebrate achievements
- Communicates the wins
- Enjoys the challenge
- Promotes pride in our work
- Enjoys positive team dynamics

### MOTIVATION TO LEAD



Takes an active leadership role regardless of formal position or level

- Values and promotes equity and diversity
- Challenges tradition and looks for better ways
- Inspires and influences positive change
- Ensures that resources are focused on priorities
- Actively promotes positive team involvement
- Invests in training and development
- Provides encouragement and support

Our values are underpinned by mutual respect and ethical behaviour



Northern Territory Government

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## **DPIFM's Strategic Priorities**

The NT economy is in a period of strong growth in the minerals and petroleum resource sector as a result of major projects such as the development of Timor Sea oil and gas and the expansion of Alcan Gove. Steady growth is being experienced in the primary industry and fisheries sectors.

DPIFM's objective is to capitalise on these and other opportunities to contribute to building a stronger and sustainable economy. This includes supporting the creation of jobs and expansion of the Territory's workforce.

### **The Four-Point Plan**

During this reporting period DPIFM focused its resources on four priority areas for growth and two key strategies to accomplish them. These are linked to DPIFM's Outcome Framework and the sub-output programs and services to enable measurement of efficiency and effectiveness.

### **Priority Areas**

1. Improving the operating environment for business and industry;
2. Developing business and industry capacity and capability;
3. Stimulating Indigenous economic development;
4. Supporting regional economic development

### **Strategy 1 – Partners across Government**

DPIFM'S work complements other agency initiatives to build a stronger Territory economy. These partnerships include:

- Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development – cooperation in developing key sectors of business and industry, resource development, Indigenous employment and economic development and regional development through resource-based industries;
- Department of the Chief Minister – facilitating resource development;
- Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts – to ensure the sustainable use of the Territory's natural resources, including environmental considerations for new developments; and
- Department of Planning and Infrastructure – providing vital infrastructure to sustain and expand rural industries and to prepare for major new developments;

### **Strategy 2 – Partnering with Business, Industry and the Community**

DPIFM has pursued partnerships with business, industry and the community, through effective community engagement. Activities in the reporting period include:

- briefing local business groups on opportunities relating to major projects;
- working with industry sectors to ensure government laws are appropriate for the current and future industry environment. Reviews conducted include the *Mining*

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*Act and the Fisheries Act;*

- meeting regularly with industry representatives such as the Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Industry Advisory Committees, the NT Minerals Council, the Extractive Industry Council, Amateur Fishermen's Association of the Northern Territory and the NT Seafood Council, to listen to their concerns and share information about current directions;
- providing direct funding support through grants to a broad range of industry associations to help them service their stakeholders and develop industry sectors;
- meeting Land Councils to discuss emerging industry development issues and access to Indigenous land;
- meeting regional development boards to contribute to the implementation of regional development plans;
- working with Indigenous communities to deliver the Indigenous Marine Ranger Program [Marine\\_Rangers.pdf](#) and to identify potential opportunities for Indigenous aquaculture businesses; and
- broad community engagement by implementing an ongoing marketing and communication strategy for the department.

Ultimately, DPIFM's collective endeavours in these areas support, directly and indirectly, the Northern Territory Government's key priorities of:

- Jobs for Territorians and Population Growth;
- Education;
- Healthier Communities;
- Regional Development; and
- Safer Communities.

DPIFM indirectly supports the Government's Building Safer Communities framework through a sustained and cooperative approach to delivering programs and services, a large amount of which are delivered in regional areas. These programs and services contribute to the growth and success of the resource industry sectors creating new investment opportunities, jobs and economic development. Ultimately, this should have an impact on improved quality of life and safer communities.

# Achievements and Challenges

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DPIFM has delivered a substantial array of achievements over the period 2005–06 notwithstanding that a range of constraints and challenges affect the agency's capacity to meet its priorities.

As part of DPIFM's governance framework (supporting transparency) this report lists a number of the challenges and constraints in addition to the agency's key achievements and highlights.

These challenges will be the focus of increased attention in the next reporting period of 2006–07.

## Key Achievements

- Successful support services and programs contributing to exploration take-up in offshore and onshore basins.
- Facilitation of the Central Australian Basins Symposium in August 2005 to accelerate exploration in onshore basins. Fifty-two technical papers were presented and the symposium was attended by national and international stakeholders.
- Development of the [Top End Secret](#) promotional campaign to publicise mineral and energy prospects in the Territory. It is estimated that this campaign reached more than 15 000 decision makers and investors in Australia and overseas.
- *Building the Territory's Resource Base* initiatives to maintain and increase interest in Territory mineral resources. A further \$3.8 million has been committed to the final year.
- A 250 per cent take-up rate of geoscience data over the past 12 months and an 85 per cent increase in new exploration applications.
- Establishment of a Chief Investigator position primarily to independently coordinate and conduct investigation of all accidents, incidents and complaints referred which relate to agency administered activities.
- Release of the NT Pastoral Survey 2004.
- Release of a Discussion Paper for public consultation on a proposed *Plant Health Act*.
- Transfer of new nursery stock (frangipani varieties) to the nursery and garden industry as a result of five years of research and evaluation work by DPIFM horticulture staff.
- Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Western Australian Government on the future management of the pearling industry.
- Release of a Discussion Paper for public consultation on the Review of the *Fisheries Act 1988*. [Fisheries\\_Review\\_Discussion\\_Paper.pdf](#)  
[Submission\\_Response\\_Booklet.pdf](#)
- Worldwide recognition of the Genetag hook invention, developed by three DPIFM scientists. Support and participation with the practical use of the hook in fisheries management and research. [Genetag.jpg](#)
- Support and participation in the Indigenous Marine Ranger program at six community sites.
- Launch of the Indigenous Ranger project to patrol remote Territory coastline areas to report and monitor suspicious fishing activities.

- 
- Expansion of the River Watch Program to include two River Watch centres in Kakadu (at the Aurora Kakadu Resort for the South Alligator River, and at the Border Store for the East Alligator River).
  - The addition of the Kay Lee, a 15.6 metre donated fishing vessel, and up to 4000 large (estimated 1.5 m high) anchors donated by Paspaley Pearls to the artificial reef complex off Lee Point.
  - Continued stocking of Lake Bennett, Lake Todd and Manton Dam with barramundi.
  - Continued input to the development of the National System for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pest Incursions
  - Junior Fishing Workshops held at Nhulunbuy and Katherine.
  - Assisted in the establishment of the Northern Territory Guided Fishing Association.
  - Installation of fishing tour operator licensing advice signs throughout the Territory.

## **Key Challenges**

DPIFM is working concertedly to meet the challenges of further developing resource-based industries and ongoing contribution to the growth of the Territory's economy. These challenges include:

- Major Indigenous issues: management of sea country, economic opportunities and native title;
- Response to drought in Central Australia;
- Land access and availability and land clearing issues;
- Attracting long-term exploration and investment to the Territory;
- Identifying new export markets for cattle and buffalo;
- Implementing a new Biosecurity Framework that satisfies whole-of-government needs;
- Development of workable solutions to ensure small operators in the horticulture sector remain viable;
- Recreational fishing access and development;
- Commonwealth policy and legislation impacting on fisheries resources;
- Developing flexible strategies that meet government needs and long-term goals – and structuring the department to better meet and satisfy these requirements;
- Having an appropriate skills base and the ability to offer training and management programs to meet the needs of the market and key stakeholders.

The combined production value of the three sectors (Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines and Energy) in the Northern Territory is estimated to be in excess of \$3.5 billion for 2004–05 and continuing to grow.

Production from these resource industries makes a substantial contribution to the maintenance of a robust local economy, advancing strong population growth and a positive impact on the social wellbeing of all Territory residents. Highlights of the reporting period include:

## 1. Primary Industry Highlights

### **The Pigeonhole Project – ‘Grazing Strategies for Tomorrow’**

Improved grazing management is an area of pastoral production with the potential to give the largest boost to the economic performance and sustainability of the NT pastoral industry.

DPIFM is conducting a major grazing study at Pigeonhole Station in the Victoria River District in partnership with Heytesbury Beef and CSIRO, and sponsored by Meat and Livestock Australia. Biodiversity implications are also being studied by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA). The trial involves commercial-scale studies on utilisation rates, paddock sizes and distance to water, different grazing strategies such as rotation and wet season spelling, and labour-saving tools such as telemetry to make the intensified systems easier to manage.

DPIFM’s particular interest is the utilisation rate. The results from Pigeonhole contribute to another major project, *Developing grazing management tools to improve savannah condition*, being conducted in conjunction with the Tropical Savannas Cooperative Research Centre. This project extends understanding of the safe carrying capacity of different land systems to all the main pastoral areas of the NT. Models have been calibrated for major parts of the Victoria River District and studies are progressing on the Sturt Plateau, in the Barkly region and in Central Australia.

The result will be valid estimates of how intensely different land types can be grazed to maximise economic return without adverse environmental consequences. By tailoring stocking rates to land type, decreasing distances between waters, and spelling paddocks regularly to permit pasture recovery, the pastoral industry will have the ability to increase output by 50 per cent. Responses to the pastoral industry survey indicated that industry is ready to adopt the research findings.

### **Indigenous Pastoral Trainee Program**

In the 2005–06 period, 10 Indigenous trainees were inducted into the Indigenous Pastoral Trainee Program, designed to encourage young Indigenous people into the mainstream pastoral workforce. This is a joint initiative between Government and industry.

On advice from industry these participants took part in selected pre-employment training that included an introduction to the principles of basic horsemanship to ensure a minimum standard of ability. They also enrolled in the Certificate II Beef Cattle Production unit with the Charles Darwin University. This course covers areas such as basic stockhandling techniques, small engine maintenance and management, welding, and fencing.

On completion of the pre-employment training, the participants undertook six weeks’ work experience on commercial cattle properties within the Barkly region prior to



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placement in seasonal jobs. Of the 11 original participants, 10 were placed into seasonal jobs. Seven of these were later employed on an ongoing basis in those positions at the end of the financial year.

This program has been well received and replicated in other regions.

## **The Northern Territory Pastoral Survey**

The Northern Territory Pastoral Survey is a series of collated documents that provided a snapshot of industry at the end of 2004, incorporating four regional surveys and a Territory-wide survey. The results reflect interviews with 149 cattle producers, accounting for 71 per cent of producers in the NT.

[pastoralSurvey\\_ntwide.pdf](#)

The main objectives of the survey were to:

1. Document the state of the cattle industry in the Northern Territory for government and industry to monitor more closely the performance of research and development through time;
2. Collect information to allow the needs of industry to be identified and addressed through research and development;
3. Determine the most effective ways of providing extension information to producers;
4. Provide an up-to-date picture of management practices so that future directions for research and development can be more relevant to industry.

Collecting these individual and combined surveys enables benchmarks, comparisons, prioritisation, and a range of decisions to be made by DPIFM and individuals within industry to support industry development.



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## **2. Fisheries Highlights**

### **Indigenous Aquaculture Developments**

During the reporting period staff from the Aquaculture group and the Indigenous Liaison group within DPIFM's Fisheries area worked with two Indigenous communities to develop mud crab farms.

The larger initiative was a joint-venture project involving the Gwalwa Daraniki Association at Kulaluk in Darwin. Here, DPIFM staff worked with the landholders to redevelop disused prawn ponds previously constructed on their land. The community was seeking training and employment opportunities on a sustainable commercial venture on their land, while DPIFM was interested in developing culturally appropriate mud crab farming models for regional and remote communities. Several months of work resulted in the ponds being ready for stocking with crablets, produced at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre (DAC), in December 2005. ([DAC.pdf](#))

The community members were able to undertake on-the-job Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses towards accredited training qualifications, with a view to independently managing the farm within two years. The first harvest and sales occurred in March 2006 with good market acceptance and wholesale prices.

The other venture was established at Maningrida and involves a mangrove enclosure. Here the traditional owners, with support from the marine rangers and DPIFM staff, created a fenced enclosure in a mangrove-lined tidal creek. It was stocked with crablets, again produced at the DAC using local Maningrida broodstock. A discarded prawn trawl net was used to create the farm's fence. A small nursery system was installed inside the enclosure to house the crablets until they were large enough to be safely retained by the larger enclosure. In April 2006 the enclosure withstood a Category 5 cyclone that passed very close, sustaining only minor damage. [Mud\\_Crab\\_Nursery.pdf](#)    [Mud\\_Crab\\_Newsletter.pdf](#)

### **Australian Society for Fish Biology Workshop and Conference**

In 2005, Fisheries Research organised and convened the Australian Society for Fish Biology Workshop and Conference. Fisheries also played a vital role in attracting eight major seafood-related events to the NT, including the Australian Marine Science Association Conference.

Collectively, these events attracted more than 500 visitors to the Northern Territory. Delegates travelled from across Australia, as well as from North America, Africa, Asia and New Zealand.

### **Understanding our Aquatic Resources**

The 2005 National Barramundi Workshop revisited the outcomes of the 1986 International ACIAR Barramundi Workshop exploring the current and future issues affecting the barramundi resource. Researchers, managers and fishery stakeholders from the three northern states and territory, with input from several international keynote speakers, provided the basis on which to commence development of a

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Northern Australia Barramundi Model to gain understanding of the wider fishery and further inform decision making processes.

## **Aquatic Pests**

To protect the Territory's fishing, aquaculture, tourism and marine based industries DPIFM monitors aquatic resources to detect and respond to aquatic pest incursions. During the reporting period inspections were carried out by contract divers on 125 recreational and 65 apprehended vessels. Standard inspection protocols resulted in the successful detection of recognised marine pest species (black-striped and Asian green mussels) on five vessels and emergency response activities in each instance were highly successful. [Marine\\_Pest.jpg](#)

## **Recreational Fishing Management, including Fishing Tour Operators**

DPIFM has maintained the development and enhancement of recreational fishing infrastructure with the continued expansion of the artificial reef complex off Lee Point in Darwin Harbour.

The 15.6 metre, 15 tonne *Kay Lee*, a former commercial line-fishing vessel, was donated by its owner John Conway, to be used to expand the existing complex at the Truck Tipper reef. The Harbour Master and Darwin Port Corporation contributed their time to scuttle the vessel and DPIFM coordinating the operation.

Click here to see photos of the sinking of the [Kay Lee](#).

DPIFM has also worked with Paspaley Pearls to utilise up to 4 000 large decommissioned steel anchors to enhance the artificial reef complex off Lee Point. These anchors, estimated at 1.5 m high and 80 kg in weight, were chained together in groups of 10 to ensure maximum bottom profile. The anchors have been used to expand the Rick Mills, Truck Tipper and Bottleswasher reefs from three to 12 vessels capacity. Paspaley Pearls deployed the anchors at no cost to the Government.

This project linked well, not only with the priorities of Government outlined in *Building a Better Territory*, but specifically with those of the Darwin Port Corporation, Northern Territory Seafood Council, Amateur Fishermen's Association of the Northern Territory (AFANT) and Paspaley Pearls.

## **Ecological Assessments for Export Accreditation**

Under the Australian Government's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*, it is a requirement that all NT fisheries which export products must be assessed for their environmental performance against the Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries. The process involves liaison with all stakeholders and intensive reporting and negotiation with the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH) to accurately reflect and ultimately accredit the management arrangements of each fishery.

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In 2005–06, DPIFM completed ecological assessment reports to gain export accreditation for the Aquarium and Offshore Net and Line Fisheries, as well as fulfilling a number of recommendations made by the DEH to ensure continued accreditation for the trepang fishery. Eight of the NT's wild catch fisheries have now been granted export approval as their management has been assessed as ecologically sustainable.

The successful completion of Ecologically Sustainable Assessment reports and export accreditation has strong links with *Building a Better Territory* priorities and various client groups including local and interstate government, commercial, recreational, Indigenous, conservation, research and cross-jurisdictional stakeholders.

### **3. Mines and Energy Highlights**

#### **Building the Territory Resource Base**

*Top End Secret* campaign – Strategy for increased NT exploration

The [Top End Secret](#) campaign is part of the Government's \$15.2 million *Building the Territory's Resource Base (BTRB)* initiative that informs potential explorers about the rich prospectivity of the NT.

Since March 2005 the campaign has been made available to more than 15 000 people in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Perth, and also overseas to Toronto and London.

This has resulted in:

- an increased take-up rate of geoscience data of 250 per cent in the last half of 2005;
- an 85 per cent increase in new mineral exploration licence applications since 2004–05;
- a three-fold increase in granted exploration licences to almost 800 during the past five years, the highest level achieved since 1994;
- a number of Territory companies performing well with share floats oversubscribed and market capitalisations increasing; and
- a mineral exploration expenditure of \$68.6 million in 2005 – up 38 per cent from 2004.

A report examining the effectiveness of *Building the Territory's Resource Base* program was commissioned by the Government in early 2006. The report will help to inform the Government in relation to future options for exploration investment attraction beyond the conclusion of the current program.

#### **Northern Territory Geological Survey (NTGS)**

The Tanami Seismic Research Project was conducted in partnership with Geoscience Australia, the Geological Survey of WA, Newmont Australia and Tanami Gold and

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aimed to acquire and interpret 724 line-km of seismic data in the Tanami Region. Data acquisition was completed in July 2005, and the interpreted sections were released into the public domain in June 2006 at a scientific forum in Alice Springs. This data has revealed significant new insights into the subsurface geology of the area and has led to the development of new exploration targets in the region.

The Central Australian Basins Symposium (CABS) was held in Alice Springs in August 2005 and featured 53 geoscientific presentations, nine of which were authored or co-authored by DPIFM staff. More than 100 delegates from industry, academia and government geological surveys attended the symposium and subsequent field excursion. The symposium focused on the petroleum and mineral potential of a number of central Australian basins, in order to marry key petroleum and minerals exploration strategies for the benefit of both industries. A volume of abstracts was released at the meeting and a volume of fully peer-reviewed papers will be published in early 2007.

DPIFM completed a major collaborative project with the Cooperative Research Centre for Landscape Environments and Mineral Exploration (CRC-LEME) on the regolith-landscape framework of the Northern Territory. A comprehensive *Atlas of NT Regolith Materials* was released in digital and hard copy formats, as well as a new *Regolith Map of the NT*, a companion product to six existing 1:2 500 000-scale maps of the NT. It is the first regolith map covering the whole Territory. The new products were released at the Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar in March 2006.

## **Mines and Petroleum Management**

DPIFM regulates mining and petroleum operations through audits and inspections to ensure best practice environmental management, workplace safety and radiation safety.

This financial year was highlighted by the approval of a number of mining and petroleum-related developments that will result in the industry base expanding significantly in the immediate term, with a number of older developments being revitalised.

New operations under development include the Bootu Creek Manganese Mine, the Matilda Mineral Sand operations, the Compass Browns Oxide Project, and a revisit to the Toms Gully, Brocks Creek and Union Reefs operations. New energy exploration resulted in the commercial Caldita-1 and Puffin-7 discoveries.

From a regulatory perspective, the importance of mine site safety to the community was underlined with the prosecution of ERA Ranger and Alcan Gove for breaches of the *Mining Management Act*.

## **Minerals and Petroleum Titles**

There was a significant increase in the number of new mineral exploration licence applications in 2005–06. It is envisaged that this increase will lead to a corresponding

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increase in exploration expenditure in future years as these exploration licences are granted. In the reporting period 464 new applications were received, compared with 225 exploration licence applications in 2004–2005 and 198 and 199 respectively during the previous years. The total number of granted exploration licences has remained steady at about 760 for each of the past four years and up from 486 in 2001–02.

The increase in petroleum activity is also reflected in the increase in petroleum title activity with about 30 dealings and transfers having been lodged in the reporting period.

In addition to the administration of titles, the Minerals and Petroleum Titles Division has proactively engaged with its stakeholders to facilitate two mineral title workshops, one in Perth and the other in Darwin, and presented at the Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar in Alice Springs. The division was also instrumental in producing a new booklet, *Exploring Country – a guide to making an exploration and mining agreement*. ([Exploring\\_Country.pdf](#))

Staff have also contributed to the revision of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* and have been proactive in progressing a Review of the Northern Territory's *Mining Act*.

## **Mount Todd**

Mineral leases covering Mt Todd have been purchased by Vista Gold Corp and an agreement signed between the NT Government and Vista covering:

- Government continuing to manage the site until the end of 2006;
- Vista's reimbursement to Government;
- Vista taking over responsibility for managing the site from 1 January 2007;
- Government retaining responsibility for rehabilitation until such time as the new operator resumes mining;
- Requirements for Vista to supply reports covering several topics at defined times covering environment management and technical appraisals of the economic viability of the deposits remaining.

Before Vista assumed the leases the Northern Territory Government was responsible for the rehabilitation program. In the reporting period macro-invertebrate studies and fish sampling have confirmed that there has been no serious impact to the environment due to discharges from the mine site.

Government has reaffirmed its commitment to full rehabilitation of the mine site. A project to assess and plan the work that will be required to achieve a long-term solution has been developed. This will utilise the Northern Territory Government-Charles Darwin University Partnership to build capacity within the Territory for research and other possible opportunities which arise from the work.

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## **Renewable Energy**

Rebates for a total of 124 renewable energy projects were approved under the Australian Government funded Renewable Remote Power Generation Program (RRPGP), resulting in committed funding of about \$4.87 million. Of these projects, 53 were for Indigenous outstations, and 68 for pastoral properties. The projects approved will collectively save over 490 200 litres of diesel fuel and 1300 tonnes in greenhouse gas emissions per year.

## **4. Supporting Regional Economic Development:**

DPIFM is facilitating, or is directly involved in, a variety of new and often innovative projects in many regions of the Northern Territory.

Noteworthy areas currently experiencing significant mining development activity are Pine Creek, Batchelor and Adelaide River, driven by the current commodities boom in China and elsewhere in the world.

A number of new projects are in varying stages of development including the Browns Oxide development by Compass Resources. This open pit mine near Batchelor is expected to employ about 150 local people.

The Union Reef gold mine operated by GBS Gold is another project generating significant regional employment and plans are in place for further expansions of this project, which should see the employment rate increase significantly from the 60 currently employed there.

Bootu Creek manganese mine is another important development by OM Manganese, a Chinese-based company currently exporting its product to China via the Port of Darwin and utilising the new rail link. This project is expected to inject millions into both the regional and Territory economies.

The Primary Industry sector is making a significant contribution to regional development in conjunction with the mining and energy sectors.

Research by the department's Primary Industry area, shows that stocking rates could safely increase by 50 per cent in the Victoria River region. This may be achieved through the provision of more water points, rotating grazing and improved risk management strategies. Industry has embraced these concepts and, as the Pastoral Surveys confirm, this has led to an increased investment in the industry translating to 183 986 km<sup>2</sup> managed for pastoral production. The average property size in this region is 2200 km<sup>2</sup> running, on average, 89 per cent breeders, 97 per cent of which are Brahman running on 35 per cent of fully improved pastures. This 50 per cent increase potentially underpins a significant lift in the Territory's live cattle export trade.

DPIFM has a project in the Sturt Plateau region, investigating the expansion of cattle production in the area. Trials have demonstrated that with modern management



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the area has far more potential than previously thought. Its red soils are good, the rainfall is reliable and there is the potential to use sown pastures to greatly increase cattle production. The region also has suitable soils for dry land crop production. This potential is being developed out of the department's Katherine Research Station and should lead to significantly improved cattle production in an under-utilised part of the Territory.

It is intended that the highly successful Indigenous Pastoral Program be extended into the Gulf Region where it is anticipated that the return of traditionally owned stations to pastoral production will continue and numbers of Indigenous people will be trained in the skills needed to work on a cattle property. While this project is happening in the Gulf, investigations will also be undertaken with a view to establishing horticultural developments on several communities in the same region.

As in the Katherine and Victoria River districts, departmental officers are working with pastoralists to implement best practice in the industry through the provision of extension services. This activity should lead to an increase in efficiency and higher stocking rates on these properties.

There are significant developments further south in the Alice Springs region where the department's NTGS area has been actively improving the depth of knowledge about the geoscientific make up of several highly prospective areas.

Primary industry in the Alice Springs region is also moving ahead despite problems caused by local drought conditions.

There is 235 856 km<sup>2</sup> of land currently managed for pastoral production in the region and worked by 64 pastoralists running herds of between 5000 and 7000 head on properties averaging 3 885 km<sup>2</sup>. Like their counterparts in the north, pastoralists are working with departmental extension officers to improve the carrying capacity of their properties. As this work continues, so too will the economic benefit to the community and the Territory economy.

Cropping and horticultural activities are also contributors to regional development, assisting grape growers at Ti Tree to harvest greater yields, combat the menace of nematodes and look to new areas for horticultural activities.

Horticultural development in the Ti Tree area is based on irrigated table grapes from 400 hectares in both the Ti Tree farms area and two existing farms on Pine Hill. In 2000 the estimated gross production was \$18.5 million, representing 20 per cent of the horticultural production in the Northern Territory. The current cropping area has been reduced to allow for a replanting program to be carried out with superior rootstocks and varieties with higher market potential. The Central Australian crop gains a premium on the mainly domestic market because it is produced earlier than most table grapes in Australia with main production occurring in a short window between early November and late December. Unfortunately, industry expansion has been limited by lack of access to land with suitable groundwater and soils for horticulture.

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The Anmatjere Regional Development Plan (ARDP), released by the Northern Territory Government in November 2003 under the Building Stronger Regions – Stronger Futures Initiative, identified expansion of the horticultural industry, expansion of employment and training and the fostering of indigenous development among its main goals. Horticultural development on Pine Hill is among the economic drivers envisaged by the ARDP. Three new blocks surveyed on Pine Hill have the potential to significantly increase the total production of horticulture in the Northern Territory. Centrefarm, as the Central Land Council's horticultural development arm, is expected to undertake development of horticultural land granted to native title claimants as a result of a recently agreed Indigenous Land use Agreement. DPIFM is currently working with the Anmatjere Council and the table grape industry to provide work-ready horticultural training for local indigenous people. This project is expected to double the number of Indigenous people employed in horticulture pursuits in the region.

At a national level, with the value of water being increasingly highlighted, the Alice Springs water recycling scheme is receiving national prominence by turning a waste problem into a commercial opportunity. The project, a joint initiative between the Northern Territory's Power and Water Corporation (PowerWater) and DPIFM, aims to deliver triple bottom-line (economic, social and environmental) benefits by eliminating overflows to Ilparpa swamp. The scheme plans to use the waste water from Alice Springs to establish commercial horticulture on land at the Arid Zone Research Institute (AZRI), contributing to regional economic growth and employment.

It is anticipated that infrastructure will be in place to deliver water to AZRI early in 2007. The successful implementation of commercial water reuse will expand the knowledge of water recycling in the NT, allowing possible future expansion to remote communities and associated employment and health outcomes. An openly competitive 'expression of interest' process was used to select a preferred foundation horticultural developer. The proposal is based on significant private investment in table grapes and other crops on 100 hectares and direct employment of six permanent and 50 casual jobs is estimated with opportunities for Indigenous training and employment.

The department's Fisheries officers are currently working with traditional owners and the Djelk Marine Rangers to develop culturally appropriate mud crab farming technology in a mangrove 'pasture' in Maningrida. It is hoped that some younger people in the community will see this as an opportunity to develop new skills and gain an interest in sustainable aquaculture as a business.

Additionally, as a means of improving efficiency within the department, and for more holistic community outcomes, the three functional areas of DPIFM, have been discussing strategic partnerships aimed at using groundwater pumped from mine operations as a resource for some form of aquaculture. After use in aquaculture, this nutrient-rich water could then be used on a horticulture plot, or irrigated onto improved pasture. These and other innovations will provide a variety of opportunities for a number of people in regional communities.



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Forestry and rare earth mining on the Tiwi Islands, the Gemco expansion on Groote Eylandt, the proposed McArthur River Mine expansion and the North Australian Diamond development near Borroloola, and many others, will all contribute to regional economic development.

The work being done by the Geothermal Energy Taskforce using the natural heat contained within the earth's crust, known as 'hot dry rocks' technology. This has the potential to be a huge, nearly inexhaustible source of future energy and one of the areas into which the department is investing considerable time and resources. Geothermal energy is yet another example of how the Government is looking to the future and playing its part in advancing scientific knowledge.

DPIFM is involved in a wide cross section of regional development activities and given the continuing commodities boom and greater than ever demand for clean-green produce, the future looks bright for the non-metropolitan areas of our Northern Territory.

## **5. Stimulating Indigenous Economic Development**

DPIFM has a key role in supporting Indigenous long-term economic growth and prosperity through the following program activities:

### **Pastoral**

The Indigenous pastoral program aims to increase Indigenous participation in the pastoral industry by increasing numbers of cattle on Indigenous country, encouraging Aboriginal people into the pastoral workforce and working cooperatively with the relevant land councils. [Indigenous\\_Pastoral\\_Project](#)

### **Highlights**

- Leases of Indigenous country with a combined potential capacity of 34 000 head of cattle, providing 10 seasonal jobs, and over 20 contract fencing positions for Indigenous workers.
- An apprentice scheme developed in partnership with industry resulted in 11 Indigenous trainees from the Elliott and Tennant Creek regions participating in training facilitated by the department, the NT Rural College of Charles Darwin University (CDU) and Juno Horse Centre. The majority of these trainees are now placed on pastoral enterprises in award jobs, including three months direct mentoring by an ex-stockman of Indigenous descent.
- A drought management strategy to manage potential animal welfare issues in cattle and feral animals has been implemented in the Central Australia region.
- Additional support to the Indigenous Pastoral Program has been made through the appointment of a new staff member to provide advice, mentoring and support. An Indigenous trainee stock inspector position has also been created.
- Work in progress on further leases with potential for 14 000 head of cattle and eight fencing jobs.

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- Continuation of support and mentoring to current Indigenous enterprises including an Indigenous cattlemen's workshop in Alice Springs and Katherine.

## Horticulture

Within the horticulture program two positions have been established under a government initiative to improve Indigenous horticultural development. One position services the Alice Springs/Tennant Creek areas (Central NT) and the second position services the Darwin/Katherine areas (Northern NT). The aim is to facilitate plant-based development in Indigenous communities which will provide jobs and flow-on benefits including improved health and living standards.

### **Highlights:**

- DPIFM in partnership with the Anmatjere Community Council and the table grape industry initiated a training program to introduce Anmatjere people to horticulture and train them in the basic skills required to obtain employment in the industry.
- Opportunities for employment, initially on a short-term basis, have been made available by industry. This includes Ti Tree school students participating in a horticulture work experience program and other community members currently involved in the CDEP program. Opportunities have been identified for the employment of a number of these trainees as apprentices.
- Centrefarm in Alice Springs is developing commercial horticulture ventures with communities in the region including Ali Curung where a 200 ha mango development is in the planning stage. It is anticipated that local Indigenous people with horticulture training and experience will gain employment in these new and existing ventures.
- The Community Market Garden Project in the Northern Region has provided technical assistance to 30 communities and Indigenous organisations considering plant-based farming/growing. On-site visits for discussions, site assessments, planning and implementation and the introduction of the DPIFM Indigenous Horticulture Service have been made to 21 communities. Eleven of these communities are engaging in some form of horticulture production.

## Fisheries

During the reporting period, staff from the Aquaculture group and the Indigenous Liaison group within the department's Fisheries area worked with two Indigenous communities to develop mud crab farms including :

- A joint-venture project involving the Gwalwa Daraniki Association at Kulaluk in Darwin.
- A venture established at Maningrida.

The previously reported **Fisheries Highlights – Indigenous Aquaculture Developments** section of this report provides more information on both of these projects.

DPIFM also developed a [Marine Ranger](#) booklet; provided funding to six Marine Ranger programs; gifted three seized fishing vessels to ranger groups; supported

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the program around the Territory with extensive training and carried out patrols with funded ranger groups.

## **Mining Activities**

The aim of DPIFM's Mines and Energy programs the aim is to increase exploration and mining on all land to provide benefit to all Territorians.

### **Highlights:**

- The Titles Division working in partnership with land councils and industry to facilitate the grant of titles over Native Title and Aboriginal Freehold Land.
- The release of a publication, [Exploring Country](#), developed in cooperation with the land councils, mining industry, government departments and community organisations. The publication highlights the economic advantages for Indigenous Territorians through employment, education and infrastructure by entering into agreements with the mining industry.
- Working in partnership with the Australian Government's Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) and land councils on the development of proposed amendments to the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act* and *Mining Act*. The effort invested by DPIFM's program areas to develop positive relationships has resulted in staff being invited to attend on-country meetings at Yuendumu, Tillmouth Wells, Angurugu (Groote Eylandt) and Tennant Creek to assist in facilitating agreements between Indigenous Territorians and the mining industry.
- Joint presentations with OIPC and the land councils at a number of workshops including the Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) and the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) conference, to showcase mining and exploration opportunities on Native Title and Aboriginal Freehold Land.

## **Planned Strategies and Targets 2005–2006**

The department is strongly committed to facilitating the optimal use of the Territory's primary industry, fisheries and mines and energy resources for the benefit of all Territorians through the following future strategies:

1. Ongoing stakeholder liaison to enable government requirements to be articulated and better understood;
2. Review and realignment of DPIFM's functional and organisational arrangements to ensure the agency is well positioned to deliver its articulated commitments in its [Strategic Plan for 2006–2015](#);
3. Implementing the findings of the report examining the effectiveness of the *Building the Territory's Resource Base* program;
4. Continuing to refine programs and messages on the [Top End Secret](#) campaign to attract exploration and mining investment;
5. Preparing an NT Biosecurity Framework;
6. Developing an integrated drought action plan for the NT pastoral industry;

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7. Working with Desert Knowledge CRC to provide strategies and technology to increase efficiency and risk mitigation in pastoral enterprises;
  8. Developing a range of new plant-based products;
  9. Implementing sustainable programs in horticulture cropping industries;
  10. Developing market strategies and information in plant-based industry sectors;
  11. Implementing the Plant Health Bill;
  12. Implementing the National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS);  
[NLIS\\_funding.pdf](#)
  13. Katherine Cattle research programs focusing on breeding to meet future market opportunities;
  14. Finalising and implementing the five year strategic plan and ten year vision for the Barramundi Fishery;
  15. Progressing opportunities for Indigenous economic development with respect to wild harvest activities and aquaculture projects:
  16. Indigenous economic development opportunities and training in wild harvest activities, aquaculture projects, compliance activities and seafood handling techniques;
  17. Developing the capacity of the Indigenous Marine Ranger programs across the NT involving monitoring for illegal fishing and marine pest infestations;
  18. Developing Fisheries policy to meet the needs of industry and government;
  19. Implementing new management arrangements to the Mud Crab Fishery;
  20. Comprehensive review of the *Fisheries Act* and development of Fishery policy;
  21. Reviewing recreational fish possession limits;
  22. Further development of fishing access and infrastructure;
  23. Ongoing stocking of barramundi fingerlings in Lake Bennett, Lake Todd and Manton Dam and the upgrades of containment fencing at each location;
  24. Implementing the National System for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pest Incursions; [Marine\\_Pest.pdf](#)
  25. Commencing project to involve Indigenous Marine Rangers in coordinated marine pest monitoring activities;
  26. Raising awareness of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activity in Northern Territory coastal waters;
  27. Undertaking a buy-back of coastal net licenses;
  28. Expansion of the River Watch Program; [River\\_Watch.pdf](#)
  29. Implementing Coastal Line Fishery Strategic Research Plan;
  30. Implementing a mine closure strategy;

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31. Refining options to reduce short- and long-term risks and environmental impacts at Mt Todd;
  32. Reviewing all Reservations from Occupation declared under the *Mining Act*;
  33. Responding to the changes made to the Commonwealth's *Land Rights Act*;
  34. Establishing a register of potential, proposed and planned resource development projects in the Northern Territory.



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# Performance Reporting







# Key Industry Sectors

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## Trends and Analysis

### Introduction

The Northern Territory economy is dominated by the Mining sector, which includes minerals and petroleum. In 2004–05 the Mining sector accounted for 20.2 per cent of the Territory economy, with the next largest sector being Government Administration and Defence with 10.3 per cent of the economy. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector is one of the smaller sectors accounting for 2.9 per cent of the Territory economy in 2004–05. Industry sector Contribution to NT Gross State Product and trends analysis is provided in [Figures 10 and 11](#) in Appendixes page 159.

While both the Mining and Agriculture and Forestry and Fishing sectors are capital intensive, their growth patterns over the last decade and a half have been markedly different. Industry trends show that after a period of stability in the 1990s, the Mining sector contribution to Territory Gross State Product (GSP) rapidly expanded, initially on the back of oil, and more recently gas and mineral expansions. In contrast, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector has been relatively stable over the entire period.

The Mining sector is represented by a very few individual businesses, with only 170, or 1 per cent of total Territory businesses in June 2004. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector has almost 1 700 businesses or 8 per cent of the total, with the majority in the Horticulture industry. Details on NT businesses by sector is provided in Appendixes [page 160](#).

## Industry Sectors Outlook and Priorities

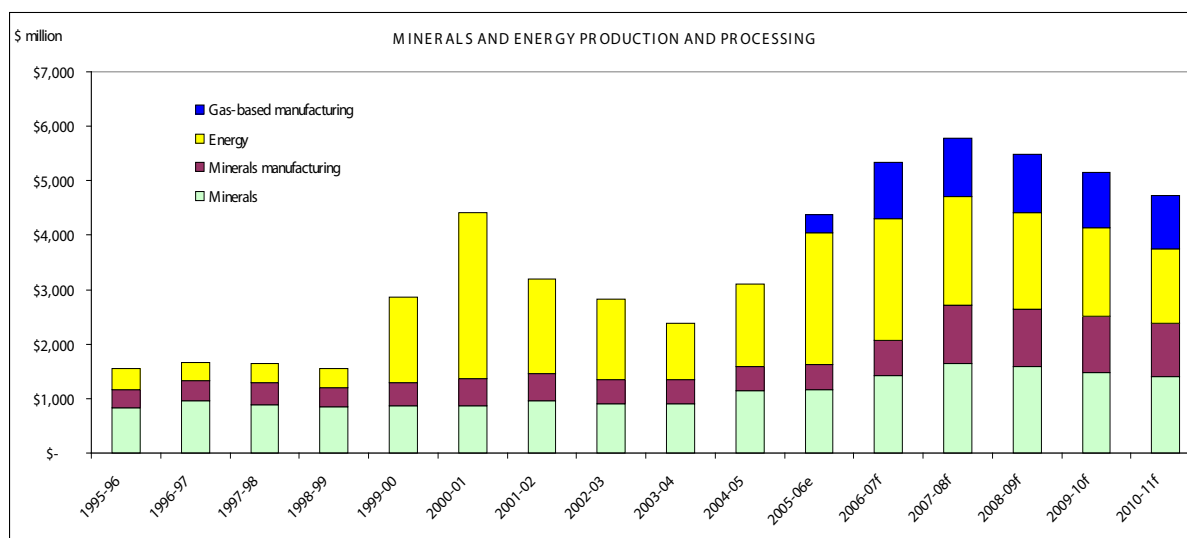
### Minerals and Petroleum

In 2005–06, the total value of mineral and energy production and processing is estimated to have increased by about 41 per cent due primarily to higher oil prices and further gas, oil, condensate and liquid production increases in the Joint Petroleum Development Area (JPDA). The value of mineral production is estimated to have increased slightly, by 2 per cent to \$1.6 billion.

Overall substantial increases are forecast in the value of mineral production in the period through to 2010–11, with a production value of more than \$2.4 billion, assuming the production of zinc-lead concentrate continues. These increases will be due primarily to increased alumina and manganese production augmented by smaller production increases in gold, nickel and magnetite.

The energy outlook in the Northern Territory-administered areas in the Timor Sea and in the adjacent JPDA and Western Australian waters remains positive. Major oil, condensate and liquids production has been dominant to date. However, major gas extraction and gas manufacturing will dominate beyond 2006.

**Figure 2 – Northern Territory minerals and energy production and processing values**

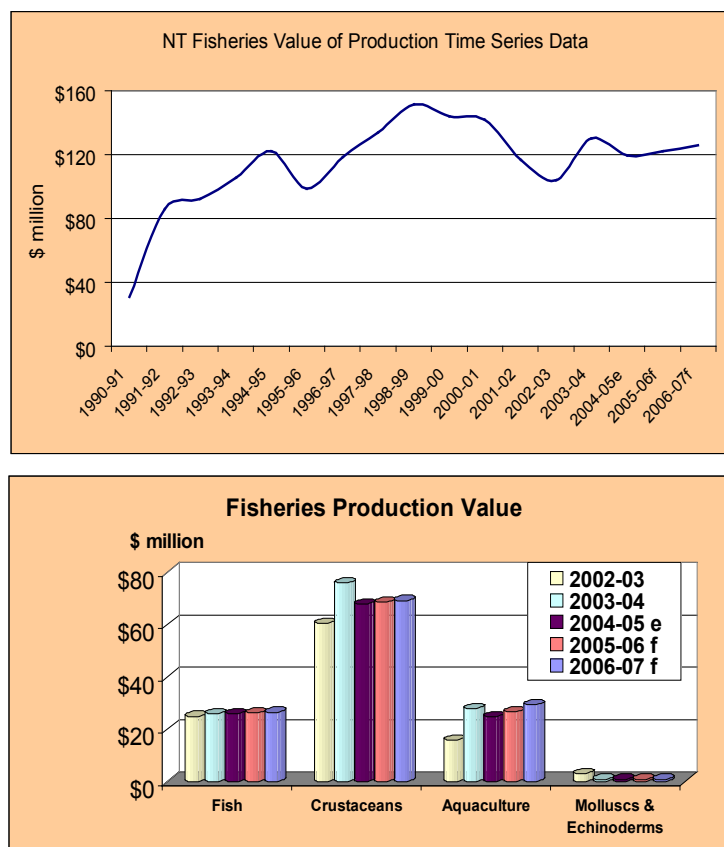


Source: DBERD Economic Outlook 2006

## Fisheries

In 2004–05, the total value of the NT fishing industry production (wild catch fish, wild catch crustaceans, wild catch molluscs and echinoderms, and aquaculture) was an estimated \$119 million, a decrease of 8 per cent over the previous year. However, it was expected that production in the 2005–06 financial year would increase slightly to \$122 million, with a further rise to \$126 million forecast for 2006–07.

**Figure 3 – Fish Production**



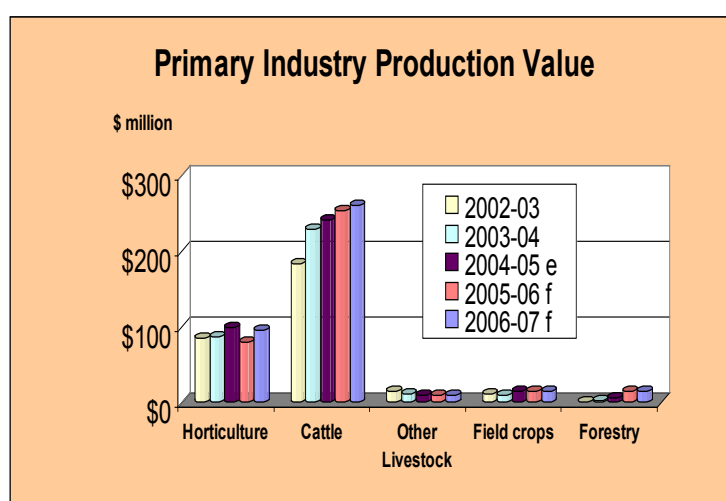
Source: DBERD  
Economic Outlook

- **Fish** (barramundi, shark, gold band snapper, other snapper, tuna, threadfin salmon, mackerel, jewfish, emperor, cod, Spanish mackerel and sea perch): In 2004–05, the estimated value of wild catch fish production was \$26 million, the same as the previous year. The outlook for the next two years is steady.
- **Crustaceans** (prawns, lobster and mud crab): In 2004–05, the estimated value of wild catch crustacean production was \$68 million, a decrease of 11 per cent compared with the previous year. This was largely due to a drop in the value of the prawn and mudcrab catches. The outlook for the next two years is steady.
- **Molluscs and echinoderms** (squid, octopus, cuttlefish, scallops and trepang): In 2004–05, the estimated value of wild catch mollusc and echinoderm production was \$900 000, the same as 2005–06. The outlook for the next two years is little change in value.
- **Aquaculture** (farmed aquatic organisms including prawns, barramundi, pearls, and aquarium and micro algae): In 2004–05, the estimated value of aquaculture production was \$25 million, a decrease of 11 per cent from the previous year. This was primarily due to falls in barramundi and prawn production. The outlook for the value of aquaculture production is promising at \$27 million in 2005–06, rising to about \$32 million by 2007–08, largely due to an expected increase in farmed barramundi capacity.

## Primary Industries

Northern Territory primary industries (cattle, other livestock, horticulture and mixed farming) had an estimated total value of production in 2004–05 of \$369 million, an increase of 9 per cent over the previous year. An increase in value of 1 per cent to \$374 million was expected for 2005–06, with a further rise to \$398 million by 2006–07.

**Figure 4 – Primary Industry Production**



Source: DBERD Economic Outlook 2006

- **Cattle:** In 2004–05, the estimated value of Northern Territory cattle production was \$241 million, an increase of 5 per cent over the previous year. The rise in live cattle exports in 2004–05 and the movement of interstate cattle contrasted with a fall in cattle slaughtered in Northern Territory abattoirs. The outlook for 2005–06

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was for an increase in value of 6 per cent to \$254 million, with a further rise to \$260 million by 2006–07.

- **Other livestock** (buffalo, crocodiles, poultry, pigs and camels): In 2004–05 the estimated value of other livestock production was \$10 million, a drop of 10 per cent from the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to cessation of broiler chicken production, a decline in live exports of other animals and a reduction in abattoir slaughter. The outlook for 2005–06 was for a rise in value of 7 per cent, with no further change expected in 2006–07.
- **Mixed farming** (field crops, hay and seeds and forestry): In 2004–05 the estimated value of mixed farming production was \$14 million, a rise of 53 per cent over the previous year. This increase was mainly due to significant expansion in hay/fodder crops and forestry production. The outlook for 2005–06 was for a further small increase in value to \$15 million, with no further change expected in 2006–07.
- **Horticulture** (fruit, vegetables, nursery and cut flowers): In 2004–05 the estimated value of horticulture production was \$99 million, a rise of 12 per cent over the previous year. This rise was largely driven by increased mango production. The outlook for 2005–06 was for a drop in value of 19 per cent to \$80 million from low mango production, followed by a rise to \$96 million in 2006–07.

## Contribution to Economic Growth

DPIFM is responsible for developing, advising and servicing the needs of three vital industry sectors; Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines and Energy.

At present the national and global economies are strong and favour these industries and there is every prospect for production to continue to be in strong demand, especially with commodity prices at record levels in international markets.

Mineral and energy production and processing is the giant performer of the local economy and it has witnessed continued substantial growth. This is estimated to have grown in value by 41 per cent in 2005–06, due to higher commodity prices and expanding production volumes, especially production from the Timor Sea Joint Petroleum Development area of gas, condensate and liquids.

With the continuing demand for raw materials, mineral exploration is expanding in the Territory. The outlook for mineral production is bright, with a predicted 50 per cent increase in the total value of production over the next four years to \$2.4 billion. This positive forecast is based on national and international economic activities remaining strong with record demand and prices being received for mineral and energy commodities.

Steady growth and production is being experienced in primary production from cattle, other livestock, horticulture and mixed farming. A rise of 6 per cent in overall production to \$398 million is anticipated during 2006–07. The prospects for horticulture are exciting with production growing over a relatively short period to a

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point where its production value is anticipated to be \$96 million in 2006–07. In value, it now represents one of the three vital agricultural business sectors. Another start-up industry, the fledgling farm forestry sector, is now worth \$3 million a year.

However, in some categories of primary industry the performance has been patchy and has not enjoyed growth. Some minor declines in production were recorded for locally slaughtered cattle, cessation of broiler chicken production and a reduced size of the mango crop. However, mango production is expected to return to previous levels during 2006–07.

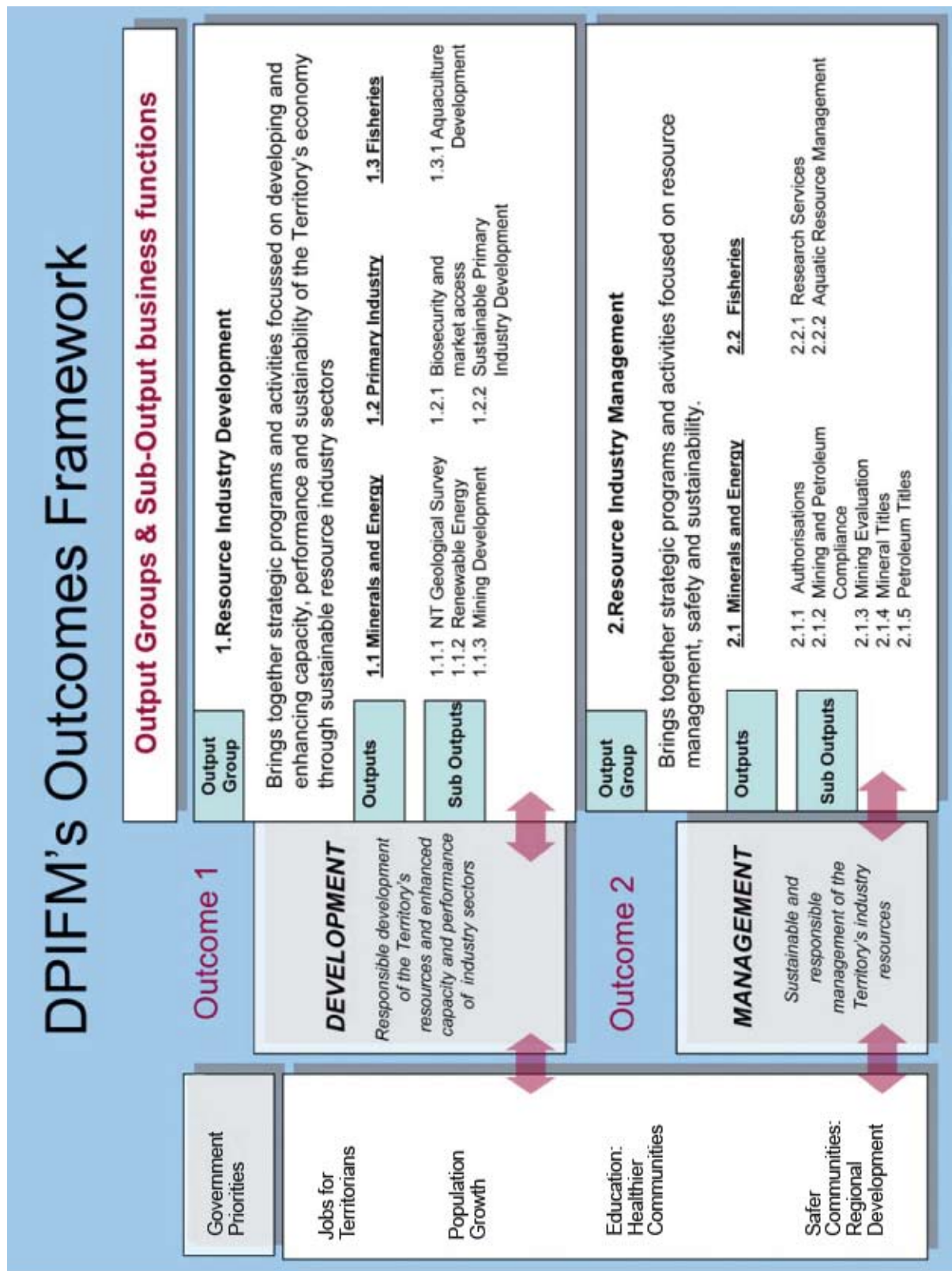
The outlook in the value of production from the NT fishing industry is steady but some minor growth is anticipated during the forthcoming year, following a decline of 8 per cent to \$119 million in 2004–05 and a slight increase in 2005–06 to \$122 million. A production value of \$126 million is estimated for 2006–07.

All reliable indicators support the view that these vital industry sectors will experience continued growth in the Territory during the forthcoming financial year and beyond. Growing production will make a significant contribution to sustaining our robust economic circumstances, especially from mineral and energy production.

DPIFM's functional and organisational arrangements support and work in partnership with these industry sectors to contribute to building a strong and sustainable NT economy. To measure our efficiency and effectiveness DPIFM has developed a Performance Framework (Diagram 1) which aligns with the Government's Working for Outcomes strategy

# DPIFM's Outcomes Framework

Figure 5 – DPIFM's Output Reporting Framework





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*Working for Outcomes* is the Northern Territory Public Sector financial and performance management framework. A key feature of this framework is the focus on outputs to identify, measure and report agency services and programs against stated outcomes.

The agency's performance framework places an emphasis on the measurement of quantity, quality, timeliness and cost with the aim of improving resource allocation and reporting on DPIFM's efficiency and effectiveness in delivering government priorities and outcomes.

The measures used are a result of ongoing consultation across the department and demonstrate a commitment to transparency in reporting, and greater accountability for achieving the outcomes and outputs of the department. It is recognised that this initial framework will need refinement over time as the department settles into its new structure.

DPIFM's priorities have been structured around two output groups which map to two key outcomes being *Development* and *Management* of Territory resources. These output groups are supported by five output areas and 13 sub-outputs (service delivery business areas) which work to achieve the articulated outcomes.

This framework demonstrates the existing correlation between the overarching strategic framework of government policy and agency activities and functional responsibilities.

During the reporting period no formal client satisfaction survey to measure quality of DPIFM services was undertaken. It was considered the restructuring of the organisation and subsequent development of an interim corporate plan and refocusing program areas was not a good foundation on which to base a client survey so soon after the formation of the agency. As clients would still be coming to terms with changes implemented, their opinion of the role, function and satisfaction with services of the department was canvassed through a variety of reports, surveys (pastoral and horticulture industry) and informal forums and meetings. The information collected through this engagement with clients and industry representatives contributed to the development of the new DPIFM Strategic Plan for 2006–2015. [DPIFM\\_Strategic\\_Plan.jpg](#)



# Output Group 1

## Resource Industry Development

This output group brings together strategic programs and activities with a focus on developing and enhancing capacity, performance and sustainability of the Territory's economy through the resource industry sectors.

### OUTPUT 1.1 – Mines and Energy Development

Provides strategic services to support the acceleration of exploration and sustainable development of Northern Territory mineral (and onshore petroleum) resources and facilitation of efficient and economic use of energy.

Output Cost: \$15.71 million		2005-06	2005-06
Performance Measures		Estimate	Actual
<b>Northern Territory Geological Survey</b>			
<b>Quantity</b>	New geospatial data sets and publications requested by key client group	400	476
	Geoscientific data products developed	150	115.3
	Northern Territory Geological Survey products (under 5mb) and geoscientific databases online	1	1*
<b>Quality</b>	Target rating for Mineral Potential Index in Fraser Institute Annual Survey <sup>1</sup>	11	19
	Target rating for Geological Database in Fraser Institute Annual Survey <sup>1</sup>	5	11
	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>2</sup>	N/M
<b>Timeliness</b>	Information and product request responses within agreed timeframes	90%	90%
	Quarterly advice of data product releases to key clients	100%	100%
<b>Renewable Energy</b>			
<b>Quantity</b>	Rebate applications approved	65	124
<b>Quality</b>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>2</sup>	N/M
<b>Timeliness</b>	Applications and rebate payments processed within agreed timeframes	95%	95%
<b>Mining Development</b>			
<b>Quantity</b>	Project leads generated or progressed	20	25
	Promotion and investment attraction activities completed	10	15
<b>Quality</b>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>2</sup>	N/M
<b>Timeliness</b>	Information and advice provided within agreed timeframes	90%	100%

<sup>1</sup> The Fraser Institute is a research organisation that seeks to establish the relative investment attractiveness of regions throughout the world.

<sup>2</sup> Not measured \* 100%

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## Programs and services delivered under Output 1.1

### Northern Territory Geological Survey

Northern Territory Geological Survey (NTGS) collects, interprets, synthesises and disseminates geoscientific data to attract and render more effective mineral and petroleum exploration. It also provides geoscientific advice on resource policy formulation.

#### **Key Achievements**

### **Maximising exploration investment in the Territory – Building the Territory’s Resource Base**

The four-year, \$15.2 million exploration investment attraction program, *Building the Territory’s Resource Base*, provides for pre-competitive geoscientific data, and the promotion of prospectivity. It also provides extra resources towards Indigenous liaison and related capacity-building activities, and the processing and ongoing maintenance of exploration and mining titles. The focus for NTGS programs is on mineral and onshore and offshore petroleum prospectivity, and effective Internet information and data delivery. [Building the Territory’s Resource Base](#)

Third-year activities included:

- Completion of a deep seismic imaging program in the Tanami region and a successful public-private sector partnership involving three governments (Commonwealth, Northern Territory and Western Australia) and two mining companies (Newmont and Tanami Gold).
- Completion of a collaborative program with the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) on landscape environments and mineral exploration, delivering a new Territory-wide *Atlas of Regolith Materials* and associated Regolith-Landform Map and GIS.
- Commencement of a two-year collaborative project with the Predictive Mineral Discovery CRC, investigating the 3D geological structure and mineral systems of the southern McArthur Basin.
- Receipt of 424 new applications for (mineral) exploration licences and two new applications for (onshore petroleum) exploration permits.
- Meetings at Yuendumu and Tilmouth Well communities to discuss local objections to exploration licence applications. The success of mediation meetings resulted in four applications proceeding to grant stage.
- Conducting industry training seminars covering land access and Indigenous land negotiations. A program was run for GEMCO and other industry members in November 2005.
- Publication of [Exploring Country](#), a handbook to guide explorers through the exploration and mining application process. The handbook has a very strong focus on Indigenous participation in the mining industry, giving examples of successful Indigenous employment programs in the Territory.

- 
- Launch of two electronic investment attraction and information services: [NT Investment Alert](#) and [NTGS Update](#).
  - Awarding the second Minister for Mines and Energy Earth Sciences/Geology Scholarship to Ms Jenna Nowland, currently completing her second year of a BSc degree in Economic Geology at James Cook University in Townsville.
  - Acquisition of 2 km-spaced helicopter-supported ground gravity survey over a large area of the eastern Arunta Region and the northern Tanami Region.
  - A tender for development of NTGS corporate database proof of concept was released and awarded. Work commenced in April 2006 on a spatial database for 1:250 000 geological mapsheet and geochemical and drillhole data. The proof of concept is due for completion in the first quarter of 2007.
  - Two thousand, six hundred and eighty-six enquiries were received by the Mines and Energy Information Centre in the six months to June 2006, representing an increase of over 25% on the number of enquiries received during the corresponding six months in 2005 (2 132). The total number of enquiries for 2005–06 was 5 078.
  - Seven hundred and four mineral exploration and 116 petroleum reports and datasets were added into the Industry Reports Management System (IRMS). This currently holds metadata on over 17 345 mineral exploration reports and over 3 770 records relating to onshore and offshore petroleum exploration.
  - The number of geoscientific products and company reports distributed in the six months to June 2006 (7 207) increased by over 25% compared to the corresponding period in 2005 (5 735). A detailed listing of NTGS publications, maps and displays is provided in [Appendix 2](#).

### ***Strategy for increased NT exploration – Top End Secret Roadshow***

The *Top End Secret Roadshow* was developed to promote *Building the Territory's Resource Base*. This campaign has assisted explorers and investors to:

- Identify DPIFM's on-line services, which includes STRIKE, a web-based mapping system;
- Progress examination and investing in the Territory's under-explored terranes;
- Access land and acquire risk capital to drive exploration and ultimately undertake business in the Northern Territory.

*More details on this initiative can be found in the Mines and Energy Highlights section of this report.*

### ***Future Priorities***

- Assessment of the geothermal energy prospectivity of the NT;
- A numerical modelling of ore-forming processes in the Alligator Rivers Uranium Field through a collaborative project with CSIRO and industry;
- Investigation of the depth to basement in the Dunmarra Basin;

- 
- An updated 3D geological model with enhanced understanding of gold mineral systems in the Tanami region, incorporating new seismic data;
  - New geological maps and accompanying reports covering hitherto poorly understood and under-explored geological terrains;
  - Publication of the Central Australian Basins Symposium (CABS) proceedings volume, containing nearly 30 fully refereed papers from NTGS and external authors in early 2007;
  - NT Onshore Exploration overview CD ROM for AGES 2007;
  - An update of the Triassic/basal Jurassic petroleum geology of central Australia;
  - Finalisation of the NTGS corporate database proof of concept development;
  - Publication of an NT-wide geoscientific Geographic Information System (GIS) dataset on CD;
  - Publication of a georeferenced image mosaic of all the NT 1:250 000 geological maps;
  - Finalised scanning of about 1 350 open-file mineral statutory exploration reports.

## **Renewable Energy Program**

Assistance to remote communities and industry, through the administration of the Commonwealth Government's renewable energy rebate programs.

### ***Key Achievements***

- Rebates for 124 renewable energy projects were approved under the Commonwealth Government Renewable Remote Power Generation Program (RRPGP), resulting in committed funding of about \$4.87 million. Of these projects, 53 were for Indigenous outstations, and 68 for pastoral properties. The projects approved will collectively save more than 490 200 litres of diesel fuel and 1 300 tonnes in greenhouse gas emissions per year ([Table 1 page 45](#)).
- Provision of rebates for installation of renewable energy technology projects that provide wider benefits to the renewable energy industry were also supported under the RRPGP: \$33 225 for the provision of training and accreditation to electrical contractors, \$15 000 for a feasibility study into the establishment of a solar technology demonstration facility at the Desert Knowledge precinct in Alice Springs and \$65 000 to the NT Cattlemen's Association to promote renewable energy to pastoralists.
- A total of 99 solar power generation and water pumping projects were completed, and rebates totalling about \$4.73 million were paid ([Table 2 page 45](#)). Payments of \$169 400 were also made to a number of industry support projects, including \$113 000 for renewable energy course and skills development, \$30 000 for feasibility studies and \$27 000 for a demonstration project. Photovoltaic Rebate Program rebates of \$8 000 were also paid. A total of \$4.91 million in rebates for renewable energy projects was paid during 2005–06.

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- Cash to \$35 000 and significant in-kind support was also provided to the consortium led by Alice Springs Town Council for the preparation of the expression of interest and the business case for the Solar Cities project. The Northern Territory Government approved in principle funding of up to \$4.9 million for the project from 2006–07 to 2013–14 subject to the consortium being awarded the Commonwealth Solar Cities funding. As the lead agency, DPIFM coordinated Northern Territory Government support and involvement in the project.

**Table 1: Rebates Approved in 2005–06**

Off-grid user type	Number	Renewable capacity of projects approved (kilowatts)	Rebate approved (\$)	Expected savings per annum	
				Diesel fuel (litres)	Greenhouse (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> )
Pastoral stations	68	44	546 842	135 000	365
Industrial Operations	1	1.6	20 500	1 960	5
Small Indigenous (including Bushlight)	53	274	4 297 055	350 480	946
Households	2	1.4	16 362	3 800	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>4 872 503</b>	<b>490 240</b>	<b>1326</b>

**Table 2: Rebates Paid 2005–06**

Off-grid user type	Number	Renewable capacity of projects paid (kilowatts)	Rebate paid (\$)	Expected savings per annum	
				Diesel fuel (litres)	Greenhouse (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> )
Pastoral stations	46	28.5	491 531	92 230	249
Major projects (large Indigenous communities)	2	432	978 520*	263 432	711
Small Indigenous (including Bushlight)	45	195	3 152 887	261 080	705
Government operations	1	18.4	10,000*	68 700	185
Industrial operations	3	6.8	79 209	10 310	28
Households	2	1.4	15 739	3 900	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>4 727 886</b>	<b>699 652</b>	<b>1 889</b>

\* Progress payments

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## Future Priorities

- Promote the uptake of renewable energy by remote businesses and Indigenous outstations;
- Assist private power providers to develop major renewable energy project proposals and facilitate approval by the Commonwealth Government;
- Participate as a member of the Alice Springs Solar City consortium and contribute to its good governance if Alice Springs is chosen as a solar city.

## Mining Development

The Resource Development and Policy Division has three broad functions:

1. Mining Project Facilitation to assist and facilitate development proposals to the approval stage by advising and guiding proponents with respect to regulatory processes, liaising with relevant agency and industry contacts and expediting blockages;
2. Promotion and Investment Attraction – to support the *Top End Secret Roadshow* campaign and to promote *Building the Territory's Resource Base* to generate more exploration expenditure for the NT;
3. Strategic Support by leading or assisting a range of cross-agency policy and strategic initiatives aimed at improving the Territory's resource development and exploration competitive position and to keep local stakeholders informed.

## Key Achievements

- Completed and jointly funded with the Commonwealth Government, the Northern Australia Transport Infrastructure Study to identify future infrastructure needs for mineral development in the Top End;
- Facilitated progress of 25 substantive development projects and investment leads including the following advanced projects that will become operational during 2006–07:
  - Compass – Browns polymetallic project at Batchelor;
  - Matilda Minerals – Tiwi Islands Minerals Sands;
  - GBS Gold – various gold mining developments and exploration in the Pine Creek and Katherine area;
  - Territory Iron – Frances Creek iron ore project.
- Supported the process for three new mines/mineral processing operations which became operational during the year. These were Tom's Gully gold mine (operated by Renison Resources), Bootu Creek manganese project (operated by OM Holdings) and stage one of the Peko Tailings project. These projects have generated new investment for the Territory of about \$160 million over and above the substantial expansions underway or proposed by Alcan, GEMCO and MRM.
- Hosted a management trainee from the Japanese Trading House, Itochu, under a staff secondment arrangement;
- Established and led an interagency taskforce for the Compass Browns Project and



- 
- participated in the Territory Iron taskforce chaired by the Darwin Port Corporation;
- Worked with the Commonwealth Government agency, Invest Australia, on national investment attraction programs and strategies;
  - Established a Geothermal Energy Taskforce mid-2005 to examine options and prepare legislation covering the exploration and development of geothermal energy.

### ***Future Priorities***

- Support five development projects to approvals stage during 2006–07;
- Support NTGS to further lift exploration expenditure in NT and NT's share of national expenditure;
- Increase international promotion program to include targeted events in China, Japan and Europe in conjunction with strategic partners and industry;
- Augment emphasis on regional engagement with mining projects through initiatives such as regional mining seminars including but not limited to Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Batchelor and Pine Creek;
- Promulgate information to DBERD, NTICN and the NT Minerals Council in support of local content initiatives and local business take-up;
- Further engage land councils and the NT Minerals Council in the [\*Top End Secret\*](#) promotion campaign;
- Increase focus on promotion of onshore petroleum activity and opportunities.

## Output 1.2 – Primary Industry

Delivers a range of strategic services that facilitate profitable and sustainable primary industries in the Northern Territory and maintain access to markets for animals, plants, and animal and plant products.

Strategic outcomes are achieved through focused research and development programs, specific programs that support Indigenous pastoral and horticultural development, effective extension services and maintaining targeted programs to monitor, detect and respond to emergency and endemic animal and plant pests and diseases.

<b>Output Cost: \$38.02 million</b>	<b>2005–06</b>	<b>2005–06</b>
<b>Performance Measures</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Sub-Output: Biosecurity and Market Access		
<i>Quantity</i>		
– Animal disease and residue projects being implemented	13 <sup>1</sup>	13
– Plant pest and disease biosecurity plans developed	0 <sup>2</sup>	0
<i>Quality</i>		
– Compliance with national animal health system performance standards	90%	90%
– Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>3</sup>	
<i>Timeliness</i>		
– Project and plan milestones met	85%	85%
– Response time for animal and plant pest and disease incursions met	<24hrs	<24hrs
Sub-Output: Sustainable Primary Industry Development		
<i>Quantity</i>		
– Research, development and extension projects in progress	33 <sup>4</sup>	34
– Technical publications and information packages available to clients	805	819
– New and improved agricultural products produced through research, development and extension projects	4	4
<i>Quality</i>		
– Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>3</sup>	
<i>Timeliness</i>		
– Research and development project milestones completed on time	90%	90%
– Technical publications and information packages, produced or updated within specified timeframes	80% <sup>5</sup>	80%
– New and improved products commercialisation timelines met	90%	90%

<sup>1</sup> Animal disease and residue projects – smaller projects amalgamated.

<sup>2</sup> Biosecurity plan progressing and is expected to be completed during 2006–07.

<sup>3</sup> Not measured – This department was established during this reporting period. While client opinion of the role, function and satisfaction with services of the department was canvassed through a variety of informal forums during this year, a client survey was deemed to be not cost-effective.

<sup>4</sup> Research and development projects – some smaller projects merged.

<sup>5</sup> Technical Publications – some withdrawn due to age of information during 2005–06 and are expected to be updated during 2006–07.

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## Programs and services delivered under Output 1.2

### Biosecurity and Market Access

Services include exclusion, eradication or effective management of risks to the economy, environment and human health posed by pests, diseases and chemical residues and to ensure the continued access to domestic and international markets of Territory primary industry products.

#### **Key achievements**

- Further development of appropriate diagnostic protocols (grapevine leaf rust for example) and techniques to ensure that production and market access of livestock, plants and plant products are not restricted by pests, diseases and chemical residues.
- Animal Health Australia: Major outcomes in 2005–06 were the review of the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement and progress with the National Animal Health Surveillance Strategy;
- Plant Health Australia: Major outcome in 2005–06 was the signing by the Northern Territory Government of the national Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed;
- Australian Biosecurity System for Primary Production and the Environment. This committee was formed in November 2005 and met four times in 2005–06. The committee is tasked with developing the National Biosecurity Framework. The committee will be ongoing until the framework is developed and signed off by the Commonwealth and all state governments;
- Sub-committee on Animal Health Laboratory Standards (SCAHLs), Wallaceville, New Zealand (8–10 March, 2006). Australian National Quality Assurance Program for interlaboratory veterinary proficiency testing was reviewed;
- Testing conducted for Avian Influenza on every bird brought to the Berrimah Veterinary Laboratory for post-mortem;
- Minor Use Permits issued for the use of the chemical fipronil for horticulture following successful studies for the control of the termite *Mastotermes darwiniensis*;
- Detection and control (biological and chemical) of spiraling whitefly, *Aleurodicus dispersus*;
- Provision of technical support, through an ACIAR-funded project, to develop entomological surveying techniques for South East Asian countries;
- Provision of microbiological and chemical water testing in Darwin and Alice Springs, resulting in the provision of safe drinking water for the Territory;
- Facilitated the development of the emerging barramundi, mud crab and crocodile industries in the Territory through the identification and control of disease;

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## Future Priorities

- Successful introduction of the Plant Health Bill;
- Completion of the framework for a Territory Biosecurity Strategy;
- Completion of a departmental corporate response plan for managing outbreaks of exotic pests and diseases;
- Achieve industry acceptance for the increased chemical residue testing regime;
- Implement a whole-of-department Exotic Animal and Plant Pest and Disease response training program, in conjunction with Animal Health Australia and Plant Health Australia;
- Manage the outcomes arising from government audits of the animal and plant exotic pest and disease response cost-sharing deeds;
- Further development of the use of molecular diagnostics in plant pathology, entomology and the veterinary laboratory (virology, parasitology and bacteriology) to address and solve agronomic problems facing the Territory;
- Renewal of the Power and Water Contract to provide chemical and microbiological water testing for Darwin and the Northern Territory to ensure safe water use. Development of testing for the water-borne human pathogen *Naegleria fowleri*;
- Obtain NATA accreditation for the water chemistry and the water microbiology laboratories in Darwin and Alice Springs;
- Studies into the epidemiology of grapevine leaf rust, the development of real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for its detection, studies into the flight distances for termites (important for knowing the distance that foreign fishing vessels should be placed offshore) and studies into the control of snakebean *Fusarium* (subject to funding).

## Sustainable Industry Development

This service involves the delivery of a range of strategies that facilitate the profitable and sustainable development of primary industries in the Northern Territory and to maintain and develop market access including:

- Research, development and extension services to the crops, forestry, horticulture, pastoral and mixed farming sectors, including technical publications and information packages;
- In close partnership with producers and other stakeholders, design, implement and communicate results of projects to build the industry capability, develop new products and production systems and ensure environmental sustainability;
- Pastoral programs to support Indigenous development;
- The Commonwealth Government and Northern Territory Government-funded FarmBis program for management training activities to primary producers and land managers to promote sustainable business development and land management practices;
- The Northern Territory Government Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme

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which enhances land and water resource management on pastoral properties by providing technical and financial support for development of new waters and water storage facilities.

### **Key Achievements**

- Published the reports from the first comprehensive survey of all cattle industry properties since 1980;
- Conducted grazing management trials on commercial stations at a number of locations in the NT to maximise the sustainable output of the NT pastoral industry;
- Facilitated a number of leases of Indigenous country with a capacity to carry 40 000 head of cattle;
- Developed an apprentice scheme for Indigenous trainees, in partnership with industry, with 10 Indigenous trainees participating, nine of whom are now placed on pastoral enterprises in award jobs;
- Provided research development and extension services to the pastoral and mixed farming entities;
- Successfully completed a technical assistance program for the Sabah Government on cattle industry development following the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Sabah Government on cattle industry and trade development;
- Delivered a new postgraduate unit in tropical beef production, as part of the Tropical Environmental Management curriculum at Charles Darwin University during Semester 1, 2006;
- Fully expended FarmBis and Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme programs;
- Continued to provide technical support for cattle industry development projects in South East Asia and grow the NT live export trade;
- Initiated a project to look at industry adjustment strategies used in other jurisdictions to ensure a smooth transition to a more mature industry;
- Improved understanding of fruit and vegetable processing options for the NT industry;
- Initiation of a study to capture the value, impact and priority issues of the amenity horticulture sector;
- Developed effective systems and range of appropriate information packages for a wide range of clients in the horticulture industry;
- Continued Indigenous horticulture projects in the Centre and the Top End;
- Participation in key national forums including:
  - Gene Technology Standing Committee. Major outcomes during the reporting period include the completion of the statutory review of the *Gene Technology Act*, development of ethical principles and a national strategy for dealing with the presence of unapproved genetically modified organisms.
  - Gene Technology Working Group to develop a national response to the statutory review of the *Gene Technology Act*. Work is ongoing.

- 
- Primary Industries Standing Committee – the principal national policy group for primary industries regarding drought policy reform, a biosecurity system, research and development strategy, Avian Influenza and climate change.
  - Forestry and Forestry Products Committee (FFPC) to review Australia's National Forest Policy, update of the Vision 2020 national Strategic Plan and developed a position on proposed Taxation Treatment of Plantation Timber.

### ***Future Priorities***

- Further develop linkages with Desert Knowledge CRC in pastoral research;
- Develop a drought risk preparedness plan;
- Through dedicated extension, develop industry capacity through the increased uptake of current knowledge and future research;
- Consolidation of the Crops, Forestry and Horticulture Information Service;
- Supply chain development projects in mangoes and Asian vegetables;
- Indigenous forestry and horticulture development in market gardens and commercial ventures;
- Environmental best practices management systems developed in conjunction with NT Horticultural Association and NTAga;
- New cut-flower, timber, mango rootstock, fodder and crop lines, including bio-fuel crop assessments.

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## Output 1.3 – Fisheries Development

Provides research, information, advice and marine resource management and facilitation services to the commercial, recreational and Indigenous fishing and aquaculture industries for the stewardship of marine resources and their sustainable utilisation. The services include policy development and implementation, granting and maintenance of licences, development of formal fishery management plans, advice on new investment opportunities and development of production technologies through aquaculture research.

**Output Cost: \$2.84 million**  
**Performance Measures**

**2005–06**   **2005–06**  
**Estimate**   **Actual**

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### Sub-output: Aquaculture Development

#### Quantity

– Current aquaculture development projects	30	27
– Presentations made and scientific and technical articles published	5	7
– Aquaculture licences issued	18	18

#### Quality

– Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>1</sup>	N/M
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#### Timeliness

– Milestones completed within agreed timeframes	90%	90%
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<sup>1</sup> Not measured – This department was established during this reporting period. While client opinion of the role, function and satisfaction with services of the department was canvassed through a variety of informal forums during this year, a client survey was deemed to be not cost-effective.

## Programs and services delivered under Output 1.3

### Aquaculture Development

This service assists the Territory's aquaculture industry and increases the gross value of aquaculture industry production. It includes:

- development of new aquaculture businesses;
- expansion of existing commercial aquaculture activity;
- support for aquaculture farmers;
- support for development of Indigenous aquaculture;
- identification of sites for aquaculture;
- investor advice;



- 
- liaison with other government agencies;
  - development of policy, legislative support and assessment of leases and licensing arrangements.

### **Key Achievements**

- Established a joint-venture with the Gwalwa Daraniki community to develop a mud crab grow-out and demonstration farm on Indigenous land in Darwin.
- Established a pilot mud crab farming venture in a mangrove enclosure , in association with the Bawinanga community at Maningrida.
- A private company commenced operating a pilot sea cucumber hatchery in association with the Darwin Aquaculture Centre. ([DAC.pdf](#))
- Over two million barramundi fingerlings produced, with excess fingerlings used to stock Territory impoundments.
- Draft final report submitted to the *Fisheries Research and Development Corporation* on the three-year collaborative mud crab larval rearing project.
- Advanced commercialisation trials for mud crab aquaculture with industry and Indigenous partners.
- Further industry and government endorsed aquaculture policy development.
- A new compliance program drafted for the Pearling sector.
- Finalisation and publication of an Histological Atlas of Pearl Oysters.
- Expanded Indigenous economic extension activities.
- Continued case-management of significant projects.
- Case-managed the application process for three sea cage sites for barramundi culture.
- Streamlined aquaculture licence acquisition process through agreements on process with the EPA.
- Drafted an information booklet on the environmental effects of sea cage aquaculture.
- Commenced investigation into the detection and management of nodavirus in Barramundi through hosting and support of two PhD students, in association with the University of Sydney.
- Completed a revision on the booklet, *Barramundi farming in the NT*.
- Worked with industry to streamline the administrative process for the collection of prawn broodstock in NT waters.

### **Future Priorities**

- Pilot sea cucumber hatchery to begin land and sea-based growout trials;
- First harvests from the joint-venture mud crab growout farm and demonstration site on Indigenous land in Darwin;
- First harvests from the mud crab ranching venture at Maningrida;
- More than one million barramundi fingerlings produced, with excess fingerlings

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continuing to be used to stock Territory impoundments;

- Barramundi production to exceed 500 tonnes (Note that this is a decrease from 2005–06 due to Marine Harvest restructuring);
- Final report to the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) on the three-year collaborative mud crab larval rearing project;
- Further commercialisation trials for mud crab aquaculture with mainstream industry and Indigenous partners;
- Further industry and government endorsed aquaculture policy development;
- Expansion of Indigenous economic extension activities;
- Continued case management of significant projects;
- Work with the NT Seafood Council and industry to review and update strategic plans for all aquaculture sectors;
- Case-manage the licensing of three sea cage sites for barramundi culture;
- Further streamlining of the aquaculture licence acquisition process through agreements on process with other agencies;
- Continued investigation into the detection and management of nodavirus;
- Production of an information booklet on the environmental effects of sea cage aquaculture;
- Publication of *Barramundi Farming* booklet.

## Output Group 2

### Output Group 2: Resource Industry Management

This output group brings together strategic programs and activities focused on resource management, safety and sustainability.

#### Output 2.1 – Mines and Energy Management

Primary responsibility for delivering strategic services that regulate mining and petroleum tenure, inspection and audits to ensure best practice in environmental management, workplace safety, occupational health and radiation safety and the evaluation and reduction of environmental impacts arising from mine sites.

**Output Cost: \$9.41 million**  
**Performance Measures**

**2005–06  
Estimate**   **2005–06  
Actual**

##### Authorisations

<i>Quantity</i>	Planning documents assessed	200	204
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>1</sup>	N/M
<i>Timeliness</i>	Plans assessed within established timeframes	90%	96%

##### Compliance

<i>Quantity</i>	Site reported incidents	550	1447
	Site Category 1 non-conformances identified <sup>2</sup>	3	2
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>1</sup>	N/M
<i>Timeliness</i>	Site reported incidents closed out within agreed timeframes	90%	N/M
	Site Category 1 non-conformances closed out within timeframes specified in notices of non-conformances <sup>2</sup>	90%	100%

##### Mining Evaluation

<i>Quantity</i>	Projects dealing with long-term mining issues	15	12
	Mining site monitoring programs actioned	50	45
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>1</sup>	N/M
<i>Timeliness</i>	Project milestones completed within agreed timeframes	90%	70%
	Sites monitored according to the agreed schedule	90%	>90%

##### Mineral Titles

<i>Quantity</i>	Mineral exploration licences granted	734	757 <sup>3</sup>
	Applications for mineral exploration licences	776	847 <sup>4</sup>
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>1</sup>	N/M

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<i>Timeliness</i>	Mineral exploration licence applications determined within specified timeframes	80%	80%
<b>Petroleum Titles</b>			
<i>Quantity</i>	Petroleum exploration permits granted	10	11
	Applications for petroleum exploration permits	26	8
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	N/M <sup>1</sup>	N/M
<i>Timeliness</i>	Petroleum exploration permit applications determined within specified timeframes	80%	80%

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<sup>1</sup> Not measured – This department was established during this reporting period. While client opinion of the role, function and satisfaction with services of the department was canvassed through a variety of informal forums during this year, a client survey was deemed to be not cost-effective.

<sup>2</sup> Site Category 1 represents a deviation from expectations that could potentially result in a high risk occupational health and safety or environmental event occurring.

<sup>3</sup> An increase in mineral exploration licences granted is expected in 2006–07 following streamlining of processes and resources.

<sup>4</sup> Increase in exploration licence applications for 2005–06 due to increased awareness generated by Top End Secret Roadshow and increasing commodity prices. Estimates for 2006–07 amended to reflect ongoing anticipated increase.

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## Programs and services delivered under Output 2.1

### Mines and Energy Titles Division

The Mineral Titles section ensures mining tenure is validly granted in accordance with the relevant legislation, monitors titleholder's compliance with title conditions and relevant legislative requirements and records information on mining and petroleum tenure.

#### **Key Achievements**

- Ongoing development of positive and cooperative relationship with all stakeholders including land councils;
- Coordinated a session at the Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) entitled *Accessing Australia's Final Exploration Frontier* which informed explorers of the application, approval and accountability of exploration titles in the Territory;
- Facilitated a seminar for explorers and miners at the 2006 Australian Mining and exploration Companies (AMEC) in Perth;
- Published the booklet *Exploring Country – A guide to making an exploration and mining agreement*;
- Progressed the granting of exploration and mining titles through the 'right to negotiate' procedures under the Commonwealth *Native Title Act*. Successfully negotiated with land councils on five objections to the expedited procedure lodged in 2005–2006;
- Ongoing review of the *Mining Act*.

**Table 3 – Mineral Titles Applications Received and Granted for the past five years**

Fiscal Year	Total Exploration and Mining Title Applications Received	Total Exploration and Mining Title Applications Granted
2001-02	367	307
2002-03	254	415
2003-04	282	226
2004-05	373	187
2005-06	560	242

*Data Source: Titles Management System*

*Note: 1. Titles granted may include applications lodged in a previous year*

**Table 4 – Mineral Exploration Licence Applications on Aboriginal Freehold Land as at 30 June 2006**

Preliminary Stages of Application		Applications in Negotiation		Applications Pending Grant		Applications on Land Affected by Moratorium		Total Number of Outstanding Applications	
No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
106	18%	277	48%	27	5%	164	29%	575	100%

Data Source: Titles Management System

### ***Future Priorities***

- Granting and maintenance of mineral titles in accordance with government policy and legislative requirements;
- Review of Titles resources (staffing and databases) to ensure appropriate level of resources in relation to increasing volume of applications and to respond to the proposed legislative changes to the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act*;
- Improve the workability of procedures and processes under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act*;
- Progress mineral titles in accordance with the 'right to negotiate' processes of the *Native Title Act*;
- Complete the *Mining Act* Review and implement the outcomes and recommendations of the review.

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## Output 2.2 – Fisheries Management

This output manages the Northern Territory's aquatic resources through the provision of information and assistance to the community, government and the fishing industry sectors to support sustainable development. Services include policy development and implementation, research, the granting and maintenance of licences, the development and implementation of fishery management arrangements and the monitoring and control of aquatic pest and disease issues.

<b>Output Cost: \$6.50 million</b>		<b>2005–06</b>	<b>2005–06</b>
<b>Performance Measures</b>		<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Research Services</b>			
<i>Quantity</i>	Current research projects	15	17
	Presentations made and scientific and technical articles published	50	50
	Aquatic pest management projects	3	3
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	NM <sup>2</sup>	80%
<i>Timeliness</i>	Milestones completed within agreed timeframes	90%	90%
<b>Aquatic Resource Management</b>			
<i>Quantity</i>	Recreational fisheries management projects	8	8
	Commercial fisheries management projects	3	3
	Indigenous projects	3	3
	Fisheries accredited	8	9
	Other aquatic resource management projects	1	4
<i>Quality</i>	Client satisfaction	NM <sup>2</sup>	80%
<i>Timeliness</i>	Project milestones completed within agreed timeframes	90%	90%

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<sup>1</sup> Not measured – This department was established during this reporting period. While client opinion of the role, function and satisfaction with services of the department was canvassed through a variety of informal forums during this year, a client survey was deemed to be not cost-effective.

## Programs and services delivered under Output 2.2

### Research Services

Fisheries research provides information on the status of the aquatic resources and systems of the Territory to support management activities and provide information to industry and the public. Many of the aquatic resources subject to research are considered to be at or near maximum sustainable harvest level. Monitoring of trends and assessment of stock status are essential to ensure optimal use, maximise economic and social benefit, and minimise the risk of over exploitation.



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### **Key Achievements**

- Organised and hosted the 2005 Australian Society for Fish Biology Conference and Workshop, and co-hosted the Australian Marine Science Association Conference.
- Hosted the national barramundi stock assessment workshop.
- Commenced development of a Northern Australia Barramundi Model.
- Undertook and completed the 2005 [Barracade](#) research project on the Mary River.
- Successfully completed the field component of the project using acoustic tags for tracking jewfish aggregations despite cyclones Ingrid and Monica.
- Genetag research team winning a number of awards including: the inaugural NT innovation award; an episode of the ABC television “New Inventors” program as well as the program’s “Viewers Choice award”; and NT Seafood Industries’ Award for Innovation. [Genetag](#)
- ‘Genetag’ genetic mark-recapture monitoring for the Spanish Mackerel Fishery and recorded several recaptures.
- Studies on the stock structure of grey mackerel (in collaboration with WA and Qld fisheries agencies and led by the Reef CRC). Funded by FRDC.
- Initiated a collaborative research project to develop tagging as a monitoring method for NT shark fisheries – through a Linkage Grant from the Australian Research Council, in collaboration with the Fishing Industry and AIMS and led by CDU.
- Shark fishery sustainability study continued (funded by FRDC with collaboration across northern fisheries agencies led by CSIRO).
- Continued a study into the Artisanal shark and ray fisheries of Indonesian sharks and rays (ACIAR-funded and led by CSIRO).
- Offshore snappers research using GIS and Fuzzy Logic to maximise use of catch, effort and environment information.

### **Future Priorities**

- Develop new techniques using GIS spatial statistical methods and fuzzy-rule based modelling to assist in management of the Timor reef fishery;
- Preparation of a scientific paper on reproduction of goldband snapper;
- Monitoring of barramundi stocks with yearly updates of stock assessments and Status Report;
- Survey and report on barramundi population in the Mary River;
- Development of a northern Australian barramundi assessment model;
- Completion of FRDC Project – Assessment of the implications of target fishing on black jewfish aggregations in the Northern Territory;
- Contribute to completion of report on FRDC Project – Spatial management of reef fisheries and ecosystems – understanding the importance of movement;
- Publication of scientific papers on the age, growth and reproduction of black jewfish and on the movement of black jewfish;

- 
- Commencement of black jewfish otolith microchemistry stock structure study involving DPIFM graduate program;
  - Development of new project initiatives and funding pathways in accordance with the Coastal Line Fishery Strategic Research Plan;
  - Develop and implement a program to monitor the effect of amendments to the mud crab fishery management plan on mud crab stocks;
  - Adopt a new three-directional approach to mud crab monitoring;
  - Collation and analysis of fishery monitoring information for inclusion in the annual Status Report;
  - Provide input to the DEH assessments of the sustainability of NT Fisheries under the *EPBC Act*;
  - Completion of the NTFRDTF Project entitled, 'The effects of catch and release on the post-release survival and ovary development of mature barramundi';
  - Contribute to two LWA projects: Water Regime dependence of fish in the wet-dry tropics; and Flow impacts on estuarine finfish fisheries of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

## **Aquatic Resource Management**

This service manages the Territory's fisheries resources to ensure ecologically sustainable use in the future. The biological characteristics of many species taken in Territory waters, increasing fishing pressure and competing stakeholder interests need to be managed to ensure that fish and aquatic life resources remain ecologically sustainable.

### **Key Achievements**

- Attained export accreditation for the Offshore Net and Line and Aquarium fisheries.
- Completed a review of the Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan and introduced new management arrangements in the commercial mud crab fishery.
- Finalised the draft of a Five Year Strategic Plan and Ten Year Vision for the Barramundi Fishery.
- Commenced the formal review of the NT *Fisheries Act*, and released a [Review Discussion Paper](#) and [Submission Response Booklet](#) seeking stakeholder and community input into the review process.
- Completed a review of Aquarium Fishery including amendments to coral harvest arrangements.
- Implemented new management arrangements for the Off-shore Net and Line Fishery.
- Twenty-one marine and freshwater pest reports were received and investigated. A population of exotic freshwater fish was successfully eradicated from stormwater drains in the Darwin region. [Exotic Fish](#)
- The Aquatic Pest Management monitoring program confirmed the absence of marine pests from sites at Garden Point, Darwin and Gove Harbours, Raffles Bay and Milner Bay.
- Participated in the National Introduced Marine Pest Coordination Group advancing

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the development of the National System for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pest Incursions.

***Future Priorities***

- Finalise and implement the five year strategic plan and ten year vision for the Barramundi Fishery.
- Undertake a buy-back of Coastal Net licences.
- Introduce a specific fishery management plan for the Timor Reef Fishery.
- Expansion of the Finfish Trawl Fishery.
- Reallocate demersal fishery catch to the Finfish Trawl Fishery.
- Excise gold band snapper habitat from the Finfish Trawl Fishery.
- Continue to progress the review of the *Fisheries Act*.



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# Corporate Governance





# Corporate Governance

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DPIFM has placed considerable effort into improving governance processes and practices across the department.

Corporate Governance refers to the way in which the agency's stated outcomes and obligations are achieved and we are continuously working to improve our commitment to good governance. In DPIFM this is accomplished through reviewing our processes and programs and continuously working to achieve open, transparent, ethical and accountable management of programs and services, at all levels within the organisation and through the conduct of our employees. The actions of our employees are guided through the appropriate delegation and limitation of powers. Appropriate behaviour is encouraged through the continuous reinforcement of the department's values.

This Annual Report is a component of governance, and provides the Minister, the public and the NT Legislative Assembly with a summary of DPIFM's performance in meeting its stated Outcomes and Objectives during the financial year 2005–06. This Report is also the avenue through which the Chief Executive reports to the Minister. (Refer to '[Representation Letter](#)' at the front of this report).

## Governance Framework

During the reporting period DPIFM's Corporate Governance Framework was underpinned by three key principles relating to: Leadership; Performance and Information and Control Systems. The focus being towards ensuring and improving efficient use of resources, effective performance and information, compliance with statutory and other external reporting requirements and supporting structures and procedures to encourage sound administrative and financial management practice.

The Policy, Planning and Review (PP&R) group assists all areas within DPIFM to deliver a high-level of performance in relation to its governance requirements and a whole-of-department/government approach to policy development and planning.

## Principle 1: Leadership

Setting the direction of the agency and providing clarity around performance responsibilities and accountability.

### Management Environment

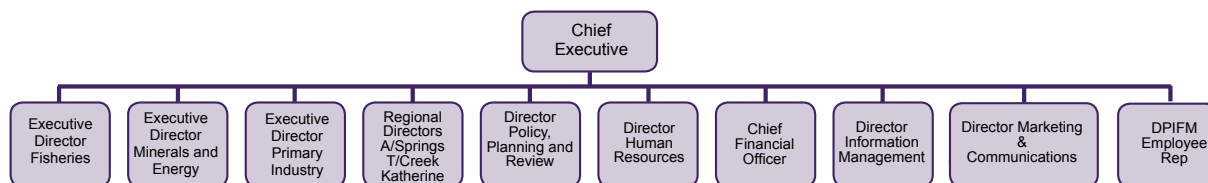
Leadership is achieved through a management environment comprising:

- A Board of Management and Committees to support the CE with determination of structure, policies, planning and performance at a strategic level for the delivery of programs and services according to the priorities of the NT Government.
- A Strategic Planning Framework based on a Corporate Plan which is the defining document for all planning and other strategic and operational activities.

# Organisational Structure

The following diagram shows the top level structure of the department. Further information on the department's operational and functional structure is provided in the Introduction and Overview section of this report.

## Board of Management Structure



## Board of Management (BoM)

Board of Management's role is to provide effective leadership and guidance on strategic and performance issues. Membership comprises:

- Chief Executive;
- Executive Directors (Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines and Energy);
- Regional Directors (Katherine, Tennant Creek, and Alice Springs);
- Chief Financial Officer and Directors of: Human Resources, Policy, Planning and Review; Information Management and Marketing and Communications;
- Other members as determined by the Chief Executive, including a staff representative.

The BoM has met on a monthly basis with meetings being rotated through Darwin, Douglas Daly Research farm, Alice Springs and other regional locations.

## Board of Management members



### John Carroll – Chief Executive

Prior to his appointment as Chief Executive of DPIFM John was the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of the Mines and Energy division of the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development. He came to the Territory in 2000 as the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Industries and Business. John has over 30 years experience in the public sector having worked in Canberra, Queensland and the Northern Territory.





**Richard Sellers –  
Executive Director, Mines and Energy**

Richard has extensive experience with management of natural resources and working specifically with business, regional and Indigenous groups on development programs. He previously held the role of Executive Director of Fisheries in DPIFM and before that was Director Legal and Policy with the former Department of Business, Industry and Resource development.



**Rod Gobbey –  
Executive Director Primary Industry**

Rod joined DPIFM in May 2005. For the 10 years before that he held a variety of senior positions in the Tasmanian Government. They included Director of Food Quality and Safety, Director of Agriculture and as Manager of Animal Health and Manager of the Tasmanian Animal Health laboratory.



**Bill Flaherty –  
Acting Executive Director, Fisheries**

A 25 year Territory resident, Bill has worked in both the private and public sectors in the Top End and Central Australia. Bill has worked in commercial finance, policy, land administration and business and regional development. Throughout his career Bill has had an abiding interest in Indigenous matters.



**Phil Anning –  
Regional Director, Central Australia**

Phil was Regional Director with the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (DPIF) and DBIRD before becoming Regional Director Central Australia when DPIFM was formed. Prior to moving to the Territory Phil held a variety of positions in the Queensland Department of Primary Industries.



**Neil MacDonald –  
Regional Director, Katherine**

Neil has lived and worked in the pastoral Division in Katherine since 1999. He has worked as a researcher in cattle and rangeland management and as Manager of the Pastoral Production program then Acting Director of the pastoral division. Neil has also worked in Nigeria, Scotland and Papua New Guinea.



**Paul Black –  
Regional Director, Tennant Creek**

Paul joined the Northern Territory public service in March 2005 as Regional Director for DBIRD. He has been involved in the Australian Meat Industry for many years including time as State Manager in Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. He has also owned properties in the south-east of South Australia and the western districts of Victoria.



**Bernard Ho –  
Director of Finance/ Chief Financial Officer**

Bernard joined the NTPS in April 2005 joining the newly formed DPIFM. He has extensive experience in commercial accountancy and financial management having worked as Chief Accountant at the Territory Insurance Office for many years, and as Senior Accountant for Coopers and Lybrand as well as a host of other accounting positions.



**Helen Jones –  
Director, Human Resources**

Helen has a long career in human resource management in the NT across a range of agencies including the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment, Transport and Works, Attorney General's Department, Darwin Port Authority, Lands, Housing and Local Government, NT Treasury and the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development.



**Russell Ball –  
Director, Information Management**

Russell trained as a journalist and worked in Central Australia before moving into a series of advisory roles in the NT Government. He has worked as a Senior Project officer in the Office of Resource Development and Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development before heading up Records Management, Freedom of Information and Privacy functions for DBIRD.



**Roslyn Vulcano –  
Director Policy, Planning and Review**

Roslyn is the Director Policy, Planning and Review. Ros has a Masters degree in Environmental Management and qualifications in business management.

Ros has extensive experience in the management of natural resources and the supply of water and energy, from both a government and industry perspective. This includes the development and implementation of management and policy solutions for communities of various sizes including remote and Indigenous communities.



**Stephen Yates –  
Director Marketing and Communication**

Stephen has over 30 years experience in media and advertising. Before joining DBIRD as Media Manager in 2004 he was News Director of DMG Regional Radio (NQ) and before that specialist communications and media consultant. He has broad industry experience having worked in radio, television and advertising agencies over his career.



**Michael Knox –  
Staff Representative**

Michael moved to Darwin from QLD in 1989. He enrolled in NTU in 1995 to complete high school and then enrolled in bachelor of science in 1996. Started with DME in 1998 as an AO2 and then as an TO2 in 2000. Michael finished his degree in science in mid 2000 and is currently a diversity contact officer for DPIFM.

# Committees

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To assist the BoM to carry out its responsibilities three key advisory committees have been established. Through the development of operating charters these committees evaluate and monitor specific operational elements that contribute to good governance and in turn assist the agency to meet its government and corporate obligations.

Committees include the:

- Risk Management and Audit Committee;
- Information Management Committee; and
- Occupational Health and Safety Steering Committee.

## Risk Management and Audit Committee

The Department's Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) has been established to assist the Chief Executive, through the Board of Management, to meet statutory (Financial Management Act Sections 13 and 15) and accountability responsibilities (Treasurers Directions (Part 3 Sections 2 and 3), and management of internal control arrangements.

The functions and responsibilities of the committee are to monitor:

- strategic business risk assessments and undertake gap analyses to identify likely areas of priority for risk assessments, reviews and audits;
- the adequacy of the department's internal control arrangements related policies, practices, procedures and other internal controls established to manage identified risks;
- the implementation of internal and external audit recommendations;
- the review and evaluation of department's statutory responsibilities including related programs; and
- the adequacy of the department's public accountability documents such as annual reports.

## Information Management Committee

The role of the Information Management Committee (IMC) is to provide strategic direction and coordinate the department's management of information across information technology and management, records management and library services encompassing telecommunications and intellectual property.

This is achieved through:

- Ensuring the effective and timely development of appropriate policies, practices, systems, training and developing an organisational culture that recognises the value of good information management; and
- Coordination, prioritisation and monitoring of whole of agency information management projects.

## Occupational Health and Safety Steering Committee

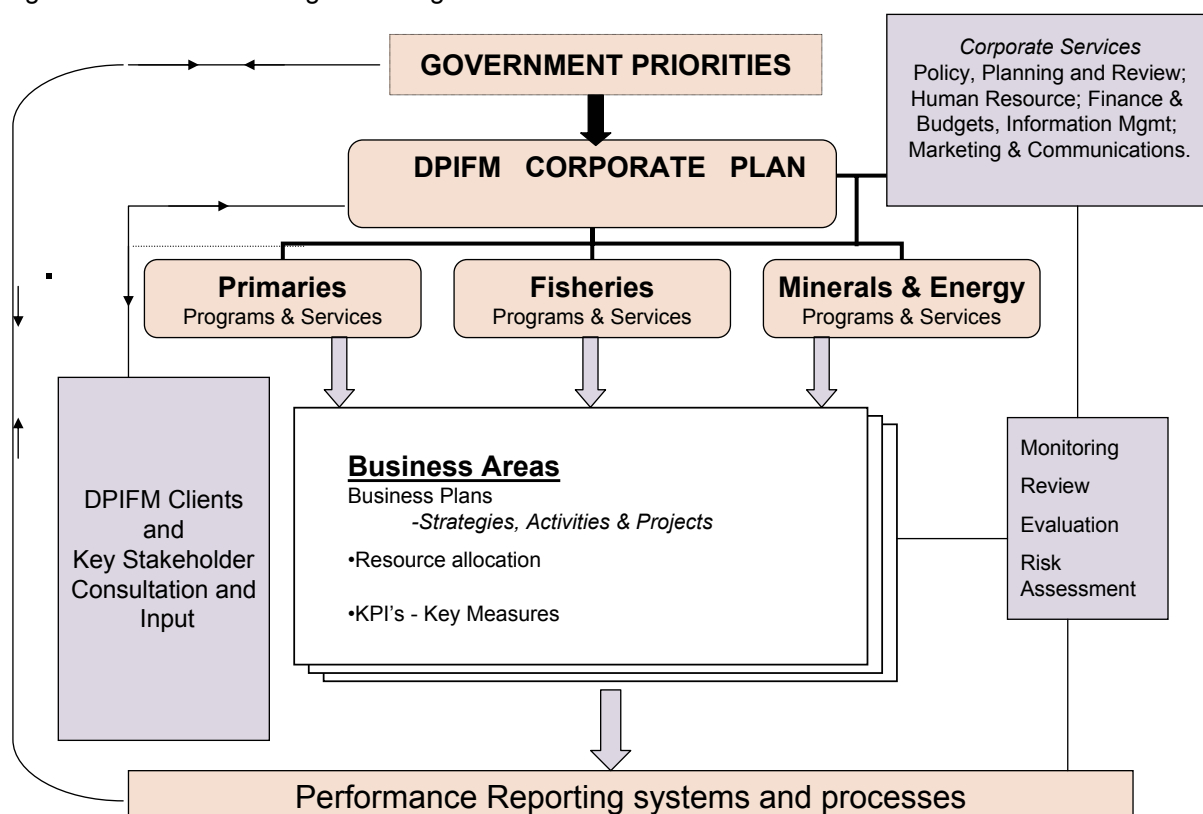
The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Steering Committee is responsible to the Executive for the development, implementation, monitoring and review of DPIFM safety policies and the consideration of any issues affecting the health and safety of all staff, contractors and visitors.

## Strategic and Business Planning Framework

DPIFM's Planning Framework aligns strategic priorities of the government with that of the department. It builds these linkages through incorporating government priorities into our Corporate Plan. This linkage flows into our business areas' business plans which outline our strategies, activities and projects implemented to deliver stated outcomes. In turn these plans are connected to performance criteria, risk management, resource allocation and reporting requirements.

This integrated planning and reporting process helps ensure that day-to-day operational performance is linked to strategic outcomes. Further information on DPIFM's Corporate Plan is provided in the 'About the Department' section of this report. The following diagram represents DPIFM's Planning Framework.

Figure 6 – DPIFM's Strategic Planning Framework



The major planning focus in the reporting period was on the development of a Strategic Plan for the 2006–2015 period. This involved extensive review, incorporating wide consultation with business areas and key stakeholders to ensure congruence across strategic management, operational management and reporting structures. This process has enabled the development of a clear picture of the strategic issues to be addressed by the department in the future.

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## Principle 2: Performance, Information and Communication

Optimising performance and information to achieve DPIFM's strategic intention through accountability and continuous improvement processes.

This is achieved through:

- comprehensive performance management involving the development of agreed performance measures, ensuring appropriate training and development and continuous alignment to the changing operational environment;
- conducting reviews and audits; and
- ensuring communication and management systems are appropriate and effective.

### Performance Management

An important element of DPIFM's performance framework is the development of key performance measures which support our Working for Outcomes Framework and which are published annually in Budget Paper 3 and reported against in our Annual Report. Further details on our performance framework are provided in the Performance Reporting section of this report.

To address individual performance and improvement, DPIFM invests in training and development to assist employees deliver results and achieve career aspirations. By developing people we uphold our values, including our stated commitment to self management and learning.

DPIFM produces an annual People Plan and expects all employees to have annual performance discussions and individual learning plans. This enables employees to receive feedback on their performance and promotes communication to clearly define the individual's role, performance expectations and responsibilities. Our Learning/Skills Register guides and assists managers and employees to determine development needs.

These elements are underpinned by the Principles and Code of Conduct, issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment under the Public Sector Employment and Management Act. Website: <http://www.nt.gov.au/ocpe/> and DPIFM's articulated values.

A staff survey is also conducted annually which helps DPIFM to monitor the health of the organisation and take appropriate steps to continuously improve.

Having a robust performance management framework ensures training and development contributes to our people's ability to achieve government priorities, is linked to our business plans and results in significant outcomes for clients, stakeholders and the general community. Refer to the 'Our People' section for further information on training and development strategies.

### Reviews and Evaluations

In the reporting period there has been a strong emphasis on performance reviews as an element of continuous improvement. Program evaluations and performance



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review results have been utilised to assist with the streamlining of processes and activities to facilitate cultural change and business improvement.

During late 2005 and early 2006 a cross-agency procurement review was conducted by the NT Auditor-General's Office. This review coincided with a range of whole-of-government procurement reforms managed by the Department of Corporate and Information Services (DCIS) and the issuing by DCIS of a new set of Procurement Directions to be managed by all agencies. The review report is to be tabled during the October 2006 Legislative Assembly Sittings.

Procurement of goods and services is an essential support function to the timely delivery of DPIFM's services. In response to the requirements of the new Procurement Directions, DPIFM's Procurement Support Unit has developed an implementation plan to drive the agency's reform agenda and associated change processes to support the effective management of procurement activities.

Further, to promote continuous improvement and minimise risk of failure across procurement processes, DPIFM will undertake an internal review and assessment of procurement practices and processes in 2006–07 to ensure it is positioned to achieve its strategic objectives in an efficient and effective manner.

Refer to the following 'Risk Management' section for further information on other reviews conducted during the reporting period.

## Information Management

The Information Management Division delivers the functions of records management and managing freedom of information (FOI) and privacy in DPIFM. The division acts as the main liaison point with the information technology staff from the Department of Corporate Information and Services (DCIS). The division is also responsible for organising and providing secretariat support to the Information Management Committee.

The division has a focus on improving accountability for information held across DPIFM and ensuring compliance with the Information Act. During the reporting period a strong emphasis was placed on the delivery of training to improve the way in which departmental staff managed records which support the business of DPIFM. This has included delivery of training programs and records audits in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Darwin, as well as presentations to induction courses for new employees and other advice.

A major project continued through 2005–06 to update DPIFM's file titling system and associated disposal schedules that govern the life of departmental records. The progress of this project was a major contributing factor in DPIFM's strong performance in the survey of agencies by the NT Archives Service.

## Compliance with Part 9 of the Information Act

The department is progressing towards compliance with Part 9 of the Information Act. The e-based records management compliance survey conducted by NT Archives

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Service showed the Department had achieved an overall compliance of 92 per cent against the all agency average of 64.9 per cent. DPIFM's particular areas of strength were in Identifying and Capturing Records, which achieved 94.1 per cent compared with an agency average of 66.1 per cent, and the Records Disposal area, which achieved 100 per cent against the agency average of 62.8 per cent.

## Compliance with Section 11 of the Information Act

Information held by DPIFM is identified in [Appendixes](#) on pages 162 to 166. This information may also be found on the department's website, including information about how to lodge applications, at [www.nt.gov.au/dpifm](http://www.nt.gov.au/dpifm)

## Corporate Communications

Marketing and Communications works in partnership with DPIFM's internal clients to provide a strategic, effective, cost efficient and coordinated means of delivering key messages to target audiences. This is achieved through the management of external service providers as well as drawing upon our in-house resources.

With the creation of DPIFM, the marketing and communications team of the former DBIRD was split between the newly created DBERD and DPIFM. The DPIFM Marketing and Communications team was initially housed on the second floor of the Centrepoint building in the city before being moved to the Berrimah Agricultural Laboratory building at Berrimah Farm.

The creation of DPIFM coincided with the introduction of a whole-of-government branding of all agencies. DPIFM became the first agency to adopt the new look and feel and much of the development and implementation work was tested in DPIFM. This focus on the new look-and-feel saw DPIFM become the first agency to have its branding fully integrated across all areas of the department, including the internet. DPIFM's Marketing and Communications team developed a comprehensive style guide for the new look and feel and a policy governing its use.

The unit, working with all of the department's client groups, developed and produced the agency's [show display](#) and managed it at Fred's Pass, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Darwin shows. The display was produced at a much reduced budget but still won second prize for government displays at the Darwin show.

Marketing and Communications researched and coordinated the adoption of a new non-mandatory [corporate uniform](#) for the agency, launched the new uniform with a fashion parade at the Blue Heeler Social Club and created an on-line brochure and ordering system for it.

The Marketing and Communications team produced a wide variety of brochures, advertisements and campaigns for its clients including:

- The new book for the Indigenous Pastoral Program;
- Five major Pastoral Survey books;



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- New Indigenous [Marine Ranger](#) book;
  - All stationery associated with new look and feel;
  - All collateral associated with implementation of the National Livestock Identification Scheme;
  - All collateral associated with review of Fisheries Act;
  - All collateral associated with review of possession limits;
  - Bio security chemical residue brochure in [English](#) and [Vietnamese](#); and
  - [Marine Pest](#) brochures in English, French and German.

The media team also participated in the training exercise [Exercise Eleusis](#) which simulated the response to an outbreak of avian influenza. The team ran the crisis control centre's communications and gained valuable experience in the process and continues to be part of the National Communicators' Network.

Marketing and Communications prepared and implemented the following policies:

- Bereavement notices;
- Non-mandatory corporate uniform;
- Media contacts and interactions;
- Business cards; and
- Use of new look and feel.

The multi-media team of Marketing and Communications worked hard to support the agency being the first in government to apply the new cross agency look and feel to both the internet and intranet. The team migrated all web sites from the old DBIRD livery and instituted a new operating system to reduce costs and time taken to load information. The team instituted a new content management system and trained about 40 officers from throughout the department as content contributors. So successful has the new approach been that it has been adopted by a number of other agencies.

The Marketing and Communications team continues to meet the needs of our client divisions while incorporating many aspects of new and electronic marketing into campaigns and projects undertaken.

As stated in the Performance Reporting section of this report no Customer Satisfaction Survey was undertaken due to the department being newly established. Clients were consulted informally during this period about services and the information was used in shaping the new department.

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## Principle 3: Control Systems

Awareness of business risks and controls, being clear about our roles and responsibilities and knowing the processes and procedures to be followed.

### Compliance and Controls

Having appropriate systems and controls in place is necessary for good governance.

A survey of existing policies for appropriateness, currency and alignment with DPIFMs strategic intent commenced in the reporting period. The following policies were developed and/or updated during the reporting period:

- Complaints Handling;
- Vehicle Management Policy;
- Records – identification and capturing, classifying and titling, planning and implementing records management, disposal, requests for new file, security and access and using the thesaurus;
- Gift Policy;
- Guidelines for Recognising Milestone Achievements Policy;
- Recruitment Policy;
- Exit Questionnaire Policy;
- Corporate credit card;
- Entertainment/hospitality;
- Official home phones;
- Qantas corporate membership;
- Travel;
- Financial and procurement delegations;
- Agency procurement management plan; and
- Corporate uniform.

Much work has also been done to update guideline documents and handbooks to assist staff and ensure sound financial, human resource and other management compliance and control mechanisms are in place and relevant to DPIFM's requirements.

### Policy, Planning and Review (PP&R)

The PP&R group has a lead role in ensuring the establishment of appropriate compliance and control systems and processes. The group assists business areas to identify and conduct required audits, reviews and performance evaluations.

This is achieved through the provision of strategic policy and performance management advice and services across all DPIFM business areas, including the regions.

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The group comprises six distinct areas of responsibility including:

- Ministerial Liaison – coordinating the flow of advice and information between the department and the Minister's office. The unit plays a key role in ensuring the information is accurate and consistent and is provided in a timely manner;
- Policy and Legislation – coordination across the department including the program of statutory review. Advice is also provided across a range of public policy matters and in response to new or emerging policy issues including related indigenous policy. Information on legislative changes which occurred during the reporting period is provided in the Introduction and Overview section of this report;
- In-house legal advice and coordination on areas of law such as civil, contracts, torts, constitutional and commercial matters amongst others;
- Internal investigations – at the direction of the CE coordinates investigations into accidents/incidents and complaints that involve activities administered by the department;
- Performance reviews and tracking of our improvements to support the implementation of DPIFM's performance management framework, improve operating efficiencies and reduce risks associated with matters of corporate governance.

## Risk Management

DPIFM seeks to maintain high standards for the management of risk. Reviews and evaluations undertaken throughout the year have tended to focus on processes and outcomes for the management of identified risks as an element of DPIFM's approach to continuous improvement.

During the year the Board of Management carried out an assessment of strategic business risks to the achievement of stated outcomes. The process was facilitated by the Chief Minister's Department Risk Management Services area and utilised the proprietary Risk Mat® methodology. A plan was developed to mitigate the identified risks and implementation has commenced.

Further risk assessments have also been conducted at program level across the department. The Risk Management and Audit committee monitors progress against the resulting Risk Management Plans and implementation strategies which are developed to treat the identified risks. Elements of the plans are incorporated into operational business plans.

## Reviews

The department has a three-year program of rolling reviews and audits which covers statutory compliance, risk management, audit efficiency and legislative review.

Having this program supports the Government's priority of 'Good Government' and assists DPIFM to focus the department's efforts in better meeting its statutory obligations, helps to demonstrate sound corporate governance and ensure an approach aimed at continually improving the use of the department's resources. The program of reviews is monitored by RMAC and updated biannually.

The following reviews were undertaken during the reporting period:

Review	Objective
Review of DPIFM's organisational structure	Address the organisational needs to enable and support DPIFM in responding to Government's priorities.
Review of the Fisheries Act 1988	Review the current Fisheries Act 1988 to develop a holistic framework for the management of aquatic resources in the Northern Territory and to accommodate areas of indigenous development and the ecologically sustainable development of fisheries resources.
Review of Management of risks relating to man-made shafts (DPIFM & DPI)	Assess the public safety risks associated with man-made shafts in which the NT Government has an interest, and identify appropriate responses.
Review of DPIFM Statutory Boards – the Veterinary Board and the Mining Board	Ensure that Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) Statutory Boards – the Veterinary Board and the Mining Board are operating effectively and effectively.
Review of NT Government Exploration Investment Attraction Initiatives 1999–2007	Provide an objective and comprehensive examination of the impact of programs funded by the NT Government during 1999–2007 in relation to maximising mineral and petroleum exploration interest and investment in the Northern Territory.
Audit of the Schedule of Revenue and Expenditure of the Renewable Remote Power Generation Program Agreement – between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Northern Territory Government	Inline with the Australian Greenhouse Office compliance requirements.

Combined DPIFM and DBERD review of the Northern Territory Seafood Council	Review and evaluate the progress of the Council against its stated core business activities, objectives, key performance indicators, goals and plans to determine if it is operating efficiently and effectively and that the current level of government funding is appropriate.
Review of the Mining Act	Review and reform Mineral Titles legislative requirements.
Review of business processes in Titles Division	Review the business operations of the Minerals and Energy Titles Division to determine the level of resources required for ongoing effective and efficient management of titles and identify any opportunities to streamline Divisional processes to deliver improved services.
Review of the role and operation of the Ministerial Liaison/Coordination unit	To review the role and operation of the Ministerial Liaison/Coordination unit and determine strategies and resources required to achieve current and foreseeable future objectives.
Review of administrations of Fisheries Grants	Review effectiveness of current administrative processes .
Review of the regional management framework arrangements	Review and evaluation of the current framework to assess how it fits with arrangements across the department as a means of increasing efficiency, improving equity and participation and ensuring greater responsiveness to regional matters. Including the role and responsibilities of Regional Directors.
Review of all departmental committees and memberships	As an element of continuous improvement ensure the original purpose for participating still exists, membership level, nominee and frequency of attendance is appropriate.
Review of vehicles use in DPIFM	Investigate the management of vehicles and compliance with DPIFM's policies and FBT legislation.

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## Finance Division

The Finance Division comprises three distinct business units of Budgets Management and Reporting, Financial and Procurement, and Infrastructure and Property Management Services. Collectively, they provide whole-of-agency advice and support to the department's management and program delivery areas in respect of financial management and other support services such as whole-of-agency budget management, financial reporting and analysis, procurement, travel, fleet management, security and facilities and assets management. In 2006–07 following the establishment of DPIFM, the Finance Division was responsible for:

- the separation of financial balances for actuals and budgets for the former Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development into the two new agencies of Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) and the Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development (DBERD);
- restructuring of the agency's ledger and the resultant changes to internal and external financial reports;
- implementation of newly mandated Procurement Directions;
- reviewing and updating travel, corporate credit cards, entertainment and other financial policies;
- participation in whole-of-government initiatives on GAS upgrade, CCC Mandate, Procurement Reform and Taxation training;
- completing a comprehensive strategic review of the agency's fleet vehicle management encompassing fleet and vehicle size, type of vehicles, home garaging policy, compliance log books and usage pattern. This has led to savings in FBT, lease costs, fuel and other operational costs.
- Reviewing and implementing the cessation of DCIS Fixed Asset Register as the primary method of tracking Portable and Attractive Items at an annual notional savings of \$167 000.

Further information is provided in the Financial Statement section of this report.

## Human Resources

The services of DPIFM's Human Resource area cover all aspects of Human Resources management, including:

- Strategic client focused support services;
- People management through delivery of the Strategic People Plan;
- Organisational change initiatives;
- Organisation capability to meet emerging business needs;
- Specialist Human Resources advisory service to management and staff;
- Facilitation of the performance management cycle;
- Project and case management of human resource, industrial relations, workers compensation matters and investigations;

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- Facilitation of early intervention workforce and industrial relations strategies;
  - Ensure appropriate governance standards; and
  - Manage relevant Service Level Agreements (SLA) and service delivery from other agencies.

Detailed information about the department's Human Resource policies and achievements is provided in the Our People section of this report.

## Information Technology Services

The Department of Corporate and Information Services (DCIS) provides a fully managed IT service to DPIFM. This includes overseeing and reporting of services provided by IT service providers, advice on IT contract terms and conditions and advice on the alignment of IT strategy with agencies business strategies in accordance with whole-of-government policies and standards. The Director, Information Technology, reports to the Director, Information Management on matters involving DPIFM.





DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# Our People





# Our People

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DPIFM has a diverse workforce of highly motivated scientists, engineers, researchers, technicians and supporting administration staff stemming from many different cultural backgrounds and covering all age groups.

Staff are dedicated and committed to the delivery of the department's programs and services and upholding the department's values of:

- Dedicated Professionalism
- Passion with Purpose
- Individual Accountability
- Fun and Celebrating Success
- Motivation to Lead

The department has a strong commitment to its people which is supported by the department's Strategic People Plan. The department revised and updated this plan in December 2005. This determines the priority people strategies for 2006 to address corporate training needs, professional development and equal employment opportunities throughout the department. This followed extensive data analysis and an analysis of responses from the annual Human Resource (HR) survey.

Through its various human resources strategies the department has taken an active role to address specific employee needs and to meet whole-of-government human resource management objectives.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Groups**

The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-identifying persons employed in the department has decreased over the past year. The transfer of the Indigenous Business Industry Services group to DBERD, as part of the restructure/creation of DPIFM, was a significant contributor to the decrease in numbers.

Employees are encouraged to provide their EEO details into the MyHR database. MyHR is an online human resource system that allows employees to access their own salary, leave and other personal information via the Intranet.

Identifying yourself as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI), or from a Non-English Speaking Background (NESB), or being a Person With a Disability (PWD), is voluntary. Therefore the data in the table below cannot be guaranteed to accurately reflect the diversity in the agency. The MyHR statistics do, however, indicate that more than 58 per cent (293) of departmental staff have recorded their EEO data. Of this number 8 per cent indicate that they are from an EEO group.

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## **Equity and Diversity**

The department promotes a management and leadership approach to workplace diversity aimed at creating an inclusive environment that values and utilises the contributions of people of different backgrounds and experiences.

DPIFM is committed to promoting flexible work practices and recognises that employees require the flexibility to manage work, life and family commitments. The department has a diversity policy to support this position.

In 2005, DPIFM participated in the Women In Leadership pilot program. Participation was approved by the Board of Management with the diagnostic process to be conducted on the Primary Industry group.

The diagnostic was undertaken by interviewing the Chief Executive, the Executive Director of Primary Industry and those people reporting directly to him, and four focus groups involving staff from Primary Industry consisting of three from Darwin and one from Katherine. Outcomes are under consideration for future directions.

The agency participated in the pilot of compulsory interviews for applicants with disabilities who meet essential job selection criteria as part of the 'Willing and Able' strategy. As such, all applicants registered with Disability WORKS Australia NT who apply for a position with DPIFM and meet the essential selection criteria will receive an interview. Further, the department continued its commitment to the NT Public Sector Project Employment program for people with intellectual and learning disabilities through funding a levy contribution to the program.

As part of its commitment to achieve a more representative number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) workforce, the NTPS is offering cadetships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The aim is to assist them in gaining tertiary qualifications and permanent employment in the NTPS. DPIFM's cadet is Allan Fett, who is studying for a Bachelor of Engineering and is currently in his second year.

In November 2005, the department was nominated for the Commissioner's Awards for Equity and Diversity for its work in establishing and supporting the DPIFM Indigenous Employees Network (IEN). This network was created by the Indigenous employees of the former Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) to support Indigenous employees and employment in the department. The IEN has worked with the department to develop its Indigenous Employment and Employee Development Strategy (IEEDS) and continues to provide a major role within the department to improve Indigenous employment.

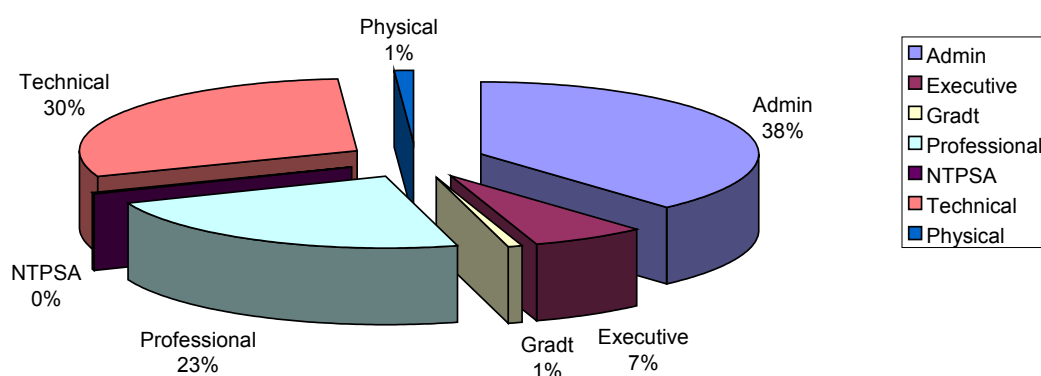
## **Grievances and Appeals**

The department employs an early intervention strategy to address issues of workplace conflict and appeals, advocating mediation and respectful interaction of parties. Where formal processes are employed, matters are attended to in a timely fashion with a strong focus on achieving positive outcomes.

## Staffing Profile

The total number of actual staff in the department as at 30 June 2006 was 507. This is a decrease of 145 on the previous year, due to the establishment/ restructure of the department at the commencement of 2005–06.

**Figure 7 – Staffing Profile as at 30 June 2006**



## Staffing Establishment by Output Group (FTE)

### Output Group 1: Development

Mines and Energy	58
Primary Industry	215
Fisheries	18

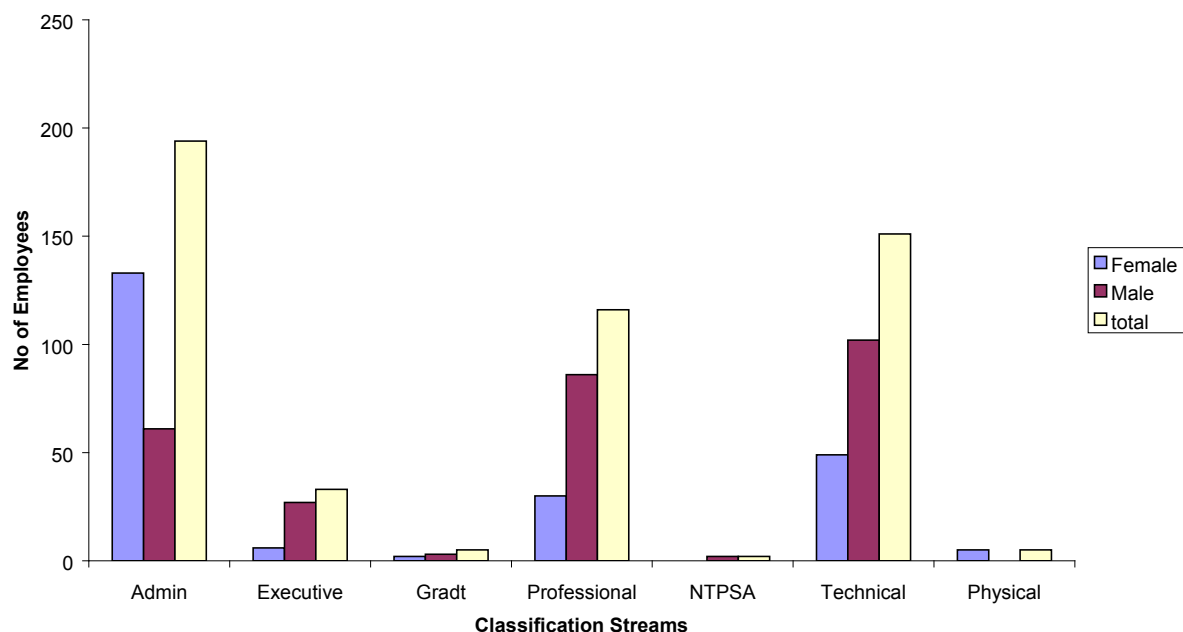
### Output Group 2: Management

Mines and Energy	78
Fisheries	37

**Overhead Staffing** 78

**Total** 484

**Figure 8 – Employment Classification by Gender at 30 June 2006**



## ***Employee Learning***

Total expenditure on formal training activities in 2005–06 was:

HECS	\$ 16,030.32
Training & Development	\$ 386,188.05
Conferences	\$ 161,017.07

These figures show a slight increase in the amount of study assistance provided to staff who were undertaking tertiary studies and an overall increase in training and development activities.

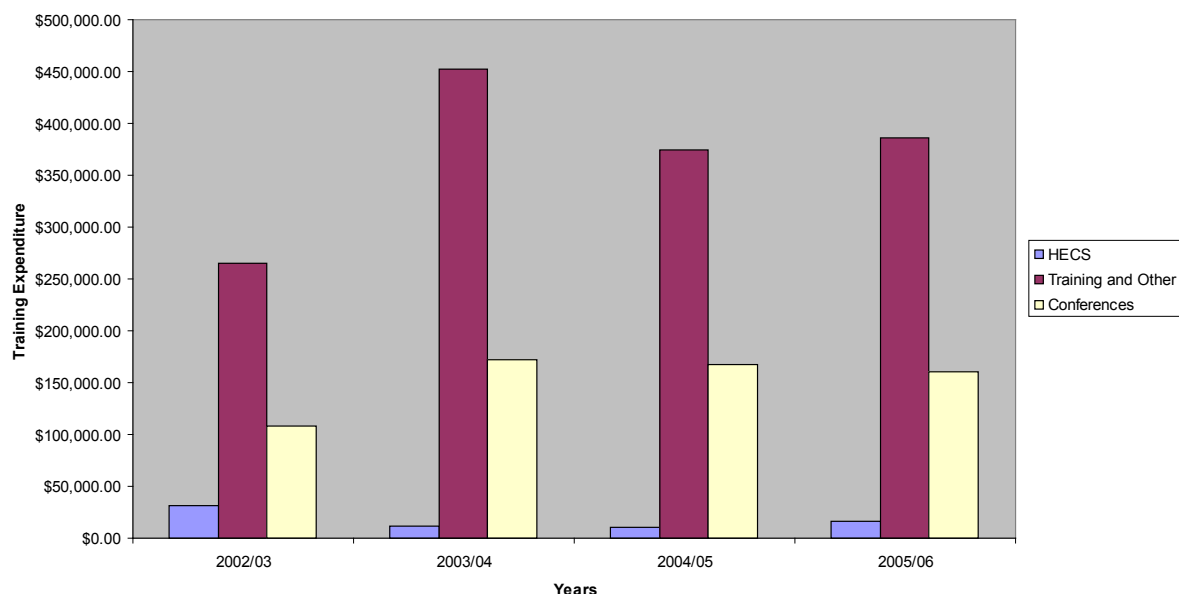
In 2005, the department defined its approach to people development to ensure training and development contributes to our people's ability to achieve government priorities, is linked to our business plans, and helps us produce significant outcomes for the community.

Four employees graduated from the Public Sector Management Program in the 2005–06 year and a further four employees are participating in the current programs.

## **DPIFM Strategic People Plan**

The Strategic People Plan was revised following progress during the past 12 months in developing a flexible, adaptable workforce capable of meeting government priorities and community expectations today and in future.

**Figure 9 – Training Expenditure Comparison**



In endorsing the 2006 plan, the Board of Management agreed on the following priorities for the department:

- Induction
- Succession Planning
- Performance Management
- Leadership Development
- Cultural Competence Program

### ***Induction***

During the reporting period a further 46 employees participated in the department's induction program. Topics covered during the sessions included the role of the department and its business areas, personal career development, the Code of Conduct for employees, OH&S requirements, and procurement procedures.

The program also included options for tours to business sites across the department for new and existing employees.

### ***Succession Planning***

DPIFM has a turnover rate of about 10 per cent of permanent staff, with the overall turnover almost three times that figure. Seventeen per cent of our workforce is currently eligible for retirement. Skill shortages and a declining pool of skilled applicants are being experienced.

To retain and develop our people, a Development Pool has been created with nominations sought from staff at the AO6 equivalent level and above. When a

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lateral transfer opportunity becomes available, each nomination is assessed against a set criteria.

This strategy has had positive impacts on the organisation's culture as well as contributing to succession management and retention improvements. At a program level it improves cross divisional relationships and provides employees with a greater understanding of the issues in the organisation.

Outcomes to date have included improved performance and enhanced employee flexibility, capability, knowledge and preparation for more senior roles.

The department is committed to recruiting and developing graduates as a means to building the capability of the department both now and for the future. This program is one element of workforce planning, supported by the People Plan.

### ***Performance Management***

Management of performance remains a priority for the department and to this end the Achievement Review Process (ARP) has undergone review to ensure it aligns with the Strategic Plan and Business Planning processes and formats. Supportive and educational material designed to guide managers and staff members through the process has assisted in the implementation of the system.

In addition the senior officer and Executive Contract Officer Performance appraisal process has been revised to incorporate references to the department's values and the NTPS Executive Capabilities [DPIFM\\_Values\\_Statement.pdf](#).

### ***Leadership Development***

The department is strongly committed to leadership development and actively supports employee participation in a range of development programs including the Executive Development and Public Sector Management Programs and further supports involvement in specialist supervisory management programs. In addition the department has established a 'Grow Your Own' program to which employees at the AO5 – AO6 and equivalent levels are encouraged to nominate to a development pool. From the pool of nominees, individuals will be selected to undertake and/or participate in whole-of-agency projects and rotational opportunities to build their skills, experience, leadership and managerial capabilities.

### ***Cultural Competence Program***

This strategy was developed to support diversity in DPIFM by providing a range of appropriate information and support initiatives. In this regard the department conducted two general cross-cultural awareness sessions in Darwin in 2005 with 31 employees attending. A program aimed at those who specifically engage in dealing with Indigenous people in communities was also conducted.



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## **Employee Assistance Program**

The department's Employee Assistance Program has been expanded to two providers with an increased focus on using the program's early intervention and management coaching services as well as traditional counselling services. The department will continue to maintain this program in future years to assist employees to meet personal and professional challenges.

### ***Strategies undertaken to address alcohol issues in the NT***

DPIFM has no role in directly addressing alcohol issues in the NT. However, indirectly DPIFM provides assistance to staff who may need help in working through alcohol or other drug related problems through our Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

This is promoted through our:

- Employee and Family Support Policy and regular information sessions;
- Working in DPIFM document, which accompanies all job adverts on the NTG web and mentions our alcohol or other drug support through the EAP; and
- Staff Induction courses.

## **Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S)**

In December 2005 membership of the OH&S steering committee was established. Membership includes DPIFM senior executives and directors of farms and laboratories, chairs of workplace committees, and regional, staff and operational area representatives. The committee has performed a review of several of the previous OH&S policies with three policies being revised and an OH&S audit commenced on all research farms.

### ***Significant Personnel Milestones***

In 2006 the Board of Management approved the 'Guidelines for Recognising Milestone Achievements' whereby employees reaching 10, 20 and 30-year milestones were recognised through the awarding of a certificate or plaque depending on their length of service. A bulk presentation across the department was held in each region, with more than 200 staff being presented with either a certificate or a plaque.

## **Recognition and Rewards**

An employee awards ceremony was held in February 2006. These awards were renamed during the reporting period to become the DPIFM STAR Awards. STAR represents Service, Teamwork, Achievement and Results.

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The aim of the awards scheme is to encourage and acknowledge outstanding performance by individual staff members or teams in their pursuit of the department's objectives. The scheme comprises a main award and two secondary awards.

The main award winner receives an amount of \$4 000 in the case of an individual or \$10 000 in the case of a team. The secondary awards consist of \$2 500 for an individual or \$5 000 for a team. The awards money is to be used towards personal and professional development opportunities, equipment for the group or wellness programs.

One of the secondary awards has been named the Chief Executive's – 'Living our Values' Award – directly linked to the Departmental Values and in recognition of how employees are 'living our values' in their everyday employment. The winner of the inaugural 'living our values' award was Ms Christine McDonough in recognition of her support, enthusiasm and contribution to the success of the Blue Heeler Social Club.

The winner of the 2005 STAR Award was the Top End Secret Roadshow Team. This multi-disciplinary team developed an outstanding program and campaign to drive new exploration investment to the Territory, addressing negative perceptions of land access in the Northern Territory. The Top End Secret Road Show ran in Brisbane, Sydney and Perth, exceeded its attendance objective and increased enquiries to NTGS and Titles by 164 per cent and 49 per cent respectively.

The runner-up to the STAR Awards was the Recreational Fishing Unit and as a team they will receive \$5 000 toward their personal professional development.

## **Other Staff Achievements Recognised (non-exhaustive list):**

Mitchell Beagley, a DPIFM apprentice, was awarded the PITAC (NT) (Primary Industry Training Advisory Council) award for Most Outstanding Student in an Aquaculture Workplace from the Charles Darwin University.

Marissa Wollogorang, a trainee at the Arid Zone Research Institute (AZRI) in Alice Springs, received the Group Training NT's School-based Apprentice of the Year Award for 2005.

Four employees graduated from the Public Service Management Program (PSMP): Dot Close, David Hamilton, Russell Ball and Lorraine Swan. Lorraine also received the PSMP prize for academic excellence.

DPIFM's apprentices for 2005 were awarded the following certificate of qualification:

- Mallery Thorne – Certificate III in Business
- Sarah Reddy – Certificate III in Business
- Christine Rowell (ex DCIS) – Certificate III in Business
- Mitchell Beagley – Certificate II in Seafood Industry (Aquaculture)

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Roger Clifton received the 'best paper' award from 500 entries at the Australian Earth Sciences Convention 2006 in Melbourne for his paper entitled '*Visualising magnetic depths*' .

DPIFM employees who received outstanding students awards from Charles Darwin University's Faculty of Education, Health and Science included:

- Dylan Campbell: the RACI/Degusa Award for Most Outstanding Graduate in Chemistry and the RACI Analytical and Environmental Chemistry Award for Best Student in SCH220 & SCH320.
- Rachel Meldrum: the Menzies School of Health Research Best Achievement in a Research Unit Award.

At the Central Australian Expo 2006 Nanet Pagsanjan (DPIFM) shared a prize with Anna Barry (DBERD) for innovation with their 'Business Café' exhibition.

Dr Rik Buckworth, Charles Bryce and Adrian Donati from Fisheries won a unanimous first prize for their [Genetag](#) hook invention on the ABC Television program *New Inventors*. This team was also recognised at the inaugural NT Research and Innovation Awards.



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# Financial Statement Overview





# Financial Statement Overview

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES FINANCIAL REPORT

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT OVERVIEW

For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### ADMINISTRATIVE RESTRUCTURE – 11 JULY 2005

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) was established as part of an administrative restructure on 11 July 2005 with retrospective effect for accounting purposes from 1 July 2005. Its formation resulted from the former Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) being split into two new agencies: DPIFM and the Department of Business, Economics and Regional Development (DBERD). DPIFM inherited the development and management functions for primary industries, fisheries and mines and energy, while DBERD took on the functions for business and trade, business policy development and coordination and Indigenous business and industry services. The Asian Relations function of DBIRD was transferred to the Department of the Chief Minister (DCM).

The administrative restructure of DBIRD resulted in the redistribution of \$1.39 million in assets and \$1.51 million in liabilities to DBERD, \$4 000 in assets and \$94 000 in liabilities to DCM and \$69.47 million in assets and \$12.22 million in liabilities to DPIFM.

#### DPIFM FINANCIAL STATEMENT OVERVIEW AS AT 30 JUNE 2006

DPIFM's overall operating surplus of \$1.19 million for 2005–06 is an improvement on the budgeted deficit of \$3.13 million, mainly due to under-expenditure of externally funded projects of approximately \$5.25 million, mostly from the Commonwealth Renewable Remote Power Generation Program (RRPGP). The uptake of the 50 per cent rebate on RRPGP depends on the ability of remote power users to match the dollars. The underspending against this program reflects the less-than-anticipated number of rebate applications (unspent balances of externally funded programs are carried over into the next financial year). In addition, estimated revenue received from external funding bodies was also under by approximately \$1.57 million, but was offset by \$300 000 of unspent funds that will be carried forward into 2006–07 relating to the NT Fishing Industry Research and Development Fund and an additional \$400 000 in agency fees and charges over and above estimates.

From an actual perspective the surplus of \$1.19 million was mainly due to \$1.79 million of revenue generated that was not linked to expenditure capacity, additional output appropriation of \$760 000 to replace external cash balances that covered extraordinary expenditure in 2004–05, additional revenue achieved through agency fees and charges and under-expenditure against actual revenue received from external funding bodies, with the majority relating to the RRPGP.

# Certification of the Financial Statements

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES FINANCIAL REPORT

Actual cash position was \$5.40 million above projections due to a combination of the under-expenditure in the Commonwealth RRP GP funds, an increase of \$490 000 in trust funds, and over and above estimates of \$400 000 in agency fees and charges.

Assets increased against budget due to the improved cash position and an increase in receivables relating to accrued revenue. Liabilities also increased against estimates because of higher than anticipated deposits held in the Accountable Officer's Trust Account (AOTA) and Accounts Payable and Unearned Income being higher than projections.

No comparative disclosure is available because the agency was created on 11 July 2005.

	2006 \$'000
<b>Operating Statement</b>	
Total Revenue	73 653
Total Expenses	72 467
<i>Net Operating Surplus</i>	1 186
<b>Key Sources of Revenue</b>	
Grants and Subsidies (External Funding Bodies)	7 671
Output Revenue	51 422
Other Revenue from External Funding Bodies	2 582
Agency Fees and Charges	7 747
Services Received Free of Charge, Notional Revenue only (DCIS & Risk Management Services)	4 207
Profit on the Disposal of Assets	24
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>73 653</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	
Total Assets	76 512
Total Liabilities	13 175
<i>Equity</i>	63 337



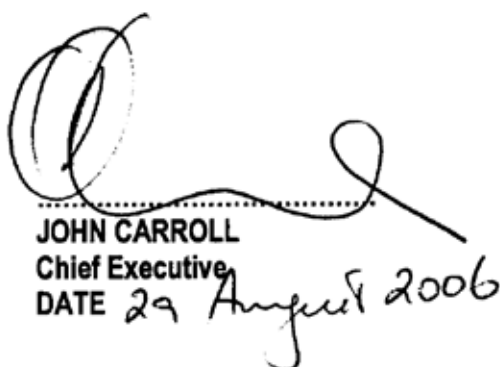
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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

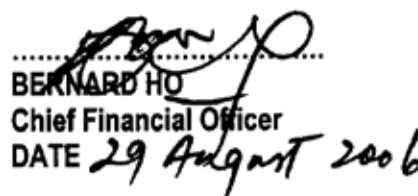
### FINANCIAL REPORT

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines have been prepared from proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2006 and the financial position on that date.



JOHN CARROLL  
Chief Executive  
DATE 29 August 2006



BERNARD HO  
Chief Financial Officer  
DATE 29 August 2006

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## OPERATING STATEMENT For the year ended 30 June 2006

	NOTE	2006 \$'000
<b>INCOME</b>		
<i>Grants and Subsidies Revenue</i>		
Current		1 202
Capital		6 469
Output Revenue		51 422
Sales of Goods and Services	6	7 470
Fees from Regulatory Services	6	424
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	4	4 207
Gain on Disposal of Assets	5	24
Other Income	6	2 435
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	3	<u>73 653</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Employee Expenses		36 441
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>		
Purchases of Goods and Services	7	19 290
Repairs and Maintenance		1 445
Depreciation and Amortisation	10	3 376
Assets Written Off	21	8
Other Administrative Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>		4 268
<i>Grants and Subsidies Expenses</i>		
Current		2 734
Capital		4 905
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	3	<u>72 467</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS</b>	15	<u>1 186</u>

*The Operating Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.*

<sup>1</sup> Includes DCIS service charges.

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2006

	NOTE	2006 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and Deposits	8	9 895
Receivables	9	2 478
Prepayments		139
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		12 512
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, Plant and Equipment	10	64 000
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		64 000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		76 512
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Deposits Held	20	3 387
Payables	11	2 527
Provisions	12	3 768
Unearned Revenue	13	1 335
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		11 017
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Provisions	12	2 158
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		2 158
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		13 175
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		63 337
<b>EQUITY</b>	14	
Capital		72 827
Reserves		2 274
Accumulated Funds		(11 764)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		63 337

*The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.*

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

As at 30 June 2006

	NOTE	2006 \$'000
<b>BALANCE OF EQUITY AT 1 JULY</b>		<u>57 032</u>
<b><i>Capital</i></b>	14	
Balance at 1 July		<u>67 708</u>
Equity Injections		5 081
Equity Withdrawals		(173)
Net Effect of Administrative Restructure		<u>211</u>
Balance at 30 June		72 827
 <b><i>Reserves</i></b>	14	
Balance at 1 July		<u>2 274</u>
Change in Asset Revaluation Reserve		<u>0</u>
Balance at 30 June		2 274
 <b><i>Accumulated Funds</i></b>	14	
Balance at 1 July		<u>(12 950)</u>
Surplus for the Period		<u>1 186</u>
Balance at 30 June		(11 764)
 <b>BALANCE OF EQUITY AT 30 JUNE</b>		<u><b>63 337</b></u>

*This Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.*

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

As at 30 June 2006

	NOTE	2006 (Outflows)/Inflows
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<i>Operating Receipts</i>		
<i>Grants and Subsidies Received</i>		
Current		1 202
Capital		6 469
Output Revenue Received		51 422
Receipts from Sales of Goods and Services		11 957
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>		<b>71 050</b>
<i>Operating Payments</i>		
Payments to Employees		(36 470)
Payments for Goods and Services		(22 792)
<i>Grants and Subsidies Paid</i>		
Current		(2 734)
Capital		(4 905)
<b>Total Operating Payments</b>		<b>(66 901)</b>
<b>Net Cash from Operating Activities</b>	15	<b>4 149</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<i>Investing Payments</i>		
Purchases of Assets	10	(339)
<b>Total Investing Payments</b>		<b>(339)</b>
<b>Net Cash from Investing Activities</b>		<b>(339)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<i>Financing Receipts</i>		
Deposits Received	20	495
<i>Equity Injections</i>		
Capital Appropriation	14	375
Other Equity Injections	14	4 000
<b>Total Financing Receipts</b>		<b>4 870</b>
<b>Net Cash from Financing Activities</b>		<b>4 870</b>
Net Increase in Cash Held		8 680
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		1 215
<b>CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	8	<b>9 895</b>

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

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# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

### INDEX OF NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Objectives and Funding
2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies
3. Operating Statement by Output Group

#### **INCOME**

4. Goods and Services Received Free of Charge
5. Gain on Disposal of Assets
6. Sale of Goods and Services and Other Income

#### **EXPENSES**

7. Purchases of Goods and Services

#### **ASSETS**

8. Cash and Deposits
9. Receivables
10. Property, Plant and Equipment

#### **LIABILITIES**

11. Payables
12. Provisions
13. Other Liabilities

#### **EQUITY**

14. Equity

#### **OTHER DISCLOSURES**

15. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
16. Financial Instruments
17. Commitments
18. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
19. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
20. Accountable Officer's Trust Account
21. Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers
22. Schedule of Territory Items
23. Impact of Adopting Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
24. Grants and Subsidies

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# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

### 1. OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines has a critical role in supporting a strong, vibrant and growing Northern Territory economy. To this end the department's key functional responsibilities are to facilitate the optimal use of the fisheries, primary industries, mines and energy resources in the Northern Territory through facilitating industry development, ensuring appropriate regulatory frameworks are in place, encouraging participation of Indigenous and regional Territorians and providing quality information. In addition, the department provides a wide range of research and industry support programs coupled with financial support to resource-based industry organisations in the Territory.

The department's budget capacity is predominantly funded by Parliamentary appropriations with the balance being sourced from the agency's own revenue base. In 2005–06, approximately \$10.3 million was generated from external corporations and Commonwealth and State agencies while approximately \$7.7 million was raised through fees and charges, of which approximately \$1.66 million was not linked to budget capacity.

Agency **Output Groups**/Outputs are as follows—

#### **Resource Industry Development**

- Mines and Energy
- Primary Industry
- Fisheries

#### **Resource Industry Management**

- Mines and Energy
- Fisheries

Further details on performance and expenditure against these can be found on pages 40 to 63.

### 2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and related Treasurer's Directions. The *Financial Management Act* requires the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of agency financial statements is to include:

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

- (i) a Certification of the Financial Statements;
- (ii) an Operating Statement;
- (iii) a Balance Sheet;
- (iv) a Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) a Cash Flow Statement; and
- (vi) applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

The form of agency financial statements is consistent with the accrual budget format and the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, including AASB 101, AASB 107 and AAS 29. The format also requires additional disclosures specific to Territory Government entities.

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, all intra-agency transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Except where stated, the financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

This is the first financial report for the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines following the adoption of Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The adoption of Australian equivalents to IFRS has resulted in minor adjustments to the agency's financial statements. Further information in relation to the agency's adoption of Australian equivalents to IFRS may be found in note 23 – Impact of Adopting Australian Equivalents to IFRS.

#### **(b) Agency and Territory Items**

The financial statements of the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines include income, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity (agency items) over which the department has control. Certain items, while managed by the agency, are controlled and recorded by the Territory Government rather than the agency (Territory items). Territory items are recognised and recorded in the Central Holding Authority as discussed below.

#### **Central Holding Authority**

The Central Holding Authority is the 'parent body' that represents this Government's ownership interest in government-controlled entities.



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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

The Central Holding Authority also records all Territory items, such as income, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled by the Government and managed by agencies on behalf of the Government. The main Territory item is Territory income, which includes taxation and royalty revenue, Commonwealth general purpose funding (such as GST revenue), fines, and statutory fees and charges.

The Central Holding Authority also holds certain Territory assets not assigned to agencies as well as certain Territory Government liabilities that are not practical or effective to assign to individual agencies such as unfunded superannuation and long service leave.

The Central Holding Authority recognises and records all Territory items, and as such, these items are not included in the agency's financial statements. However, as the agency is accountable for certain Territory items managed on behalf of this Government, these items have been separately disclosed in note 22 – Schedule of Territory Items.

#### **(c) Comparatives**

As discussed in note 2(r), the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines was established as a result of the administrative restructure of 11 July 2005. As a new entity, the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines is not required to provide comparative financial disclosures for the 2004–05 financial year in this financial report.

#### **(d) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts**

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero.

#### **(e) Establishment of Accounting Policies**

Following the establishment of the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines as a result of the administrative restructure of 11 July 2005, the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines has established accounting policies as required by Treasurer's Directions. These policies are materially consistent with the policies adopted by the agencies previously responsible for functions and outputs now undertaken by the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines. Refer also to note 2(r).

#### **(f) Goods and Services Tax**

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Balance Sheet.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

#### **(g) Income Recognition**

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of GST. Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

#### **Output Revenue**

Output revenue represents government funding for agency operations and is calculated as the net cost of agency outputs after taking into account funding from agency income. The net cost of agency outputs for Output Appropriation purposes does not include any allowance for major non-cash costs such as depreciation.

Revenue in respect of this funding is recognised in the period in which the agency gains control of the funds.

#### **Grants and Other Contributions**

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the agency obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

#### **Sale of Goods**

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when control of the goods passes to the customer and specified conditions associated with the sale have been satisfied.

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### ***Rendering of Services***

Revenue from rendering services is recognised on a stage of completion basis.

#### ***Disposal of Assets***

A gain or loss on disposal of assets is included as a gain or loss on the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal. Refer also to note 5.

#### ***Contributions of Assets***

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non-reciprocal transfers, are recognised, unless otherwise determined by this Government, as gains when the agency obtains control of the asset or contribution. Contributions are recognised at the fair value received or receivable.

#### **(h) Repairs and Maintenance Expenses**

Funding is received for repairs and maintenance works associated with agency assets as part of Output Revenue. Costs associated with repairs and maintenance works on agency assets are expensed as incurred.

#### **(i) Cash and Deposits**

For the purposes of the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash. Cash at bank includes monies held in the Accountable Officer's Trust Account (AOTA) that are ultimately payable to the beneficial owner – refer also to note 20.

#### **(j) Receivables**

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for uncollectable amounts. The collectability of receivables is reviewed regularly, and part of this process is to assess, at reporting date, whether an allowance for doubtful debts is required.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 90 days.

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### (k) Property, Plant and Equipment

##### ***Acquisitions***

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$5000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$5000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

The construction cost of property, plant and equipment includes the cost of materials and direct labour, and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

##### ***Complex Assets***

Major items of plant and equipment comprising a number of components that have different useful lives, are accounted for as separate assets. The components may be replaced during the useful life of the complex asset.

##### ***Subsequent Additional Costs***

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the agency in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their expected useful lives.

##### ***Construction (Work in Progress)***

As part of *Working for Outcomes*, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole of government basis. Therefore, appropriation for all Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines capital works is provided directly to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and the cost of construction work in progress is recognised as an asset of that department. Once completed, capital works assets are transferred to the agency.

##### ***Revaluations***

Subsequent to initial recognition, assets belonging to the following classes of non-current assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of these assets does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date:

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

- Land
- Buildings
- Cultural Assets
- Self-generating and regenerating assets (fingerlings).

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arms-length transaction. Other classes of non-current assets are not subject to revaluation and are measured at cost.

#### ***Depreciation and Amortisation***

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated or amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

Amortisation applies in relation to intangible non-current assets with limited useful lives and is calculated and accounted for in a similar manner to depreciation.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are determined as follows:

	2006
Buildings	50 Years
Plant and Equipment – Major Items include Farm Machinery, Scientific Equipment and Vessels	10 Years
Cultural Assets	100 Years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

#### ***Impairment of Assets***

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Non-current physical and intangible agency assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of impairment exists, the agency determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

cost and fair value, less costs to sell. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Operating Statement unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the Asset Revaluation Reserve for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Operating Statement as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the Asset Revaluation Reserve. Note 14 provides additional information in relation to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

#### **(l) Operating Leases**

Operating lease payments made at regular intervals throughout the term are expensed when the payments are due, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

#### **(m) Payables**

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the agency. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

#### **(n) Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within 12 months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid. Non-current employee benefit liabilities that fall due after 12 months of the reporting date are measured at present value, calculated using the government long-term bond rate.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

Employee benefit expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- Wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements;
- Other types of employee benefits.

As part of the introduction of Working for Outcomes, the Central Holding Authority assumed the long service leave liabilities of government agencies, including the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines, and, as such, no long service leave liability is recognised in agency financial statements.

#### (o) Superannuation

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the:

- Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS);
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS); or
- Non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The agency makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees to the Central Holding Authority or non-government employee nominated schemes. Superannuation liabilities related to government superannuation schemes are held by the Central Holding Authority and, as such, are not recognised in agency financial statements.

#### (p) Contributions by and Distributions to Government

The Agency may receive contributions from government where the government is acting as owner of the agency. Conversely, the agency may make distributions to government. In accordance with the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions, certain types of contributions and distributions, including those relating to administrative restructures, have been designated as contributions by, and distributions to, government. These designated contributions and distributions are treated by the agency as adjustments to equity.

The Statement of Changes in Equity and note 14 provide additional information in relation to contributions by, and distributions to, government.

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### **(q) Commitments**

Disclosures in relation to capital and other commitments, including lease commitments, are shown at note 17 and are consistent with the requirements contained in AASB 101, AASB 117 and AAS 29.

Commitments are those contracted as at 30 June where the amount of the future commitment can be reliably measured.

#### **(r) Administrative Restructure**

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM) was established following the administrative restructure of 11 July 2005. Its formation followed the former Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development becoming defunct through the restructure into two new agencies, DPIFM and the Department of Business, Economics and Regional Development (DBERD). DPIFM inherited the development and management functions for primary industries, fisheries and mines and energy across the Northern Territory while DBERD took on the functions for business and trade, business policy development and coordination and Indigenous business and industry services.

The financial effect of the restructure resulted in the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines recognising \$69.47 million of assets and \$12.22 million of liabilities for functions assumed and derecognising \$1.40 million of assets and \$1.61 million in liabilities for functions relinquished to DBERD and DCM.

In accordance with Treasurer's Directions, the recognition of net assets was treated as an equity adjustment as shown in the Statement of Changes in Equity and related note disclosures.



# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 3. OPERATING STATEMENT BY OUTPUT GROUP As at 30 June 2006

	Note	Resource Industry Development	Resource Industry Management	Total
		2006 \$'000	2006 \$'000	2006 \$'000
<b>INCOME</b>				
<i>Grants and Subsidies Revenue</i>				
Current Capital		1 194	8	1 202
Output Revenue		6 469	-	6 469
Sales of Goods and Services	6	41 442	9 980	51 422
Fees from Regulatory Services	6	3 937	3 533	7 470
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	4	124	300	424
Gain on Disposal of Assets	5	3 029	1 178	4 207
Other Income	6	17	7	24
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>58 008</b>	<b>15 645</b>	<b>73 653</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Employee Expenses		26 593	9 848	36 441
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>				
Purchases of Goods and Services	7	15 533	3 757	19 290
Repairs and Maintenance	10	1 398	47	1 445
Depreciation and Amortisation		3 122	254	3 376
Assets Written Off				
Other Administrative Expenses <sup>(1)</sup>	21	7	1	8
<i>Grants and Subsidies Expenses</i>				
Current Capital		3 086	1 182	4 268
		1 924	810	2 734
		4 905	-	4 905
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>56 568</b>	<b>15 899</b>	<b>72 467</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	15	<b>1 440</b>	<b>(254)</b>	<b>1 186</b>

This Operating Statement by Output Group is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

<sup>1</sup> Includes DCIS service charges.

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

	2006 \$'000
<b>4. GOODS AND SERVICES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE</b>	
Corporate and Information Services	4 135
Internal Audits and Reviews	72
	<u>4 207</u>
<b>5. GAIN ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS</b>	
Sale of Minor Assets	3
Value of Assets bought to Account	21
	<u>24</u>
<b>6. SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES AND OTHER INCOME</b>	
The net surplus has been arrived at after crediting the following income:	
<b>Sale of Goods and Services</b>	
Research Farms (sale of livestock and produce)	1 060
Water Analysis Testing	1 025
Livestock and Export Diagnostic Testing	279
Sale of Fingerlings	824
Offshore Petroleum Rents	1 100
One-Off Dealing Fees Offshore	1 511
Application and Advertising Fees – Titles Management – Mines	360
Australian Fisheries Management Authority	388
Other Goods and Services charges	923
	<u>7 470</u>
<b>Fees from Regulatory Services</b>	
Fishing Licence Fees	406
Veterinary Licence Fees	18
	<u>424</u>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Funding from external organisations.	1 949
Other	486
	<u>2 435</u>

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

2006

\$'000

#### 7. PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES

The net surplus has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:

##### Goods and Services Expenses:

Consultants <sup>(1)</sup>	1 096
Advertising <sup>(2)</sup>	170
Marketing and Promotion <sup>(3)</sup>	183
Document Production	269
Legal Expenses <sup>(4)</sup>	604
Recruitment <sup>(5)</sup>	150
Training and Study	567
Official Duty Fares	661
Travelling Allowance	481
Other Operating Expenses	15 109
	<hr/>
	19 290

1) Includes marketing, promotion and IT consultants.

2) Does not include recruitment advertising or marketing and promotion advertising.

3) Includes advertising for marketing and promotion but excludes marketing and promotion consultants' expenses, which are incorporated in the consultants' category.

4) Includes legal fees, claim and settlement costs.

5) Includes recruitment-related advertising costs.

#### 8. CASH AND DEPOSITS

Cash on Hand	18
Cash at Bank	9 877
	<hr/>
	9 895

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### 9. RECEIVABLES

##### Current

Accounts Receivable	1 324
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Receivable	(110 )
	<u>1 214</u>
GST Receivables	266
Accrued Revenue	998
	<u>1 264</u>
Total Receivables	<u>2 478</u>

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**DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****As at 30 June 2006**

	<b>2006 \$'000</b>
<b>10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>	
<b>Land</b>	
At Fair Value	<b>15 008</b>
<b>Buildings</b>	
At Fair Value	111 332
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(64 730)
	<b>46 602</b>
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	
At Cost	4 850
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(3 259)
	<b>1 591</b>
<b>Computer Software</b>	
At Fair Value	392
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(320)
	<b>72</b>
<b>Computer Hardware</b>	
At Fair Value	322
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(224)
	<b>98</b>
<b>Transport Equipment</b>	
At Fair Value	2 594
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(2036)
	<b>558</b>
<b>Heritage and Cultural Assets</b>	
At Fair Value	60
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(11)
	<b>49</b>
<b>Biological Assets</b>	
At Fair Value	22
	<b>22</b>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>64 000</b>

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

### 10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

#### Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2005–06 is set out below:

	Land	Buildings	Plant and Equipment	Computer Software	Computer Hardware	Transport Equipment	Heritage & Cultural Assets	Biological Assets	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Carrying amount as at 1 July 2005</b>	<b>15 008</b>	<b>48 912</b>	<b>1 679</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>66 717</b>
Additions		40	234		22	44			340
Depreciation and Amortisation		(2 784)	(282)	(129)	(41)	(139)	(1)		(3 376)
(Disposals) from Administrative Restructuring		(22)	(117)		(86)				(225)
Additions/(Disposals) from Asset Transfers		456	77		12	(1)			544
<b>Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2006</b>	<b>15 008</b>	<b>46 602</b>	<b>1 591</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>64 000</b>

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

	2006 \$'000
<b>11. PAYABLES</b>	
Accounts Payable	1 092
Accrued Expenses	1 207
Payroll Tax	153
FBT	75
	<u>2 527</u>
<b>12. PROVISIONS</b>	
<b>Current</b>	
<i>Employee Benefits</i>	
Recreation Leave	3 037
Leave Loading	505
On Costs	226
	<u>3 768</u>
<b>Non-Current</b>	
<i>Employee Benefits</i>	
Recreation Leave	2 029
On Costs	129
	<u>2 158</u>
<b>Total Provisions</b>	<u><b>5 926</b></u>
<p>The agency was created on 11 July 2005 and employed 507 actual staff as at 30 June 2006.</p>	
<b>13. OTHER LIABILITIES</b>	
<b>Current</b>	
Unearned Revenue	1 335
	<u><b>1335</b></u>

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

2006  
\$'000

#### 14. EQUITY

Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of DPIFM. This Government's ownership interest in DPIFM is held in the Central Holding Authority as described in note 2(b).

##### Capital

<b>Balance as at 1 July</b>	<b>67 708</b>
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##### *Equity Injections*

Capital Appropriation	4 375
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Equity Transfers In	706
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##### *Equity Withdrawals*

Capital Withdrawal	0
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Equity Transfers Out	(173)
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Net Effect of Administrative Restructure	211
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<b>Balance as at 30 June</b>	<b>72 827</b>
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##### Reserves

##### Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets. Impairment adjustments may also be recognised in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

<b>Balance as at 1 July</b>	<b>2 274</b>
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Balance as at 30 June	2 274
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##### Accumulated Funds

<b>Balance as at 1 July</b>	<b>(12 950)</b>
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Surplus for the Period	1 186
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<b>Balance as at 30 June</b>	<b>(11 764)</b>
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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### 15. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

##### Reconciliation of Cash

The total of Agency Cash and Deposits of \$9.895 million recorded in the Balance Sheet is consistent with that recorded as 'cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.

##### Reconciliation of Net Surplus/(Deficit) to Net Cash From Operating Activities

<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>1 186</b>
(Profit)/loss on disposal of non-current assets	(21)
<i>Non-Cash Items:</i>	
Depreciation and Amortisation	3 376
Asset Write-Offs/Write-Downs	8
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</i>	
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	(862)
(Decrease)/Increase in Payables	806
(Decrease)/Increase in Provision for Employee Benefits	39
(Decrease)/Increase in Other Provisions	(174)
(Decrease)/Increase in Deferred Income	(209)
<b>Net Cash From Operating Activities</b>	<b>4 149</b>

#### 16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments held by the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines include cash and deposits, receivables and payables. The department has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

##### (a) Credit Risk

The agency has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default). In respect of any dealings with organisations external to government, the agency has adopted a policy of only dealing with credit-worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the agency's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

### (b) *Net Fair Value*

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements approximates their respective net fair values. Where differences exist, these are not material.

### (c) *Interest Rate Risk*

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines is not exposed to interest rate risk because agency financial assets and financial liabilities are non-interest bearing. Finance lease arrangements are established on a fixed interest rate and, as such, do not expose the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines to interest rate risk. The exposure to interest rate risk and the average interest rate for classes of financial assets and financial liabilities are set out in the following tables.

The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balance at the start of the year.

#### Fixed Interest Maturity

	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Variable Interest \$'000	Under 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 <sup>(a)</sup> years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000	Non- Interest Bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>2006 Financial Assets</b>							
Cash and Deposits						9 895	9 895
Receivables						1 480	1 480
Accrued Income						998	998
<b>Total Financial Assets:</b>						<b>12 373</b>	<b>12 373</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>							
Deposits Held						3 387	3 387
Payables						1 092	1 092
Unearned Revenue						1 335	1 335
Accrued Expenses						1 207	1 207
<b>Total Financial Liabilities:</b>						<b>7 021</b>	<b>7 021</b>
<b>Net Financial Assets:</b>						<b>5 352</b>	<b>5 352</b>

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### 17. COMMITMENTS

2006

\$'000

##### (i) Capital Expenditure Commitments

Capital expenditure commitments primarily relate to the construction of buildings and capital equipment. Capital expenditure commitments contracted for at balance date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	90
	<u>90</u>

##### (ii) Other Expenditure Commitments

Other non-cancellable expenditure commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	203
Later than one year and not later than five years	—
Later than five years	—
	<u>203</u>

##### (iii) Operating Lease Commitments

The agency leases property under non-cancellable operating leases expiring from one to five years. Leases generally provide the agency with a right of renewal at which time all lease terms are renegotiated. The agency also leases items of plant and equipment under non-cancellable operating leases. Future operating lease commitments, to NT Fleet, an inter-governmental agency, not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	1 529
Later than one year and not later than five years	1 306
Later than five years	7
	<u>2 842</u>

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### 18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

No contingent liabilities or contingent assets existed at balance date.

#### 19. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to, or disclosure in these financial statements.

#### 20. ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER'S TRUST ACCOUNT

In accordance with section 7 of the *Financial Management Act*, an Accountable Officer's Trust Account has been established for the receipt of money to be held in trust. A summary of activity is shown below:

Nature of Trust Money	Opening Balance 1 July 2005	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance 30 June 2006
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Aboriginal Land Rents	668	1 322	1 352	638
Compensation Liabilities	477	108		585
Cash Securities	1 452	634	283	1 803
Employee Award Scheme	24	19	10	33
Unclaimed money	32	13	11	34
BTEC	180			180
NT Seafood Council Levy	59	180	125	114
	<b>2 892</b>	<b>2 276</b>	<b>1 781</b>	<b>3 387</b>

# DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

### 21. WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS

	Agency		Territory Items	
	2006 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2006 \$'000	No. of Trans.
<b>Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers Under the <i>Financial Management Act</i></b>				
Represented by: Amounts written off, waived and postponed by delegates				
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or an agency written off	1	2	1	16
Public property written off	8	3		
<b>Total written off, waived and postponed by Delegates</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### 22. SCHEDULE OF TERRITORY ITEMS

The following Territory items are managed by DPIFM on behalf of this Government and are recorded in the Central Holding Authority (refer note 2(b)).

##### TERRITORY INCOME AND EXPENSES

<i>Income</i>	2006 \$'000
<b>Sale of Goods and Services</b>	
Fees from Regulatory Services	1 210
Royalties and Rents	1 073
Other Income	35
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2 318</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Central Holding Authority Income Transferred	2 318
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2 318</b>
<b>Territory Income less Expenses</b>	<b>0</b>

##### TERRITORY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

<b>Assets</b>	
Other Receivables	3 120
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>3 120</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Unearned CHA Income	3 120
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3 120</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>0</b>

*The adoption of Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) did not result in any adjustments to Territory items managed by the agency on behalf of this Government.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 30 June 2006

#### 23. IMPACT OF ADOPTING AUSTRALIAN EQUIVALENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (IFRS)

As discussed at note 2(a), this is the first financial report prepared following the adoption of Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The transition to IFRS has only resulted in minor adjustments to the agency's financial performance and financial position. The agency's cash flows were not impacted. As the agency was only established on 11 July 2005, compliance with AASB1 to adjust 1 July opening balances and 2004–05 comparative financial information is not relevant.

*Specific adjustments were made as follows:*

Previously agency employee benefit liabilities were all disclosed as current. Following the adoption of IFRS, employee benefit liabilities that are not expected to be paid within 12 months are now recognised as non-current liabilities. As a result of this change, \$2 million of recreation leave liabilities, which would otherwise be classified as current liabilities, have been reclassified to non-current as at 30 June 2006.

**2006**

**\$'000**

#### 24. GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES

##### **Current Grants**

Grants	2 734
--------	-------

##### **Capital Grants**

Grants	169
--------	-----

Rebates	4 736
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4 905
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DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, FISHERIES AND MINES

# Appendixes



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## DPIFM'S 3-YEAR ROLLING REVIEW PROGRAM

<b>Efficiency Reviews</b> (three year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)	<b>Legislative Reviews</b> (ten year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)
<b>Jan 2006/07</b>  Statutory Compliance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinarians Act and Regs</li> <li>• Energy Pipelines and Regs</li> <li>• Meat Industries Act</li> <li>• Merlin Project Agreement Ratification Act</li> </ul> Compliance and Audits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Delegations</li> <li>• Procurement Audit for payments between \$3-10K</li> </ul> HR Compliance and Audit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HR Delegations</li> </ul>	Corporate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretariat</li> <li>• Policy Planning and Review</li> <li>• Grants Review</li> </ul> Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwin Aquaculture Centre</li> </ul> Mines and Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building the Territory's Resource Base</li> <li>• Titles</li> </ul> Primary Industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratories</li> <li>• Research and Demonstration Farms</li> <li>• Emergency Plan Pest Response Deed</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mining legislation (develop report to Cabinet and drafting instructions for new Act)</li> <li>• Gas Pipeline Access (NT) Act – on-going national review of mirror legislation.</li> <li>• Fisheries                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Fisheries Act 1988</li> <li>• Ongoing review of individual Fishery Management Plans</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## DPIFM'S 3-YEAR ROLLING REVIEW PROGRAM

<b>Efficiency Reviews</b> (three year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)	<b>Legislative Reviews</b> (ten year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)
<b>Jan 2007/08</b>  <i>Statutory Compliance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Plant Health Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Livestock Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Gas Pipelines Access (NT) Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Mining Act (New)</i></li> <li>• <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Northern Territory) Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Gene Technology Act 2004</i></li> </ul> <i>Compliance and Audit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance with procurement guidelines</li> <li>• Petty cash handling procedures and compliance with current procedures</li> </ul> <i>HR Compliance and Audit</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond to emerging issues, such as cyclones</li> </ul>	<div> <i>Corporate/HR</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to respond to emergency issues: ie Cyclones</li> </ul> <i>Fisheries</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to respond to emergency issues ie Pests</li> </ul> <i>Mines and Energy</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Titles resources as per outcome from Govt's Priorities Review commence Feb 2008</li> <li>• Ability to respond to emergency issues</li> </ul> <i>Primary Industry</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to respond to emergency issues</li> </ul> </div> <div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement <i>Mining Act</i> outcomes</li> <li>• Fisheries legislation review (continued)</li> <li>• Implement application legislation to introduce the new <i>Gas Access Pipeline Act</i></li> </ul> </div>

## DPIFM'S 3-YEAR ROLLING REVIEW PROGRAM

<b>Efficiency Reviews</b> (three year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)	<b>Legislative Reviews</b> (ten year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)
<b>Jan 2008/09</b>	
<b>Statutory Compliance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reassessment of NT fisheries under EPBC Act via reporting to DEH</li> <li>• <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 2004</i></li> <li>• <i>Biological Control Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Mcarthur River Project Agreement Ratification Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Validation (Mineral Tenements) Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Minerals Acquisition Act</i></li> <li>• New Fisheries legislation (inc Fishery Management Plans)</li> </ul> <b>Compliance and Audits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPIFM's People Plan</li> </ul>	<div> <div> <b>Corporate Fisheries Mines and Energy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of security bonding processes (eg perpetuity bonding)</li> <li>• Review monitoring process</li> <li>• Review of policies and procedures</li> <li>• Review procedures and processes under <i>ALR(NT) Act</i></li> <li>• Review mining and petroleum compliance protocols</li> </ul> </div> <div> <b>Primary Industry</b> </div> </div> <div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mining Management Act</i></li> <li>• <i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i></li> </ul> </div>

## DPIFM'S 3-YEAR ROLLING REVIEW PROGRAM

<b>Efficiency Reviews</b> (three year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)	<b>Legislative Reviews</b> (ten year rolling reviews developed in consultation with Group Heads)
<b>Jan 2009/11</b>	
<i>Statutory Compliance</i> <i>Tanami Exploration Agreement Ratification Act 2004</i> <i>Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i> <i>Statutory Compliance</i> <i>Petroleum Act (following review)</i>	<div> <div> <i>Corporate</i>  <i>Fisheries</i>  <i>Mines and Energy</i>  <i>Primary Industry</i> </div> <div> <i>Corporate</i>  <i>Fisheries</i>  <i>Mines and Energy</i>  <i>Primary Industry</i> </div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Petroleum Act</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2

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### **NT GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PUBLICATIONS, MAPS AND DISPLAYS 2005–06**

- Ambrose GJ, 2006. Northern Territory of Australia, onshore hydrocarbon potential, 2006. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record* 2006-003.
- Cross A, Claoué-Long JC, Scrimgeour IR, Ahmad M and Kruse PD, 2005. Summary of results. Joint NTGS-GA geochronology project: Rum Jungle, eastern Arunta Region and basement to southern Georgina Basin 2001–2003. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record* 2005–006.
- Cutovinos A, Beier PR, Kruse PD, Abbott ST, Dunster JN and Brescianini RF, 2002. *Limbunya, Northern Territory (Second Edition). 1:250 000 geological map series explanatory notes, SE 52-07*. Northern Territory Geological Survey, Darwin and Alice Springs (CD ROM version).
- Doyle N, Ahmad M and Ferenczi PA, 2006. Pine Creek Drilling Report 2004. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record* 2006–001.
- Edgoose CJ and Flottmann T, 2005. Central Australian Basins Symposium 2005. Amadeus Basin excursion guide. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record* 2005–05.
- Ferenczi PA and Sweet IP, 2005. *Mount Evelyn, Northern Territory. 1:250 000 geological map series explanatory notes, SD 53–05*. Northern Territory Geological Survey, Darwin and Alice Springs.
- Frater KM, 2005. Tin-tantalum pegmatite mineralisation of the Northern Territory. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Report* 16.
- Hussey KJ, Huston DL and Claoué-Long JC, 2005. Geology and origin of some Cu-Pb-Zn (-Au-Ag) deposits in the Strangways Metamorphic Complex, Arunta Region, Northern Territory. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Report* 17.
- Northern Territory Geological Survey, 2005 (editors). *Symposium handbook. Central Australian Basins Symposium: Petroleum and minerals potential. Alice Springs, 16–18 August 2005*, 10.
- Northern Territory Geological Survey, 2006. Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) 2006. Record of abstracts. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record* 2006–002.
- Northern Territory Geological Survey. Geoscience maps in PDF. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Digital Information Package, DIP* 004 (MAR 06 update).
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Rawlings DJ, 2006. *Robinson River, Northern Territory (Second Edition). 1:250 000 geological map series explanatory notes, SE 53-04*. Northern Territory Geological Survey, Darwin.

Robertson IDM, Craig MA and Anand RR, 2006. *Atlas of regolith materials of the Northern Territory*. Open File Report 196, Cooperative Research Centre for Landscape Environments and Mineral Exploration, Perth, Australia (CD ROM version).

Thompson RB, 1995. *A guide to the geology and landforms of central Australia*. Northern Territory Geological Survey, Darwin and Alice Springs (CD ROM version).

Warburton J, Murray T and Marshall T. Importance of fault seal and strategic assessment of future petroleum exploration potential of the Amadeus Basin. A collaborative evaluation by the Northern Territory Geological Survey, FaultSeal Pty Ltd and Executive Insight Pty Ltd, version 2, May 2005. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record 2005–004*.

## **EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS WITH NTGS AUTHORS (in bold)**

**Ahmad M** and **Wygralak AS**, 2006. Some aspects of metallogenesis in the Pine Creek Orogen, Northern Territory: in Lyons P and Huston DL (editors). *'Evolution and metallogenesis of the North Australian Craton, Conference abstracts.'* *Geoscience Australia, Record 2006/16*, 57–58.

**Ambrose GJ**, 2005. The onshore petroleum potential of Northern Territory basins. *'The 2005 APPEA Conference, Perth, 10–13 April 2005, Abstracts Volume.'* *The APPEA Journal* 45(1), 11.

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## **TERRITORY WIDE MAPS (1:2 500 000 SCALE)**

- NT Geology Map
- NT Radiometric Map
- NT Gravity Map
- NT Regolith Map (1st Edition)

## **1:250 000 GEOLOGICAL SERIES**

- Avon Downs
- Ranken
- Mount Theo
- Mount Solitaire
- Mount Drummond
- Highland Rocks

## **1:250 000 INTERPRETED GEOLOGY SERIES**

- Mount Theo
- Mount Solitaire
- Highland Rocks

## **GIS GEOLOGY DATASET RELEASES (AS MAP TILES)**

- Mount Solitaire 250k Geology (full attribution)
- Mount Theo 250k Geology (full attribution)
- Musgrave Block Special 500k (graphics attribution)

## Statement of information held by the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines, August 2006

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	The function of advancing major agribusiness development projects and identifying new agribusiness opportunities in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
AGRIFOOD SAFETY	Records relating to working with peak food industry at the national level and Northern Territory level to ensure the safety of the food chain.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No.	No.	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
ANIMAL BIOSECURITY	Records relating to protecting animals against disease and other biological threats in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Information may be provided under Commonwealth and NT legislation dealing with biosecurity issues	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
AQUACULTURE	Records relating to providing services to the Aquaculture industry in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Maps & Posters)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
CHEMICAL SERVICES	Records relating to providing legislative control over agricultural and veterinary chemical products, fertilisers and stock feeds by administering the <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act</i> .	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	Records relating to establishing rapport with the community and raising and maintaining the organisation's broad public profile.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.

**Statement of information held by the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines, August 2006**

<b>Topic of Information</b>	<b>Description of Function</b>	<b>Includes Personal Information?</b>	<b>How Stored</b>	<b>Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?</b>	<b>Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?</b>	<b>Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?</b>
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	The function of advancing major agribusiness development projects and identifying new agribusiness opportunities in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
AGRIFOOD SAFETY	Records relating to working with peak food industry at the national level and Northern Territory level to ensure the safety of the food chain.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No.	No.	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
ANIMAL BIOSECURITY	Records relating to protecting animals against disease and other biological threats in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Information may be provided under Commonwealth and NT legislation dealing with biosecurity issues	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
AQUACULTURE	Records relating to providing services to the Aquaculture industry in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Maps & Posters)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
CHEMICAL SERVICES	Records relating to providing legislative control over agricultural and veterinary chemical products, fertilisers and stock feeds by administering the <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act</i> .	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	Records relating to establishing rapport with the community and raising and maintaining the organisation's broad public profile.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.

<b>Topic of Information</b>	<b>Description of Function</b>	<b>Includes Personal Information?</b>	<b>How Stored</b>	<b>Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?</b>	<b>Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?</b>	<b>Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?</b>
EXPLORATION OPERATIONS	Records relating to searching or evaluating deposits of minerals or extractive minerals within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
EXTRACTIVE OPERATIONS	The activities associated with monitoring individual extractive operators for compliance under the NT Mining Management Act within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No.	No.
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	Managing the organisation's financial resources.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Annual accounts published in accordance with Public Sector Employment and Management Act and Financial Management Act	No	Yes – Annual accounts available in annual report and Budget papers
FISHERIES	Records relating to managing and protecting the Northern Territory's fish and aquatic life resources in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No.	Yes – Some (Maps & Posters)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
FLEET MANAGEMENT	Records relating to acquiring, managing, maintaining, repairing and disposing of vehicles.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
GENE TECHNOLOGY	Records relating to developing and maintaining systems, policies and legislation in the Northern Territory, and at the national level, in regard to technology to alter the genetic material of living cells or organisms.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
GEOLOGY	The function to identify, collect, interpret, synthesise and disseminate geoscientific data to attract and render more effective mineral and onshore petroleum exploration, and also to provide geoscientific advice on resource policy formulation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Some information, including statutory reports and data submitted by companies, can be inspected or distributed under the Mining Act, the Petroleum Act, the NT Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act or the Commonwealth Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms. At present all reports, maps and data produced by NTGS, and the statutory reports and data submitted by companies are available free of charge
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS	Records relating to administering the formal relationship between the organisation and other areas of government.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
HORTICULTURE	Records relating to the development and promotion of a sustainable horticulture industry in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Posters)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS	Records relating to establishing formal relations with the organisation's employees and their representatives to achieve a harmonious workplace.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	Managing the organisation's information resources.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
LEGAL SERVICES	Provision of legal services to the organisation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
LIVESTOCK EXPORTS DEVELOPMENT	Records relating to enhancing offshore trade and development opportunities for the Northern Territory livestock sector.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.
MEAT INDUSTRIES	Records relating to providing a regulatory role to ensure compliance with national standards and to foster export and domestic markets for all sectors of the Northern Territory meat industry.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Some information may be available under the Meat Industries Act	No.	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.
MINERAL TITLES	The function is to manage exploration and minerals tenure applications, and granted tenure, with minimal delay such that the maximum amount of land and sea possible is being actively explored or mined, as governed under the <i>NT Mining Act</i> .	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Mineral titles are available for inspection under the Mining Act	Yes – Searches of titles are available for inspection under Mining Act Regulations	Yes – Mineral titles are available for inspection under the Mining Act
MINES OPERATIONS	The activities associated with monitoring individual mine operators for compliance under the <i>NT Mining Management Act</i> within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
MINING MANAGEMENT	The functions and activities associated with managing mining in a broader, industry focused sense, within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.
NT QUARANTINE INSPECTION BRANCH	Records relating to protecting the community of the NT from interstate plant pests and diseases through effective barrier and post barrier activities in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY	Implementing and co-ordinating occupational health and safety and associated legislation throughout the organisation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No



Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be Inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
PERSONNEL	Records relating to managing all employees in the organisation. Employees include Ministerial, permanent, temporary and part-time employees, people working under scholarships, traineeships, apprenticeships and similar relationships.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – access to personal records may be provided in accordance with the Public Sector Employment and Management Act	No	No
PETROLEUM AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT	The function is to identify, evaluate, promote and facilitate opportunities to develop the Northern Territory's petroleum and mineral resource.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM OPERATIONS	The activities associated with the monitoring individuals petroleum related operations for compliance under the <i>NT Petroleum Act</i> , <i>NT Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i> , <i>Commonwealth Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act</i> and <i>Energy Pipelines Act</i> within Northern Territory administered areas.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM RESOURCES	The function is to facilitate increased and sustainable economic growth for the Territory through exploration and production of petroleum resources.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM TITLES	The function is to manage petroleum exploration and production applications, and granted licences and permit, with minimal delay such that the maximum amount of land and sea possible is being actively explored or producing.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Petroleum titles are available for inspection	Yes – Searches of Petroleum titles are available and copies available at a fee set by legislation	Yes – Petroleum titles are available for inspection only

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
PLANT BIOSECURITY	Records relating to protecting plants against disease and other biological threats through strong interstate and post barrier regulatory actions in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No – <i>In the process of writing Plant Health Bill (Disease Control Act)</i>	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PLANT INDUSTRIES	Records relating to facilitating plant based industry development in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	Records relating to managing land and working, storage or living space within premises, and of acquiring, constructing, fitting-out, managing, maintaining, protecting and disposing of property.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
PUBLISHING	Documents of various formats issued for sale or for general distribution internally or to the public.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some	Yes – Some
RESEARCH FARM MANAGEMENT	Records relating to providing Research and Demonstration farm facilities for Government, industry and the community for the implementation of best farming production systems and best management practices that underpin successful profitable and sustainable primary industry.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Technical Information)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	Records about encouraging staff to develop their skills and abilities (through activities, programs and events) to maximise their potential and increase their productivity.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT	Records relating to applying broad systematic management planning for the organisation.	No	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	Records relating to delivering and managing the development of a prosperous primary industry business group through the sustainable management of natural resources and land.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT	Records relating to promoting opportunities to diversify and develop primary industry within a framework of integrated programs for sustainable land management.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
SUSTAINABLE PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT	Records relating to enhancing the beef industry's contribution to the Northern Territory economy through sustainable and cost effective improvements in breeding herd efficiency, post weaning efficiency and increasing industry capacity to meet current and future marketing requirements.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Technical Bulletins)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS	Developing or acquiring, testing and implementing applications and databases to support the business needs of an organisation to capture, store, retrieve, transfer, communicate and disseminate information through automated systems.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
URANIUM MINING	The functions associated with the regulation and monitoring of uranium mining and processing operations within the Northern Territory, under both the <i>Mining Management Act (NT)</i> and Commonwealth Legislation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – some information is published under Commonwealth and NT legislation.	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
VETERINARY REGULATION	The functions of the Veterinary Board of the Northern Territory are to receive and give advice on all Veterinary Board issues including authorising registration of Veterinarians and Veterinarian Specialists.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.

## Appendix 4

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### **CONFERENCE DISPLAYS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS**

- Central Australian Basins Symposium (CABS)
- Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA)
- Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES)
- Mining 2005
- New Generation Gold
- Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC)
- Evolution and metallogensis of the North Australian Craton (NAPWRAP)
- North Australian Remote Sensing and GIS (NARGIS)
- North American Prospect Expo (NAPE)
- Mining Journal's 20:20 Investor Series Australia Day
- South East Asia Australia Offshore Conference (SEAAOC)

## Appendix 5

### FARMBIS EXPENDITURE IN 2005–06

<b>FarmBis</b>	<b>\$ Expenditure</b>
APN Pty Ltd	1 121.25
Australian Agricultural Company Pty Ltd	12 570.41
Ballason Pty Ltd	712.75
Barkly Pastoral Co Pty Ltd	2 646.25
Bonalbo Pastoral Enterprises	4 629.91
Brett Cattle Company Pty Ltd	363.64
Brian K Marshall	12 087.27
Charles Darwin University	1 824.00
Clough Bros	2 246.25
Consolidated Pastoral Company	9 297.51
Coodardie Brahmans	464.77
Crystalbrook Farming Company	1 177.14
DN & AJ Cundy	2 646.25
DPIFM (Alice Springs)	4 607.73
DPIFM (Katherine)	13 141.82
Dunn, Mr Shane	3 068.18
Florina Pastoral Company	8 323.67
Frangipani Farm	201.14
GF & LJ Baker	5 513.75
Haydn Sale Trust	1 496.25
Hayes Bros Holdings P/L	5 838.75
Hayseed Ag Pty Ltd	2 205.36
Heystesbury Beef Pty Ltd	9 013.76
Holmes Sackett & Associates	1 000.00
Hu Organics	907.05
JA & SK Denbow	461.00
Jabiru Tropical Orchards	6 916.04
James, Mr Bronte	1 136.36
James, Ms Carina	136.36
Lanzarin, Mr Colin	486.91
Legune Pastoral Company Partnership	542.04
Lizard River Grazing	1 496.25
Low Stress Stockhandling Pty Ltd	17 920.00
MJ & CC O'Brien	1 227.27
MR & MK Black	118.18
Mt Riddock Pastoral Co	8 403.19
National Institute of Financial Studies P/L	9 407.27
Norbuilt Properties Pty Ltd	2 596.25

North Australian Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	1 264.76
Northern Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	5 150.23
Northern Territory Agricultural Association Inc	10 501.09
NT Agricultural Association Inc	4 720.00
NT Cattleman's Association Inc.	65 300.00
NT Horticultural Association	47 908.48
Nursery & Garden Industry of the NT	2 149.09
Pangaea Pty Ltd	91 083.65
Peanut Company of Australia	1 575.00
Primary Industry Training Advisory Council (NT) Inc	19 125.81
RA Coppock & Co	2 246.25
Rayner, Mr Kenneth	144.09
Riveren Nominees Pty Ltd	2 242.50
Robinson, Mr St John Bruce	2 646.25
Roe, Mr Ian James	6 770.45
Roper River Agriculture	185.00
RW & PG Murphy	593.00
S Kidman & Co Ltd	3 136.36
SD & AW Howie & Sons	2 242.50
Seafood & Maritime Industries Training Ltd	5 000.00
Seaking Seafood Supplies Pty Ltd	1 659.09
Sherwood Kelpie Stud	3 840.00
Sinjun's Earthmoving Pty Ltd	1 121.25
Stanton Partners	7 727.00
Stenhouse, Ms Elisabeth	118.80
Sullivan, Mr James	1 283.99
Symbio Alliance	50 056.36
Top Kat Fruits Pty Ltd	734.75
Toro NT	1 496.25
Tous Garden Pty Ltd	280.00
Townsend Cattle Company Pty Ltd	10 858.86
Western Melody Pty Ltd	1 769.32
Whites Pastoral Co	7 335.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>520 217.16</b>
Accruals relating to 2004/05	<b>-17 040.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>503 177.16</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>503 177.16</b>

## Appendix 6

### PASTORAL WATER ENHANCEMENT SCHEME EXPENDITURE IN 2004–05

Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme	\$ Expenditure
Ailbern Pty Ltd & J & P Kilgariff	10 000.00
Apiwentye Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Banibi Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Barkly Pastoral Co. Pty Ltd	20 000.00
Elwin, BM & LD	4 347.90
Glen Arden Pastoral Company	10 000.00
Hayfield Station	20 000.00
Heliwork WA Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Holt Pastoral Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Hughenden Station Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Idracowra Proprietors	10 000.00
James, DJ & MJ	10 000.00
James, Ms Carina	10 000.00
Kostowski, Mr Nicholas	10 000.00
L & S Nominees	10 000.00
Leeman Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Mt Skinner Pastoral Co Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Northern Cattle Joint Venture	10 000.00
Rathsmann, Mr Markus	10 000.00
Schimmel Family Trust	20 000.00
SD & AW Howie and Sons	10 000.00
Suplejack Pastoral NT	10 000.00
Tapp, Mr Joe & Beint, Ms Judy	17 922.73
Townsend Cattle Company Pty Ltd	20 000.00
White, Mr Donald	10 000.00
Whites Pastoral Co Pty Ltd	10 000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>302 270.63</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>302 270.63</b>



## Appendix 7

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### ADDITIONAL GRANTS PAID BY DPIFM IN 2005–06

<b>Industry Development Support Program</b>	<b>\$ Expenditure</b>
Amateur Fishing Association of the NT	170 000
Central Australian Camel Industry Association	155 000
NT Agricultural Association	126 000
NT Buffalo Industry Council	81 572
NT Horticultural Association	165 000
NT Livestock Exporters Association	53 000
NT Table Grape Producers Association	9 000
NT Seafood Council	175 000

## Appendix 8

### DPIFM SPONSORSHIPS / SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED IN 2005–06

<b>Sponsorship / Scholarship</b>	<b>\$ Expenditure</b>
NT Minerals Council – Industry Awards	34 000
Solar Cities	35 000
NT Cattlemen’s Association – Industry Conference	5 000
NT Seafood Festivals Pty Ltd	20 000
Australian Fodder Industry Association – Annual Conference	14 545
Institute of Public Administration Australia – Bronze Sponsorship	8 000
S Farquar – Science Scholarship	21 000
J Nowland – Geology Scholarship	9 000
Reversal of Accrual 04/05	-5 800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>140 745</b>

<b>Indigenous Marine Ranger Grants</b>	<b>\$ Expenditure</b>
Marthakal Homeland Resource Centre	60 000
Warruwi Community Incorporated	60 000
Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	60 000
Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association	60 000
Tiwi Land Council	60 000
Thamarrurr Regional Council	60 000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>360 000</b>

### MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS 2005–06

#### NT Fisheries Industry Research Development Association

A total of \$90 000 was paid to NT Fisheries Industry Research Development Association for research projects.

#### Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program

A total of \$182 180 was paid to Territory cattle producers for the reimbursement of additional costs to conduct tuberculosis surveillance testing under the national Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program 2.

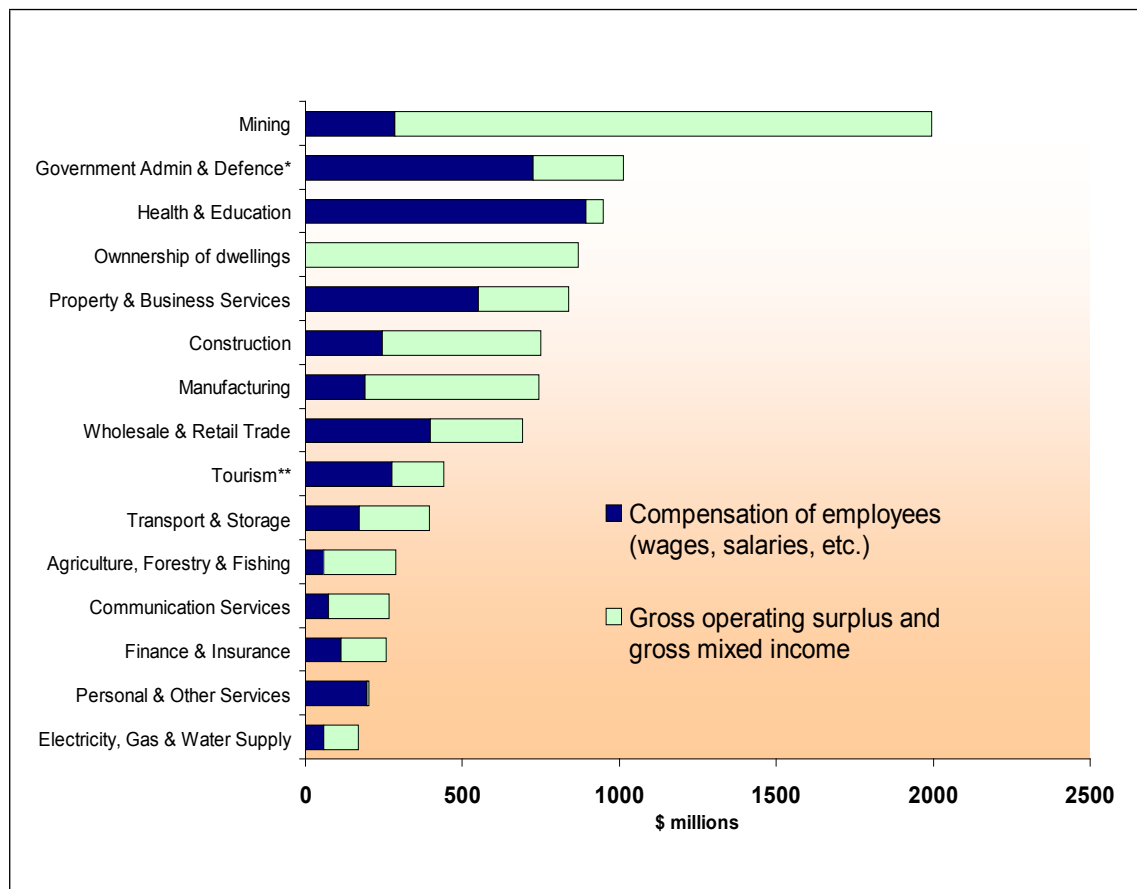
#### Renewable Remote Power Generation Program

A total of \$4.91 million in rebates for renewable energy projects was paid during 2005-06.

## Appendix 9

### NT INDUSTRY SECTOR

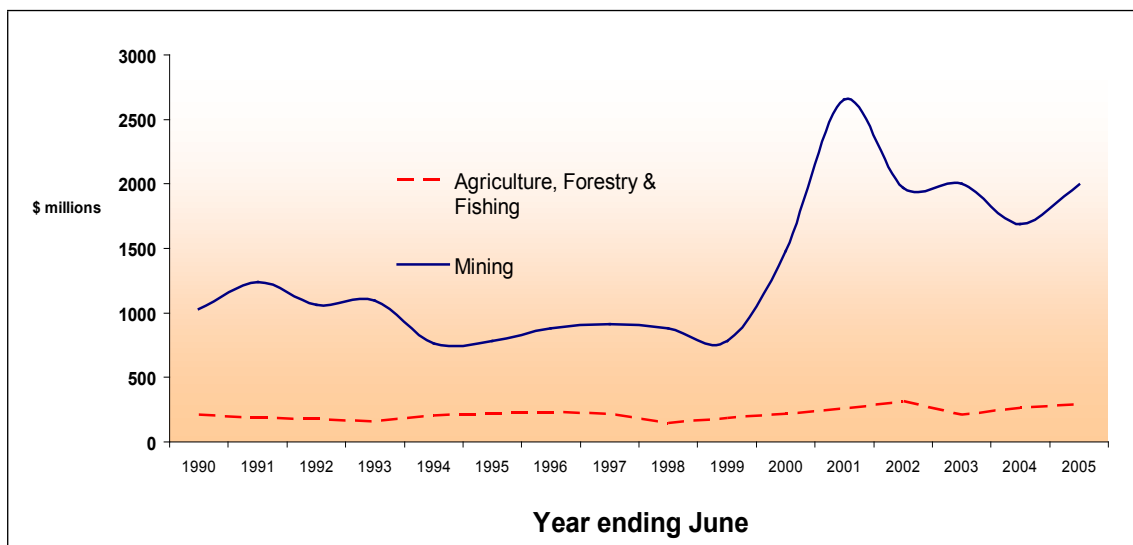
**Figure 10 – Industry Sector Contribution to NT Gross State Product, 2004–05**



Source: ABS 5220.0

### INDUSTRY TRENDS ANALYSIS 1989 TO 2004–05

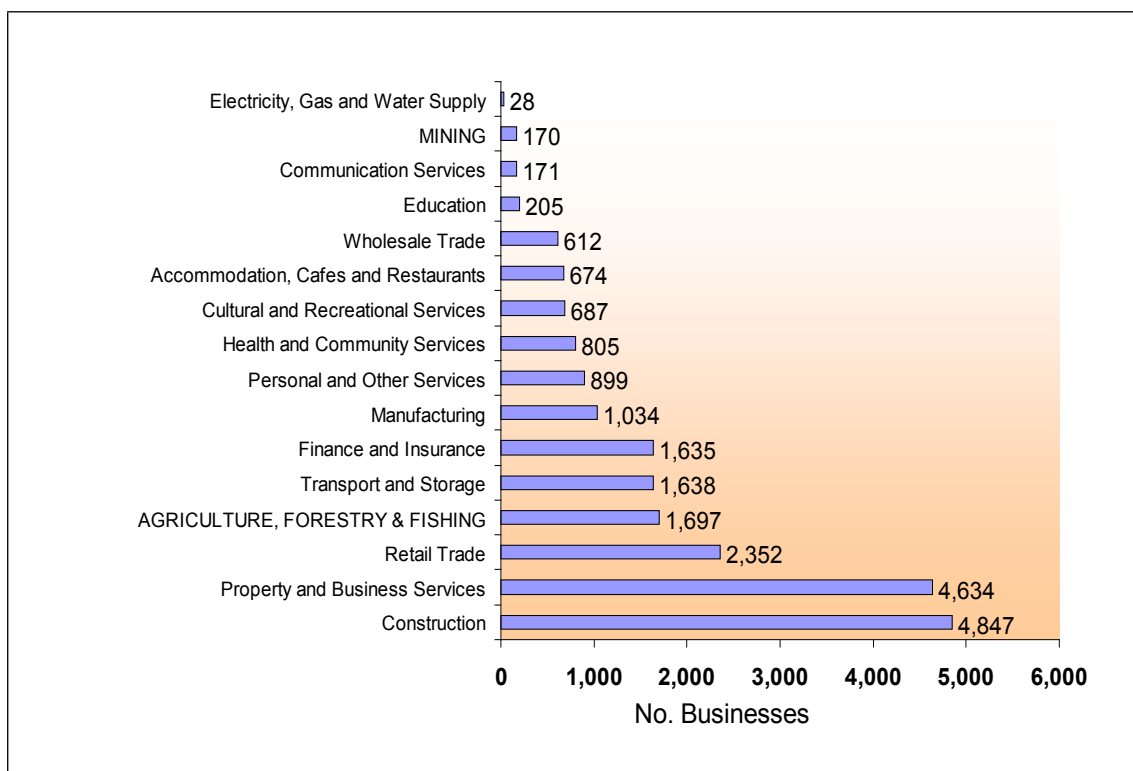
**Figure 11 – Mining & Agriculture and Forestry & Fishing Sector Contributions to NT Gross State Product, 1989–90 to 2004–05**



Source: ABS 5220.0

## NT BUSINESSES BY SECTOR

**Figure 12 – NT Businesses by Sector, June 2004**



# Appendix 10

## NT MINING PRODUCTION & VALUE

	2005/06 QUANTITY Produced (t)	2005/06 VALUE	2004/05 QUANTITY Produced (t)	2004/05 VALUE
<b><u>Metallic Minerals</u></b>				
Alumina Produced (a)	1,700,985	506,060,051	1,905,515	446,107,071
Bauxite	5,432,143	172,562,872	5,807,869	165,473,079
Copper Concentrate (t)	275	355,368		
Gold (grams)	12,145,523	270,945,407	17,472,347	383,669,715
Manganese	2,937,298	359,759,475	2,999,439	362,412,478
Silver (grams)	928,781	264,930	1,340,807	438,189
Zinc/Lead Concentrate	224,276	367,425,270	336,538	207,357,247
Sub Total:	23,369,281	1,677,373,373		1,565,457,779
<b><u>Non-Metallic Minerals</u></b>				
Barite				
Crushed Rock	562,748	8,522,157	938,546	14,502,282
Diamonds (ct)	12,980	1,596,540		
Dimension Stone	1,536	133,319	2,750	341,792
Gravel	175,399	2,621,865	219,985	1,159,055
Limestone	66,085	n.p.	77,180	n.p.
Quicklime Produced (a)	13,504	n.p.	17,203	n.p.
Salt				
Sand	96,352	710,693	130,258	697,679
Soil	19,181	218,916	11,734	161,594
Vermiculite	9,392	2,982,560	8,769	3,314,497
Sub Total:	957,177	19,785,830		24,470,808
<b><u>Energy Minerals (b)</u></b>				
Crude Oil (ML)	1,435	752,437,599	1,536	597,390,000
Natural Gas (GL)	490	54	483	46
Uranium Oxide	2,886	123,011,345	5,729	230,796,906
Sub Total:	2,886	875,448,998		828,186,952
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24,329,344</b>	<b>2,572,608,201</b>		<b>2,418,115,539</b>

### FOOTNOTES:

(a) Value is nett value - after accounting for feedstocks

(r) Figures revised since previous issue

(b) Production and values from the Joint Petroleum Development Area and Darwin LNG Plant are not included.

n.p. Not available for publication but included in totals

All values of production are estimates based on sales figures provided to the Department by mining companies in the Northern Territory.

# Appendix 11

**Table 5 – Northern Territory Primary Industry and Fisheries Value (\$m)**

<i>Horticulture</i>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2004-05 e</b>
<b>Mangoes</b>	30.1	35.6	30.2	42.0
<b>Table Grapes</b>	20.1	9.9	11.1	8.3
<b>Bananas</b>	12.0	7.1	7.8	4.7
<b>Melons</b>	3.6	6.0	6.4	6.4
<b>Other fruits</b>	5.3	5.1	5.5	5.7
<b>Vegetables</b>	11.0	12.2	11.7	14.5
<b>Nursery &amp; Cut Flowers</b>	10.0	10.0	15.0	17.0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>99</b>

*Note: Data for horticulture is for the previous calendar year*

<i>Fisheries</i>				
<b>Fish</b>	19.9	24.8	25.9	25.9
<b>Crustaceans</b>	91.4	60.4	75.7	67.7
<b>Aquaculture</b>	4.5	15.8	27.8	24.8
<b>Molluscs &amp; Echinoderms</b>	1.2	3.0	0.9	0.9
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>119</b>

<i>Cattle, Other Livestock and Mixed Farming</i>				
<b>Cattle</b>	209.6	183.9	228.8	240.6
<b>Other Livestock</b>	13.9	14.4	10.7	9.6
<b>Field crops</b>	6.6	11.0	9.4	14.3
<b>Forestry</b>			2.7	5.1
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>270</b>

<i>TOTAL NT RURAL INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES</i>				
<b>Horticulture</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Fisheries</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>Cattle</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>241</b>
<b>Other Livestock</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Field crops</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Forestry</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>487</b>

## Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program Grants 2005/06

A total of \$182 180.12 was paid to Territory cattle producers for the reimbursement of additional costs to conduct tuberculosis surveillance testing under the national Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program 2.

## Renewable Remote Power Generation Program

A total of \$4.91 million in rebates for renewable energy projects was paid during 2005–06.

## Section 11 of Information Act

### Statement of information held by the Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines, August 2006

Topic of Information	Description of Function	Includes Personal Information?	How Stored	Section 11 (1)(b)(i) May be inspected under other Act?	Section 11 (1)(b)(ii) May be Purchased?	Section 11 (1)(b)(iii) Distributed Free of Charge?
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	The function of advancing major agribusiness development projects and identifying new agribusiness opportunities in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
AGRI-FOOD SAFETY	Records relating to working with peak food industry at the national level and Northern Territory level to ensure the safety of the food chain.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No.	No.	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
ANIMAL BIOSECURITY	Records relating to protecting animals against disease and other biological threats in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Information may be provided under Commonwealth and NT legislation dealing with biosecurity issues	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
AQUACULTURE	Records relating to providing services to the Aquaculture industry in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Maps & Posters)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
CHEMICAL SERVICES	Records relating to providing legislative control over agricultural and veterinary chemical products, fertilisers and stock feeds by administering the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	Records relating to establishing rapport with the community and raising and maintaining the organisation's broad public profile.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information may be published in various forms.

EQUIPMENT & STORES	Acquiring, supplying, maintaining, repairing and disposing of equipment and stores stocked and used by the organisation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
ESTABLISHMENT	Establishing and changing the organisational structure through establishing and reviewing jobs.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – organisation charts may be available through the internet
EXPLORATION OPERATIONS	Records relating to searching or evaluating deposits of minerals or extractive minerals within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Mineral titles are available for inspection under the Mining Act	Yes – Searches of titles are available for inspection	Yes – Mineral titles are available for inspection under the Mining Act
EXTRACTIVE OPERATIONS	The activities associated with monitoring individual extractive operators for compliance under the NT Mining Management Act within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – some information may be available under the Mining Management Act	No.	No.
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	Managing the organisation's financial resources.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Annual accounts published in accordance with Public Sector Employment and Financial Management Act	No	Yes – Annual accounts available in annual report and Budget papers
FISHERIES	Records relating to managing and protecting the Northern Territory's fish and aquatic life resources in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No.	Yes – Some (Maps & Posters)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
FLEET MANAGEMENT	Records relating to acquiring, managing, maintaining, repairing and disposing of vehicles.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No



HORTICULTURE	Records relating to the development and promotion of a sustainable horticulture industry in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS	Records relating to establishing formal relations with the organisation's employees and their representatives to achieve a harmonious workplace.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	Managing the organisation's information resources.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
LEGAL SERVICES	Provision of legal services to the organisation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
LIVESTOCK EXPORTS DEVELOPMENT	Records relating to enhancing offshore trade and development opportunities for the Northern Territory livestock sector.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.
MEAT INDUSTRIES	Records relating to providing a regulatory role to ensure compliance with national standards and to foster export and domestic markets for all sectors of the Northern Territory meat industry.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Some information may be available under the Meat Industries Act	No.	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.
MINERAL TITLES	The function is to manage exploration and minerals tenure applications, and granted tenure, with minimal delay such that the maximum amount of land and sea possible is being actively explored or mined, as governed under the NT <i>Mining Act</i> .	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Mineral titles are available for inspection under the Mining Act	Yes – Searches of titles are available for inspection	Yes – Mineral titles are available for inspection under the Mining Act
MINES OPERATIONS	The activities associated with monitoring individual mine operators for compliance under the NT <i>Mining Management Act</i> within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
MINING MANAGEMENT	The functions and activities associated with managing mining in a broader, industry focused sense, within the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.

PERSONNEL	Records relating to managing all employees in the organisation. Employees include Ministerial, permanent, temporary and part-time employees, people working under scholarships, traineeships, apprenticeships and similar relationships.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – access to personal records may be provided in accordance with the Public Sector Employment and Management Act	No	No
PETROLEUM AND MINERALS DEVELOPMENT	The function is to identify, evaluate, promote and facilitate opportunities to develop the Northern Territory's petroleum and mineral resource.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM AND MINING SUPPLY	The function to maximise the economic benefits accruing from petroleum and mineral explorations, development and operations in the NT jurisdictions and adjacent areas.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM OPERATIONS	The activities associated with the monitoring individual petroleum related operations for compliance under the NT Petroleum Act, NT Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act, Commonwealth Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act and Energy Pipelines Act within Northern Territory administered areas.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM RESOURCES	The function is to facilitate increased and sustainable economic growth for the Territory through exploration and production of petroleum resources.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
PETROLEUM TITLES	The function is to manage petroleum exploration and production applications, and granted licences and permit, with minimal delay such that the maximum amount of land and sea possible is being actively explored or producing.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – Petroleum titles are available for inspection	Yes – Searches of titles are available	Yes – Petroleum titles are available for inspection
PLANT BIOSECURITY	Records relating to protecting plants against disease and other biological threats through strong interstate and post barrier regulatory actions in the Northern Territory.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.

RESEARCH FARM MANAGEMENT	Records relating to providing Research and Demonstration farm facilities for Government, industry and the community for the implementation of best farming production systems and best management practices that underpin successful profitable and sustainable primary industry.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Technical Information)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	Records about encouraging staff to develop their skills and abilities (through activities, programs and events) to maximise their potential and increase their productivity.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT	Records relating to applying broad systematic management planning for the organisation.	No	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	Records relating to delivering and managing the development of a prosperous primary industry business group through the sustainable management of natural resources and land.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT	Records relating to promoting opportunities to diversify and develop primary industry within a framework of integrated programs for sustainable land management.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
SUSTAINABLE PASTORAL DEVELOPMENT	Records relating to enhancing the beef industry's contribution to the Northern Territory economy through sustainable and cost effective improvements in breeding herd efficiency, post weaning efficiency and increasing industry capacity to meet current and future marketing requirements.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	Yes – Some (Technical Bulletins)	Yes – Extensive information is published in various forms.
TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS	Developing or acquiring, testing and implementing applications and databases to support the business needs of an organisation to capture, store, retrieve, transfer, communicate and disseminate information through automated systems.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	No	No	No
URANIUM MINING	The functions associated with monitoring the activities of uranium operators and the processing of uranium for compliance within the Northern Territory, under both the NT Mining Management Act and Commonwealth Legislation.	Yes	Electronic and Hardcopy	Yes – some information may be published under Commonwealth and NT legislation.	No	Yes – Some information is published in various forms.



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