

DEPARTMENT OF
BUSINESS, INDUSTRY & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

**Annual Report
2004-05**





The Hon. Paul Henderson, MLA
Minister for Business and Industry
Minister for Defence Support
Minister for Asian Relations and Trade
Parliament House
Darwin NT 0800

The Hon. Kon Vatskalis, MLA
Minister for Mines and Energy
Minister for Primary Industry
and Fisheries
Parliament House
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Ministers

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 Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) for the period 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005.

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 DBIRD 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

MIKE BURGESS
Chief Executive
September 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE NO.
1) Index of Figures and Tables	3
2) How to Contact Us	4
3) Introduction and Overview	5
i) Chief Executive's Foreword.....	6
ii) Purpose of this Annual Report	8
iii) Executive Structure	10
iv) Strategic Framework of this Report	11
4) Highlights and Future Priorities	17
5) Business and Industry Overview	25
6) Performance Reporting	33
i) Changes to Performance Measures	34
ii) Output Group 1	37
(a) Output 1	38
iii) Output Group 2	47
(a) Output 2.....	47
(b) Output 3.....	54
iv) Output Group 3	61
(a) Output 4.....	61
(b) Output 5.....	69
(c) Output 6.....	71
v) Service Delivery in Regional Areas	78
7) Corporate Governance	85
i) Corporate Committees	86
ii) Whole of Department Services	92
8) Our People	97
9) Financial Statements	105
i) Financial Statement Overview	106
ii) Financial Statements.....	109
iii) Notes to the Financial Statements	112
10) Appendices.....	129

INDEX OF FIGURES AND TABLES

FIGURES	PAGE NO.
<i>Figure 1: Executive Structure of DBIRD at 30 June 2005</i>	10
<i>Figure 2: Private Business Entities in the NT</i>	26
<i>Figure 3: Total Capital Investment in the NT</i>	27
<i>Figure 4: Service Industries and Goods Producing Industries in the NT compared with Australia</i>	28
<i>Figure 5: Cumulative Growth in Components of NT GSP 1990 to 2004</i>	29
<i>Figure 6: Number of Managers, Professionals and Associate Professionals in the NT</i>	30
<i>Figure 7: Contribution by Industry Sectors to Employment</i>	30
<i>Figure 8: How DBIRD's Business Functions Align with Outcomes Framework</i>	35
<i>Figure 9: Changes to DBIRD's Outcomes Framework, including Funding Allocations</i>	36
<i>Figure 10: Total Customer Contacts through Territory Business Centres, 1999-2005</i>	38
<i>Figure 11: Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate 1980-81 to 2004-05</i>	58
<i>Figure 12: Comparison of Water Sample Tests, 2002-03 to 2004-05</i>	68
<i>Figure 13: Staffing Profile as at 30 June 2005</i>	98
<i>Figure 14: Employment Classification by Gender, as at 20 June 2005</i>	99
<i>Figure 15: Equal Employment Opportunity Groups in DBIRD, 2002 to 2005</i>	99
<i>Figure 16: DBIRD Training Expenditure, 2002-03 to 2004-05</i>	100

TABLES

<i>Table 1: Output 1 Performance Report</i>	37
<i>Table 2: Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme Certifications (five-year trend)</i>	46
<i>Table 3: Output 2 Performance Report</i>	47
<i>Table 4: Renewable Energy Rebates Approved 2004-05</i>	53
<i>Table 5: Renewable Energy Rebates Paid 2004-05</i>	53
<i>Table 6: Output 3 Performance Report</i>	54
<i>Table 7: Oil and Gas Production for the NT in 2004-05</i>	55
<i>Table 8: Seismic Data and Costs</i>	56
<i>Table 9: Summary of Onshore and Offshore Drilling Activity for 2004-05</i>	56
<i>Table 10: Activity Summary of Mining Regulation</i>	57
<i>Table 11: Five-year Employment and Safety Summary</i>	57
<i>Table 12: Summary of Audits and Check Monitoring</i>	58
<i>Table 13: Mineral Titles Applications Received and Granted for the past five years</i>	59
<i>Table 14: Mineral Exploration Licence Applications on Aboriginal Freehold Land as at 30 June 2005</i>	59
<i>Table 15: Petroleum Title Applications Received and Granted</i>	60
<i>Table 16: Output 4 Performance Report</i>	61
<i>Table 17: Output 5 Performance Report</i>	69
<i>Table 18: Output 6 Performance Report</i>	71
<i>Table 19: Staffing Establishment by Output Group (Fulltime Equivalent)</i>	98

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Introduction and Overview

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S FOREWORD

The Northern Territory's economy has experienced extremely strong growth during 2004-05 with all industry sectors performing at or above national levels of confidence and profitability. This has been a welcome turnaround for the Territory community and reflects the persistence and hard work of both industry and government to stimulate growth and build confidence. This has seen the emergence of businesses that are now adopting more sophisticated approaches to improve their competitiveness on a national and global scale.

In response, the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development has upgraded its strategic delivery of services to its many and varied clients across the Territory.

DBIRD works with an exceptionally broad range of clients and stakeholders. These range from companies and employees in all resource-based industries to retail and manufacturing industries and emerging technologies. All of these business and industry groups, and the organisations that represent them, relate to DBIRD in some manner – either through the delivery of specific programs, or through courses to improve business skills, or through registration and information from the Territory Business Centre shopfronts in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

The department also works closely with other agencies that deliver complementary services. For example, while DBIRD may not have formal responsibility for Regional and Indigenous Economic Development, the reality is that most resource industries operate in rural and remote areas. This means they are best placed to contribute to local economies and create local employment opportunities. As a result, DBIRD's Indigenous Business and Industry Services Group works closely with the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs. Similar synergies exist with the Office of Territory Development and NT WorkSafe, amongst others.

This breadth of client base and links across Government, combined with the upswing in the performance of the Territory's economy, created a strong imperative for DBIRD to examine how it operated and to identify strategic priorities for service delivery. Throughout the second half of 2004, DBIRD's extended management group embarked on a comprehensive examination of its strategic approach to meeting client needs in keeping with the Government's economic development priorities. The result of this was the strategic framework, *Building Business and Industry 2005-2010: a framework for the sustainable development of business, industry and resources in the Territory*. This identified five strategic priorities for the department to formulate its programs around:

1. Improving the operating environment for business and industry
2. Developing business and industry capacity, capability and trade
3. Stimulating Indigenous economic development
4. Promoting innovation, technological development and commercialisation
5. Supporting regional economic development

In parallel with the development of this strategic framework, DBIRD undertook a major review of its performance measures. The aim of this work was to ensure the department's service delivery was clearly tested against measures that delivered meaningful results for its clients. More information on *Building Business and Industry* and the new performance measures can be found later in this report.

Other important initiatives undertaken by the department in 2004-05 to update its approaches in supporting economic development and sustainable management of resources included:

- Supporting the initiative for Asian Relations and Trade, the Hon Minister Paul Henderson to have the Northern Territory recognised as a partner in the BIMP-EAGA group (the only sub-national body in the region to be so recognised).
- Placing greater emphasis on economic policy analysis and development.
- Reviewing and subsequently restructuring the former Mining and Petroleum Management Division to clarify roles and responsibilities for industry and departmental staff.
- Developing a clear position and approach to the future management of the abandoned Mount Todd minesite.
- Organising a national roadshow, led by the Minister for Mines and Energy, the Hon Kon Vatskalis, to generate investment in mining exploration.
- Maturing of relationships with the horticulture industry to enable discussions to commence on industry-led initiatives for restructuring and codes of practice.
- Establishing an Indigenous Business and Industry Services Group to work hand in hand with Indigenous Territorians on economic development opportunities.
- Facilitating agreements with Indigenous landholders and the Indigenous Land Corporation to renew pastoral enterprises on Aboriginal land.
- Achieving accreditation with the Commonwealth for commercial fisheries plans of management.
- Facilitating funding support from various sources for mud crab aquaculture.

In addition, the department worked hard to lift its capabilities in communication, general governance, procurement management, leadership development and implementing equity and diversity programs.

This record of achievement is highly impressive at both the individual and organisational level. I congratulate DBIRD staff on their dedication and professionalism wherever they are based in the department. It has been a pleasure to share their enthusiasm in working to support each other, the Territory community and the economic development of the Northern Territory.



MIKE BURGESS
Chief Executive

PURPOSE OF THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report is one of the key forms of public accountability for the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD).

The report identifies Outputs for DBIRD and the Outcomes it is intending to achieve. It clearly states the performance measures against which departmental performance may be judged. The information provided against these performance measures accounts for how the department has performed against the approved budget, published in 2004-05 Budget Paper No. 3, including an explanation of variations.

The report also highlights a number of key achievements for each of the services delivered by the department. These key achievements support not only the statistical information provided in the performance reporting, but also recognise the valuable work of departmental staff to achieve the Outcomes agreed by Government.

TARGET AUDIENCES

This report is intended to provide important information to a number of target audiences.

It is a high-level accountability document that is tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The first audience is, therefore, DBIRD's Ministers and other Members of Parliament.

The department provides services to a broad range of client groups from all sectors of business and industry across the Territory. These range from primary producers (including miners, cattlemen, farmers and fishermen) to industry associations and small to medium enterprises (including retailers, service industries, manufacturers, construction and transport companies). For this broad audience, the Annual Report provides a summary of the range of departmental services and the activities the department undertakes to support its clients.

Another important audience is the staff of the department itself. The report provides recognition of their work and achievements, as well as information about the full scope of departmental programs that may not be fully appreciated from the perspective of individual workplaces.

Finally, the report provides information for other Government agencies and the wider public about the general activities undertaken by DBIRD, the target of these activities, and how progress is measured.

OUR MINISTERS

DBIRD services two Ministerial portfolios:

The Hon Paul Henderson, MLA

Minister for Business and Industry
Minister for Defence Support
Minister for Asian Relations and Trade

Output Group 1: Business, Trade and Industry Development Services

Departmental Groups supporting these Output Groups:

- Business and Trade Development Group
- Policy Development and Coordination Group
- Indigenous Business and Industry Services Group

The Hon Kon Vatskalis, MLA

Minister for Mines and Energy
Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries

Output Group 2: Minerals and Petroleum Industry Services

Output Group 3: Animal, Plant and Fisheries Industry Services

Departmental Groups supporting these Output Groups:

- Minerals and Energy Group
- Primary Industry Group
- Fisheries Group
- Indigenous Business and Industry Services Group

Other Ministers

DBIRD's programs and services also link with a number of other Ministers' portfolio responsibilities. These include:

The Hon Clare Martin, MLA

Chief Minister
Minister for Territory Development
Minister for Indigenous Affairs

The Hon Syd Stirling, MLA

Minister for Employment, Education and Training

John Ah Kit, MLA

Minister for Regional Development

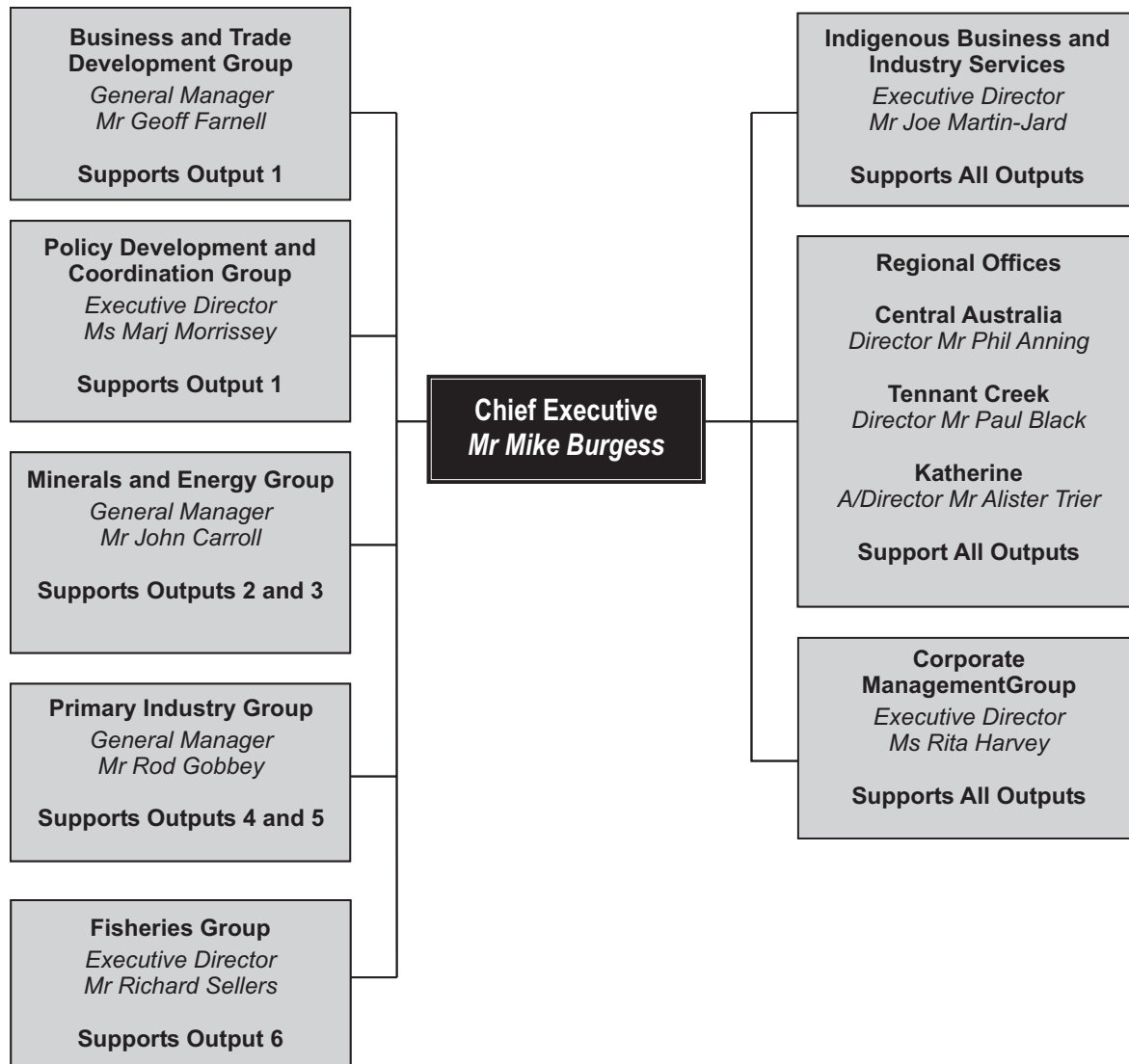
Dr the Hon Chris Burns, MLA

Minister for Lands and Planning

EXECUTIVE STRUCTURE

DBIRD comprises seven Groups that deliver services to a range of business and industry sectors through the department's Output structure. There are also Regional Offices in Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs that deliver departmental services across all Outputs to the regions.

Figure 1: Executive Structure of DBIRD at 30 June 2005



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF THIS REPORT

The Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) has a critical role to play in supporting a strong, vibrant and growing Northern Territory economy. The Territory Government has put in place a number of key strategic policies to guide development to meet the needs of communities across the Territory. DBIRD operates within this policy framework to deliver programs and services for all sectors of business and industry.

A Strategic Framework document, *Building Business and Industry 2005-2010*, was prepared in 2004-05 to ensure DBIRD focused its energy and resources on initiatives that supported sustainable economic development in partnership with the private sector. DBIRD recognised that its programs and services must be designed to provide the most effective support possible to business and industry. Although the department does not make decisions for business, it can have a significant influence on helping business do business effectively. For this reason, business and industry representatives were consulted in order to identify key economic drivers and to focus programs on areas where DBIRD could add real value to private sector activities. Strategic priorities were identified as:

1. improving the operating environment for business and industry;
2. developing business and industry capacity, capability and trade;
3. stimulating Indigenous economic development;
4. promoting innovation, technological development and commercialisation; and
5. supporting regional economic development.

Building Business and Industry identifies the ways in which DBIRD approaches these challenges. It was developed through a sustained, cooperative effort by staff across the department to identify common strengths and areas where programs and services could make significant differences. In working to deliver these strategic priorities, DBIRD focused on:

- providing industry intelligence and value-added information;
- delivering training and advice to small and medium enterprises;
- processing licenses and business applications in the most efficient manner;
- identifying opportunities to improve the business environment, including use of the Internet for advice and transactions;
- being an advocate for business and industry within the NT Government;
- monitoring resource development to ensure it is sustainable; and
- identifying opportunities in regional areas and support Indigenous economic development.

DBIRD staff are strongly committed to using this framework to increase sustainable development of business, industry and resources.

OUR VISION

A strong, vibrant, growing and sustainable Northern Territory economy

OUR MISSION

To work with our partners for sustainable economic development in the Northern Territory

OUR ROLE

DBIRD's role is to facilitate, regulate and promote business, industry and resource development through:

- helping business owners and operators to develop competitive businesses across all industry sectors;
- facilitating broad industry development and sector-specific industry development;
- facilitating the sustainable development of the Territory's resources;
- providing accountable stewardship of the Territory's resources, specifically those relating to pastoralism, agriculture, fisheries, minerals and energy; and
- being a strong advocate for Territory business and industry.

PARTNERS ACROSS GOVERNMENT

DBIRD'S work complements initiatives by other agencies to build a stronger economy. These include:

- The Office of Territory Development – facilitating resource development, marketing and positioning the Northern Territory in key markets, fostering innovation and 'new economy' projects, attracting business and special projects such as the Darwin City Waterfront redevelopment.
- Northern Territory Treasury – providing an efficient regulatory, licensing and business environment and effective collection of tax revenue while achieving a fair and efficient tax system that is competitive with other jurisdictions.
- The Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs – promoting regional development, supporting Indigenous economic development through initiatives such as the Indigenous Arts Strategy and enhancing the Territory lifestyle through sport and cultural activities.
- The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment – providing vital infrastructure such as the Litchfield, and Mereenie and West MacDonnell loop roads, ensuring appropriate land is available for development and protecting our environment and heritage.
- The Northern Territory Tourist Commission – promoting tourism development opportunities and marketing the Territory as a destination to support the further growth of the tourism sector.

Ultimately, the department's collective work in these areas contributes to supporting six key Territory Government priorities:

- Jobs for all Territorians
- Population growth
- Education
- Healthier communities
- Safer communities
- Quality of life

PARTNERS WITH BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND THE COMMUNITY

DBIRD works in partnership with business, industry and the community and has developed a Community Engagement Charter. Engagement activities in 2004-05 include:

- coordinating the Chief Minister's Business Round Table, which engages business and industry representatives in face-to-face consultation about issues affecting the economic development of the Territory;
- engaging business owners and operators on issues affecting them and using this to develop training programs that address capability and skill gaps;
- undertaking an annual customer satisfaction survey that informs departmental policies and programs and the success of interaction with clients;
- having case managers visit businesses to facilitate access to support, information and training;
- briefing local business groups on opportunities relating to major projects;
- working with industry sectors to develop strategies such as the Manufacturing Industry Strategy, Business and Skilled Migration Strategy, Professional and Business Services Strategy, International Trade Strategy, Building Northern Territory Industry Participation, the Business and Skilled Migration Strategy and in legislative reviews such as the Mining 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 and the NT Seafood Council, to listen to their concerns and to keep them informed of current directions;
- providing direct funding support 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 and to identify potential opportunities for Indigenous aquaculture businesses;
- providing direct advice to business operators and the general public on business licensing and information issues through the Territory Business Centres;
- funding a range of business training programs throughout the Territory; and
- supporting increased participation in business through targeted programs such as the Territory Women in Business forums and the Youth Business Awards.

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Northern Territory economy is in a period of strong growth in the resource sector as a result of major projects such as the AustralAsia Railway, the development of Timor Sea oil and gas, and the expansion of Alcan Gove. The Territory has:

- a stable political environment;
- a 'can-do' attitude;
- a leading role in expanding trade links to Asia;

- a wealth of natural resources;
- strong infrastructure foundations; and
- proximity to major oil and gas reserves.

DBIRD aims to capitalise on these and other opportunities to build an even stronger, more diverse and more sustainable economy. Sustainable economic development is about creating jobs that will last for the foreseeable future. It means managing the Territory's resources, including science and technology, so that future generations can enjoy the high quality of life and choices. Economic development initiatives must therefore encompass environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity in the longer term.

NT ECONOMIC DRIVERS

DBIRD has identified four major economic drivers that will underpin Territory growth:

1. Investment confidence

An environment in which businesses and industry are profitable will attract investment. New technology, innovation, business and labour skills are major contributors to increased business productivity.

Major projects and large infrastructure developments have a significant impact on investment confidence. They give business the opportunity to supply goods and services and to create new industry clusters. The challenge is to capitalise on these projects to maintain and build capacity in the Territory.

2. Expanded markets for Territory goods and services

Global and domestic demand for resource commodities currently drives much of the Territory economy. The demand for a wider range of goods and services is potentially huge. The challenges for the Territory are how to engage the market and how to become competitive in that market. The Territory needs appropriate trade infrastructure, technology and systems to support market development.

3. A supportive business environment

Policy and legislative frameworks at a local and national level have a significant influence on the operating environment for business, and they provide security for businesses and industries that have invested in the Territory. Flexible and progressive frameworks that support sustainable economic development and balance environmental and social issues should drive economic development and attract businesses.

These frameworks include infrastructure such as transport and communications, and input costs such as power and water. Businesses need to be able to produce products on a cost-competitive basis, with reliable access to markets to sell them.

4. A skilled workforce to make it happen

A crucial ingredient for economic development is the availability of skilled employees. Economic growth opens new opportunities, creates jobs, and attracts workers and their families. In many cases, specialist skills are needed for business and industry to make the most of opportunities as they arise. Government will work in partnership with business and industry to adopt strategies to attract and retain skilled employees in developing sectors.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR GROWTH

DBIRD is focusing its efforts in five strategic priority areas:

1. improving the operating environment for business and industry;
2. developing business and industry capacity, capability and trade;
3. stimulating Indigenous economic development;
4. promoting innovation, technological development and commercialisation; and
5. supporting regional economic development.

Details of how these priorities were supported in 2004-05 are included in the following highlights.

Highlights and Future Priorities

HIGHLIGHTS AND FUTURE PRIORITIES

1. *Improving the operating environment for business and industry*

In 2004-05, the Department has:

- Partnered with Land Councils to grant exploration and mining title on all land tenure.
- Promoted investment security for business and industry by reviewing legislation in partnership with them to ensure it aligns with environmental, social and industry development needs. The Fisheries Act and the Mining Act are under current review.
- Coordinated regular forums with industry and business, including the Business Round Table, to obtain direct feedback from business about issues affecting the private sector.
- Worked with businesses in the fisheries, aquaculture, cattle and horticulture industries to help them achieve export accreditation.
- Worked with the Australian Government to ensure national policy developments take account of the needs of Territory business and industry.
- Educated communities about mining and mineral exploration.
- Worked with industry to facilitate dealings with Indigenous communities and organisations for land access and employment opportunities.
- Provided protection from animal and plant pests and diseases.

In 2005-05 and beyond, the Department will:

- Work across government and other agencies to reduce the red tape burden on business and industry.
- Support Charles Darwin University, other training providers and the Northern Territory Industry Capability Network (NTICN) to assist business improvement and competitiveness.
- Address customer needs by expanding the coverage and services provided by the Territory Business Centres.
- Continue to facilitate land access for sustainable economic development through productive partnerships between the government, land councils and industry.
- Work with industry and other stakeholders to review the Mining Act so that the efficiency of the mining regime in the Territory can be improved.
- Provide a frontline response against invasion of pests and diseases that might affect the viability of plant and animal industries.
- Work with industry to develop a new bio-security strategy.
- Ensure that the review of the national drought policy takes account of the Territory's specific circumstances.
- Work with stakeholders to continue to develop fishery sector management plans which provide a sustainable management framework for aquatic resources.
- Work with major proponents and the NTICN to develop local industry participation plans that focus business growth opportunities for Territory companies.
- Continue to develop fishing infrastructure and work with communities to open up new fishing areas.

2. *Developing business and industry capacity, capability and trade*

In 2004-05, the Department has:

- Assisted Territory business to capture new business opportunities associated with major projects, particularly in the mining, petroleum and defence industries. This included encouraging ConocoPhillips and its prime contractors to engage with local industry regarding the Bayu-Undan project, the Bayu-Undan to Darwin gas pipeline and the Darwin LNG plant.
- Worked with Territory business and industry to implement 'Making it in the Territory', the Territory's manufacturing industry strategy.
- Worked with freight providers to improve freight capacity and expand export capability.
- Helped Territory businesses to build and develop trade opportunities by providing financial assistance through the Trade Support Scheme.
- Advised and assisted Territory businesses seeking overseas employees under the Territory Government's Business and Skilled Migration Programs.
- Identified new opportunities in emerging industries such as bio-prospecting or value-adding to existing industries.
- Worked closely with industry on projects to boost productivity in the pastoral and horticultural industry, including maintaining the Territory's network of agricultural research facilities.
- Used technology such as the internet to make information directly available to support development. Examples include the Minerals and Petroleum Industry Reports Management System and the launch of STRIKE, a web-mapping program that enables users around the world to view and compare information that supports exploration.

In 2005-06 and beyond, the Department will:

- Capitalise on the Territory's inclusion in the Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines-East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) to forge closer relations between governments and businesses and to add value to shared priorities such as trade, investment, tourism and infrastructure.
- Expand markets for produce and resources by promoting the world class port and rail transport infrastructure of the Territory.
- Build on DBIRD's overseas office capabilities to facilitate greater access to export markets for Territory exporters.
- Support the Territory's live cattle exports through the delivery of specific training and information exchange with Asian neighbours.
- Implement the Territory Government's Business and Skilled Migration Strategy to ensure more options exist for industries to access skilled workers.
- Assist industry to develop proposals to maximise returns to the Territory for major defence-related contracts including through maintenance of Abrams tanks, Tiger helicopters, Armidale class patrol boats and other major defence infrastructure.
- Enhance the delivery of business information, training and development support services to primary producers through DBIRD's case manager network.
- Develop and implement a marine industry strategic plan.

- Help to develop skills through initiatives such as the Earth Sciences/Geology Cadetship.
- Maintain financial support for key industry associations to ensure they have the internal capacity and capability to represent their sectors effectively, and to promote emerging opportunities.
- Work with the Horticulture Partnership Group to develop a strategic direction for the horticulture industry.
- Work with the mango industry to identify issues and plans in relation to business profitability and sustainability, including supporting the preparation of a national code of practice for the mango supply chain.
- Develop a Business Services Action Agenda that increases the growth prospects for the Territory's business services sector.
- Support sustainable agricultural and pastoral development in the Katherine-Daly Basin.
- Support preparation and implementation of an Asian vegetable sector development plan.
- Develop research options to increase aquaculture production and support future aquaculture development.
- Develop a Home Based Business Action Agenda that supports the further growth and development of home-based businesses in the Territory.
- Work with industry to identify the factors required for sustainable meat processing facilities in the Territory.

3. Stimulating Indigenous economic development

In 2004-05, the Department has:

- Worked closely with Indigenous groups, families, individuals, land councils, the Indigenous Land Corporation and Indigenous associations.
- Supported Indigenous enterprises to take advantage of opportunities presented by major projects. (For example, DBIRD has employed a person based in Nhulunbuy for 12 months to work with Indigenous groups to maximise business opportunities arising from the Alcan Gove expansion.)
- Provided a secretariat service to the Indigenous Mining and Enterprise Task Force to encourage closer cooperation between industry groups, land councils and government agencies.
- Established a new Indigenous Business and Industry Services Group within DBIRD to lead development of Indigenous economic development opportunities. This has accelerated partnership arrangements between DBIRD and the Indigenous Land Corporation to start new pastoral enterprises on Indigenous land.
- Supported Indigenous communities to play a key role in managing their resources through initiatives such as the Indigenous Marine Ranger Program.

In 2005-06 and beyond, the Department will:

- Work with industry, land councils and the Indigenous Land Corporation to increase Indigenous participation in Territory major projects, including the Alcan Gove expansion, Trans-Territory Pipeline and horticulture developments in Central Australia.

- Work with the Department of Employment, Education and Training to increase the targeted delivery of jobs-focused training for Indigenous people.
- Increase the business management capacities of Indigenous people through business capacity building programs.
- Examine funding options to encourage the development of entrepreneurial businesses in remote areas and provide assistance to obtain access to Australian Government programs.
- Pursue aquaculture opportunities such as mud crabs and trepang on Indigenous land.
- Assist land owners to bring Indigenous land into production for pastoral industry activity.
- Continue working with the land councils and Indigenous communities to grant land access for mineral and primary industry development that will benefit Indigenous people and all Territorians.
- Work with Indigenous communities to investigate opportunities for involving Indigenous people in fishing ventures.

4. Promoting innovation, technological development and commercialisation

In 2004-05, the Department has:

- Continued research and development that will help industry to improve productivity, develop new varieties, diversify and minimise the risk of exploitation.
- Identified opportunities where the application of specialist knowledge can develop new industries and add value to existing industries. Examples include aquaculture, bio-prospecting and developing food industries to leverage off the high quality of Territory primary produce.
- Implemented the Building the Territory's Resource Base program, which uses the latest technology to identify potential mineral and petroleum opportunities across the Territory.
- Worked to address major industry concerns associated with pests and diseases, including providing monitoring and emergency response programs and developing new disease resistance programs.

In 2005-06 and beyond, the Department will:

- Develop an Innovation, Technology Development and Commercialisation Strategy that provides essential research to ensure long-term viability and sustainability of current and emerging primary industries.
- Continue the leading edge progress to provide information to industry on the prospectivity of the Territory as a base for minerals and petroleum exploration.
- Maintain and expand relationships with industry and external bodies to develop new technologies and commercialise new products. Key relationships include Charles Darwin University, the Peanut Company of Australia, Heytesbury Beef, the Cooperative Research Centres for Tropical Savannas and Desert Knowledge, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and a range of interstate and national government agencies.
- Encourage industry to work with the NT Research and Innovation Board to promote innovation in the oil and gas, primary industry and fisheries sectors.

- Review research facility programs and assets to ensure they continue to meet the changing needs of industry.
- Develop contemporary agronomic research programs for crops in the Douglas Daly region.
- Work with the Power and Water Corporation to facilitate the development of commercial use of recycled water in Alice Springs for horticulture.
- Develop a drought toolkit for pastoralists.
- Work with key sectors including the pastoral, horticulture and cut flower industries to improve productivity and release new products.
- Develop information packages on the Territory's natural resources to identify areas of commercial potential for primary industries.
- Continue to work with the Amateur Fisherman's Association of the NT (AFANT), commercial fisheries and fishing tour operators to ensure sustainable development of the fishing industry.

5. Supporting regional economic development

In 2004-05, the Department has:

- Increased the range of services provided through the Territory Business Centres in all major centres.
- Developed October Business Month activities in response to increasing demand and interest from the business community.
- Used skilled business partners to improve business capability in regional areas through a range of programs, including Business Growth, Upskill Short Courses and funding Business Enterprise Centre workshops.
- Ensured regional consultation, participation and input into the development of new strategies and programs, including the Manufacturing Industry Strategy and the Business and Skilled Migration Strategy.
- Developed regional economic profiles that provide a snapshot of economic status and issues in each region.
- Undertaken regional visits and supported key regional industry events, particularly in the defence and mining sectors, to boost awareness of the capacity of regional businesses to support these sectors and build on the successes already achieved in Alice Springs.
- Provided extension services to support improved productivity of primary industries, including maintaining an extensive network of research facilities from the Top End to Central Australia.

In 2005-06 and beyond, the Department will:

- Work with regional development boards to help implement business and industry aspects of regional development plans.
- Work across government to produce information packages for potential investors in regional industries.

- Hold information sessions to keep regional businesses informed about new opportunities and help them take advantage of opportunities such as the Trans-Territory Pipeline and major Defence projects.
- Give regional business representatives the opportunity to raise issues directly with government through the Chief Minister’s Business Round Table.
- Ensure regional businesses are directly consulted in developing government business policies, including the professional and business services sector.
- Continue to facilitate the development of Alice Springs as a mining support hub.
- Actively support regional business in competing for work arising out of defence opportunities, such as the development of the Bradshaw training field near Katherine.
- Work with defence to facilitate training exercises in the Territory.
- Work with local business and the pastoral industry to develop Tennant Creek as a support hub for the Barkly pastoral industry.
- Provide regionally-based extension services to help primary producers develop management practices that are environmentally sustainable and meet community expectations.

Business And Industry Overview

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

This overview of the Northern Territory economy provides an assessment of the important changes in businesses and industries and their contribution to economic growth. These changes are outcomes sought by DBIRD in its various activities to produce the outputs reported elsewhere in the Annual Report. The alignment of outputs to outcomes is required by Government and formally expressed in Budget Paper No. 3.

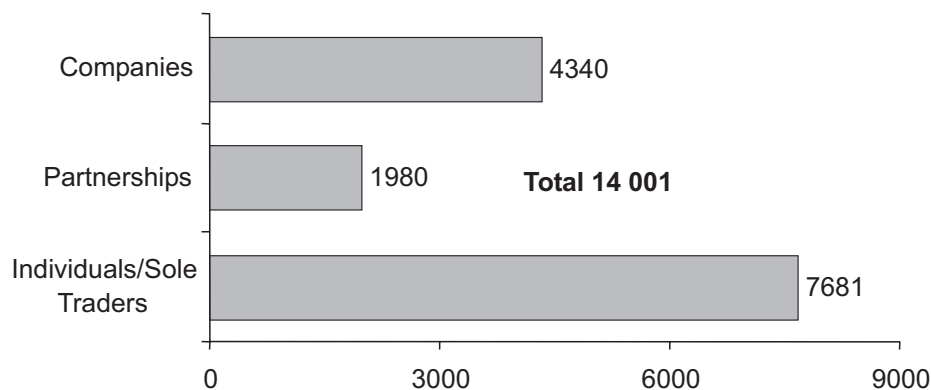
Business and industry worked throughout the year in partnership with Government towards improving economic capacity, performance and sustainability to produce an equitable prosperity for the people of the Territory.

CAPACITY

Business Framework

The Territory had an estimated 14 001 private business entities (including individuals, sole traders, business income generating partnerships and companies) that were active for the 2002-03 financial year, according to Australian Tax Office and Australian Business Register statistics. This figure excludes trusts, funds and public entities. Although the number of business entities that are active from year to year tends to fluctuate, the Territory has seen growth in this area over recent years.

Figure 2: Private Business Entities in the NT



Source: ATO Taxation Statistics 2003-04

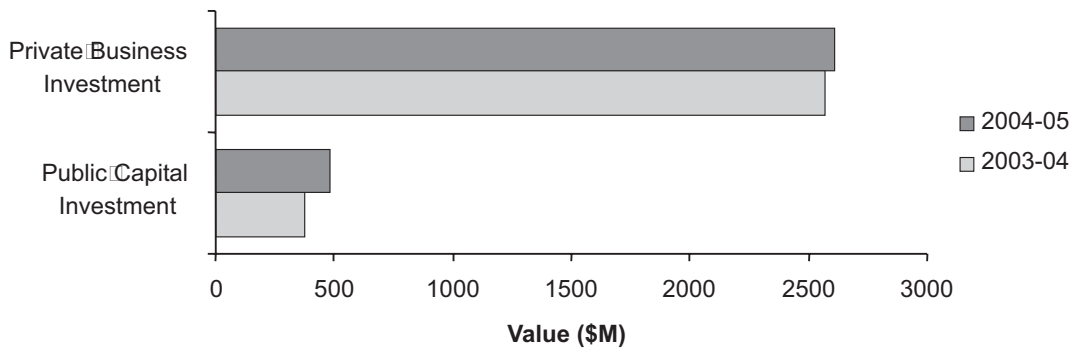
Capital Base

As of June 2004, the net present value of capital stock in the Territory was estimated at around \$24 billion (derived from ABS 5204). This figure is the written down value of the economy's capital stock and includes all government corporations, Australian Government agencies and Defence based in the Territory. This is factored on the assumption that the productivity of Territory business and industry is parallel with that of the rest of Australia. Around 1.1 per cent of total net capital stock in Australia is in the Territory. Sectors with the highest contribution to net capital stock are mining (32.9%), ownership of dwellings (14.9%), transport and storage (8.3%) and government administration and defence (6.4%).

Investment

Capital investment by business to increase Territory industry capacity has more than trebled during the decade to \$2.6 billion in 2004-05. The first six months of 2005 resulted in a large increase in private capital investment.

Figure 3: Total Capital Investment in the NT



Source: ABS 5206

PERFORMANCE

Income, Prices and Wages

For the 2004-05 financial year, the income from the sale of goods and services by selected private sector employing businesses (excluding agriculture, central banking, insurance, education, and health and community services) was an estimated \$13.3 billion, an increase of approximately 22.7 per cent over the previous year. Wages and salaries in the Territory increased by 22.2 per cent to \$2.4 billion across the same range of private sector employing businesses for 2004-05. Nationally, the sale price index of goods and services increased by 4.2 per cent.

Goods and Services

For 2002-03, total value of goods and services produced by all business entities in the Territory totalled \$14 763 million. This value excludes general government sector (notably public education, public health and community services, and administration and defence) in addition to general finance and insurance. It does, however, include general government business relating to mining, manufacturing and electricity, gas and water supply. The mining, construction and retail trade sectors were the largest producers of goods and services in 2002-03.

Economy and Trade

During 2004-05, demand in the Territory economy increased by 8.7 per cent over the previous year. Increases for 2004-05 were recorded for household consumption (9.1%), business investment (2.1%) and public investment (26.4%). The value of exports increased by 12.7 per cent, despite falling offshore oil production. The value of imports increased by 121.9 per cent in 2004-05, largely due to machinery and equipment for construction related to current major projects.

Sectoral Performance

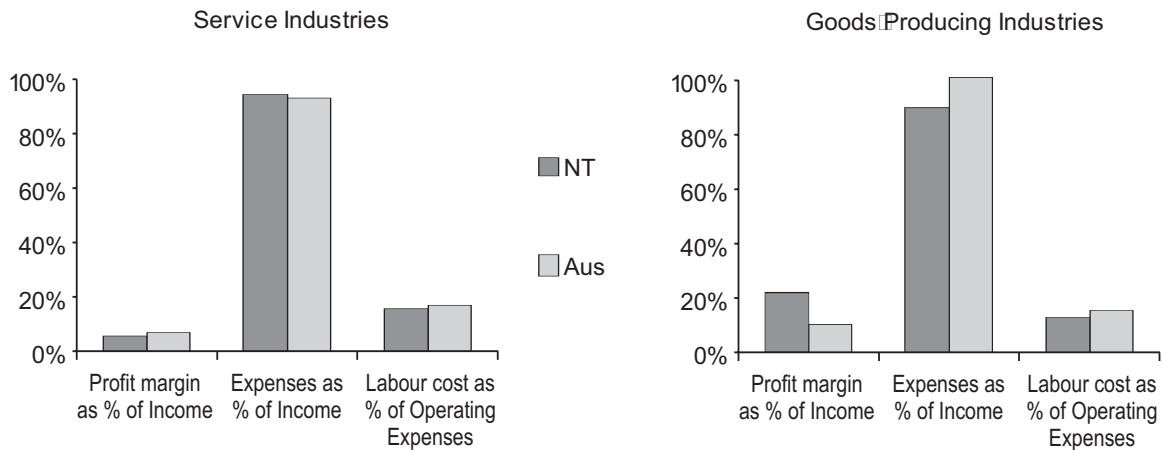
The value adding of industry sectors to the Territory economy during 2003-04 (the most recent data available) shows that mining and government administration and defence are relatively large compared to Australia as a whole, while manufacturing, wholesale trade, finance and insurance, property and business services and ownership of dwellings are relatively small.

In 2003-04, compared to 2002-03, the value added contribution of Territory industry grew by 3.0 per cent to a total of \$8968 million. Major contributors to this growth were agriculture (21.1%), construction (10.7%), electricity, gas and water supply (10.6%) and retail trade (7.4%). Mining and manufacturing contributions to the economy were smaller than in the previous year.

Business Competitiveness

For 2002-03, profits as a percentage of income in the Territory were higher than for the rest of Australia. In the Territory, 13 per cent of income was realised as profits compared to 8 per cent for the rest of Australia. Labour costs as a percentage of expenses were fractionally lower than the rest of Australia, as were expenses as a total percentage of income. For industries producing goods, profit margin as a percentage of income was higher than elsewhere in Australia, and expenses as a percentage of income were lower. Service industries closely followed the rest of Australia in these two categories. The manufacturing and mining industries contributed significantly to the higher profit percentage in the goods producing industries of the Territory.

Figure 4: Service Industries and Goods Producing Industries in the NT compared with Australia



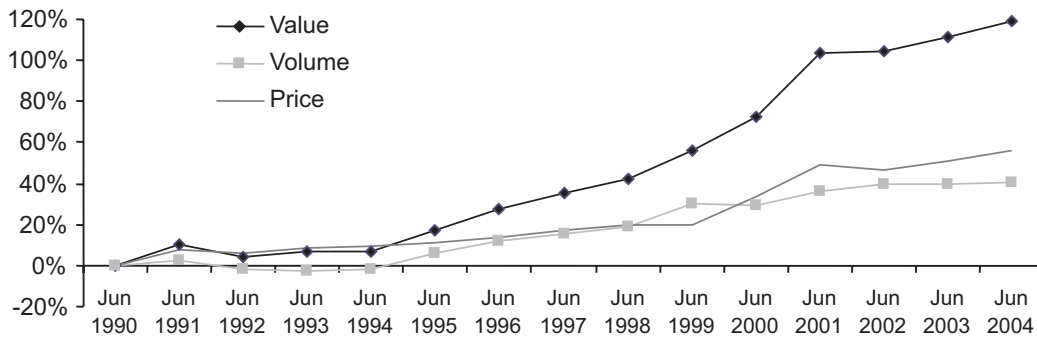
Source: ABS 8155.0

SUSTAINABILITY

Economic Sustainability

Overall, the Territory economy has been growing during the last decade, demonstrating its economic sustainability. Improvement over the last 14 years has been recorded both in the quantity of goods and services produced as well as in prices received for goods and services.

Figure 5: Cumulative Growth in Components of NT GSP 1990 to 2004



Source: ABS 5022.0

Risk

Over the five years to 2003-04, the construction, mining, agriculture and fishing, and transport and storage sectors were the most variable in terms of their value added contributions to the economy. In the same period, mining, construction, transport and storage and property and business services had the most variable labour demand from year to year. Construction, mining, property and business services, retail trade and agriculture and fishing were most variable in terms of gross operating surpluses.

Environment

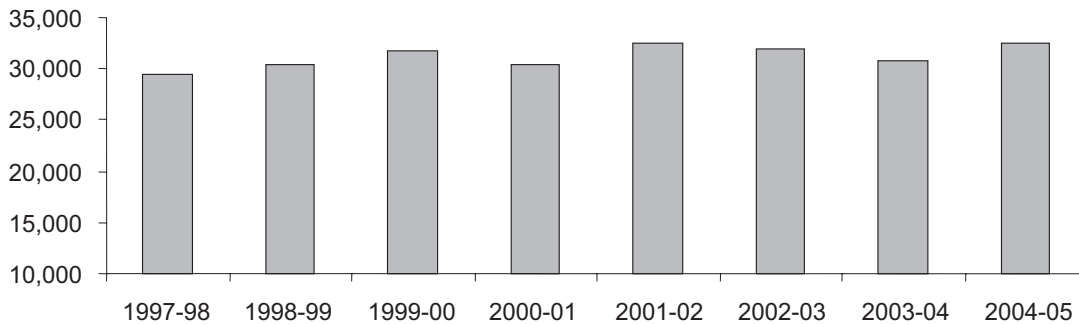
Energy is an important component of long-term economic sustainability, both as an essential input to the supply of goods and services and as a prime generator of global warming. The major sectors in terms of electricity consumption are manufacturing, electricity, gas and water, and transport and storage. These three sectors accounted for approximately 80.6 per cent of all energy consumption in the Territory for 2003-04. Average annual energy consumption has increased by about 2.6 per cent per year since 1989-90 to approximately 75.6 petajoules. However, the efficiency of energy use (ratio of value adding to energy consumption) has also increased by about 3 per cent per year over the same period. These energy efficiency gains were higher with the public and private service industries (excluding transport and construction) and with crude oil production. Efficiencies declined over time in the electricity generation and construction industries, although this may also reflect consumer gains associated with improved structural changes in these industry sectors.

Skills

The total number of managers, professionals and associate professionals employed in Territory businesses and industries has increased by over 3000 individuals over the eight

year period from 1997-98. The long term performance and sustainability of business and industry will rely heavily on increasing the skills base.

Figure 6: Number of Managers, Professionals and Associate Professionals in the NT



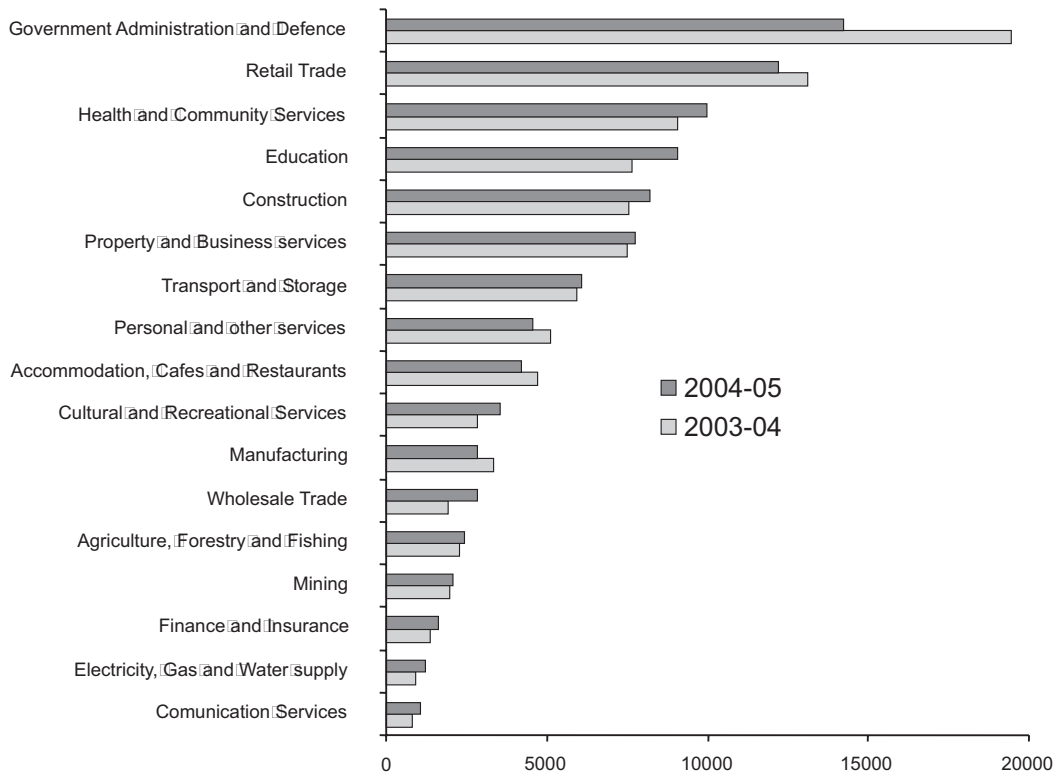
Source: ABS 6291.55.0

EQUITY

Employment

There were 93 925 people employed in the Northern Territory in 2004-05. The largest industry sectors by employment were government administration, defence and retail trade. Increases in 2004-05 were largest in health and community services and education, primarily due to recent initiatives within the Territory.

Figure 7: Contribution by Industry Sectors to Employment



Source: ABS 6291.55.00

Income

In 2003-04, gross household disposable income per capita was approximately \$28 000 in the Territory, second highest to the ACT amongst all states and territories. The gross household disposable income per capita for the whole of Australia was \$25 900 in 2003-04. Income accumulated as wages and salaries was 80.1 per cent, the highest in Australia, where the corresponding national figure was 58.0 per cent. A total of 11.4 per cent of household income was sourced from government pensions and allowances, the lowest in Australia, where the corresponding national figure in 2003-04 was 26.6 per cent. The female to male ratio of full time earnings was the highest in Australia, compared to the other states and territories.

Benefits

The ABS State Accounts indicated that in 2003-04 the share of the value added by Territory industries, excluding the mining sector, to salaries and wage earners was 58.6 per cent. This was slightly below the previous year. The balance of the value added was largely distributed to industry investors and owners.

Regions

Considerable variation exists between regions in economic opportunities and performance. In 2004, unemployment as an index of relative economic activity varied significantly between the six ABS statistical regions (Darwin and Environs 3.4%, Darwin Regional Balance 17.3%, East Arnhem 11.2%, Katherine 8.0%, Barkly 9.2%, Central Australia 6.0%).

Performance Reporting

Performance Reporting

CHANGES TO PERFORMANCE MEASURES

In 2004, DBIRD undertook a review of its Working for Outcomes Framework and measures. The review found that the framework was not aligned well to the structure of the department and that the measures did not provide a clear picture of performance. The review also found that the outputs did not have a strong link to the stated outcomes of the department and that the outputs were still reflecting the structure of previous departments.

DBIRD initiated a total review with the aim of developing a framework that reflected the diversity of the Department and provided a greater focus on efficiency and effectiveness. Treasury also initiated a pilot program with a number of departments to review their Outcomes Framework and measures in an effort to move towards efficiency and effectiveness measures. The department nominated to become part of this pilot program, and with some assistance from Treasury and local consultants Stanton Partners, developed a new framework and measures.

Previously, DBIRD had two Outcomes, with services gathered into six Outputs in three Output Groups. DBIRD now has two Outcomes, with services divided into eight Outputs in two Output Groups. The Outcomes divide the department's functions into development activities and management activities, and are described as:

- Sustainable development of the Territory's resources and enhanced capacity and performance of business and industry sectors; and
- Sustainable and responsible management of Territory resources.

The new framework has 111 performance measures across the eight Outputs, compared with 47 previously. These were developed through extensive consultation and demonstrate a commitment to transparency in reporting and a greater accountability for achieving Outcomes and Outputs.

DBIRD's framework now places a greater emphasis on ensuring comprehensive reporting of quantity, quality, timeliness and cost on an activity basis. The new framework also provides for greater accountability for Outcomes and Outputs, with Output Groups aligning directly with functional areas in the department. The framework reflects strategic priorities and will provide for more comprehensive reporting in DBIRD's Annual Report in future years.

Diagrams of the new structure and performance measures are in the following pages.

Figure 8: How DBIRD's Business Functions Align with Outcomes Framework

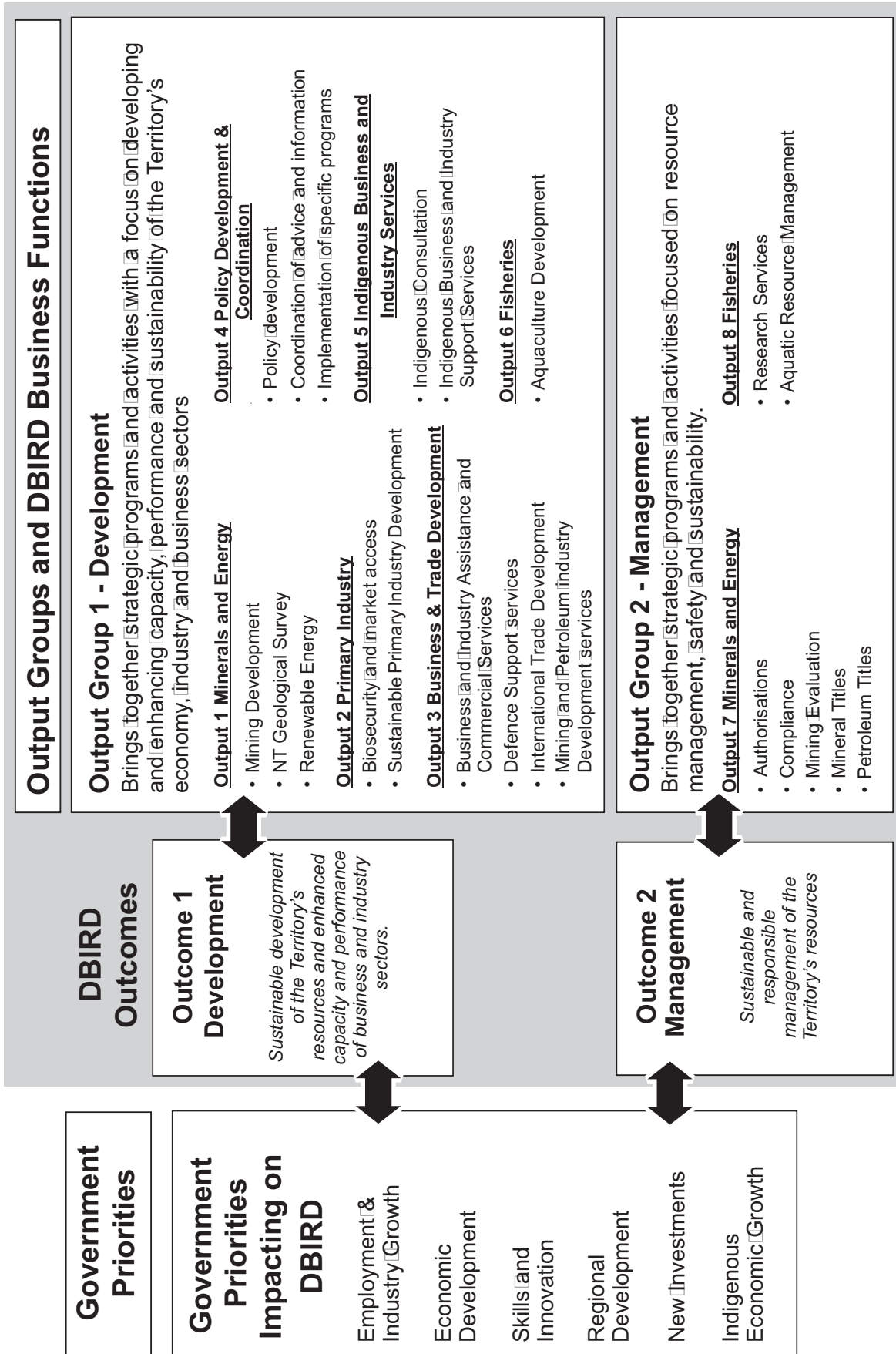
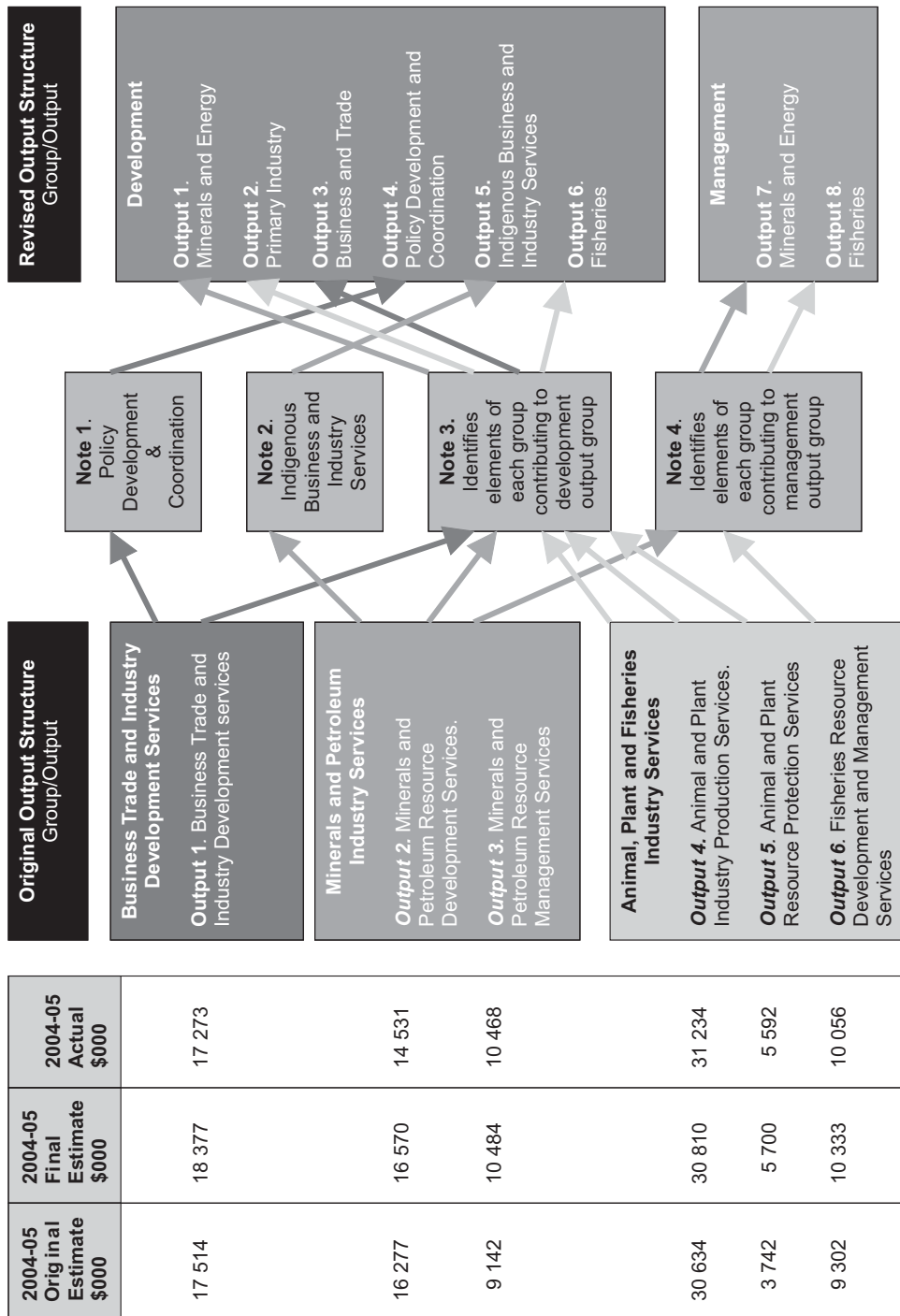


Figure 9: Changes to DBIRD's Outcomes Framework, including Funding Allocations

2004-05 Original Estimate \$000	2004-05 Final Estimate \$000	2004-05 Actual \$000
15 313	15 708	13 625
34 376	36 510	36 825
14 230	15 156	14 190
3 284	3 221	3 086
964	862	905
2 064	2 506	2 356
<u>86 611</u>	<u>92 274</u>	<u>89 154</u>



2004-05 Original Estimate \$000	2004-05 Final Estimate \$000	2004-05 Actual \$000
17 514	18 377	17 273
16 277	16 570	14 531
9 142	10 484	10 468
30 634	30 810	31 234
3 742	5 700	5 592
9 302	10 333	10 056
<u>86 611</u>	<u>92 274</u>	<u>89 154</u>

Note 1: Policy Development and Coordination was previously part of the Business and Trade Development Industry Development Services Output for reporting purposes
Note 2: Indigenous Business and Industry Services Group has developed from the Indigenous Mining and Industry Services Group in Minerals and Energy and includes new activities and is now an output.
Notes 3 and 4: The two new output groups "Development" and "Management" differentiates the activities in each group which contribute towards either "Development" - strategic programs and activities with a focus on developing and enhancing capacity, performance and sustainability of the Territory's economy, industry and business sectors or "Management" - strategic programs and activities focused on resource management, safety and sustainability.

OUTPUT GROUP 1: BUSINESS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Output Group 1 comprises a range of strategic services to support and develop business and industry throughout the Northern Territory. The Business and Trade Development Group and the Policy Development and Coordination Group have primary responsibility for delivering these services. These services are arranged within Output 1: Business, Trade and Industry Development Services.

OUTPUT 1: BUSINESS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Table 1: Output 1 Performance Report

<i>Performance Measures</i>	<i>2004-05 Original Estimate</i>	<i>2004-05 Revised Estimate</i>	<i>2004-05 Actual</i>	<i>2003-04 Actual</i>
Quantity (a)				
Businesses and Industry Associations receiving financial assistance	383	348	405 ¹	383
Direct assistance provided to business and Industry Associations	\$3.75M	\$4.82M	\$3.94M ¹	\$3.95M
Territory Business Centre (TBC) client contacts	85,000	86,000	92,878 ²	84,178
All other client contacts	51,100	51,100	48,663 ³	45,032
Overseas representation arrangements in place	2	2	2	2
Quality				
Customer satisfaction	83%	83%	85%	75%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction with timeliness of service	82%	82%	91%	88%
Cost (a)				
Average cost of TBC clients	\$13	\$14	\$15	\$14
Average cost of all other client contacts	\$239	\$233 ⁴	\$239 ⁴	\$282
Average cost of overseas representation arrangements	\$0.20M	\$0.20M	\$0.17M ⁵	\$0.27M
Output Cost	\$17.51M	\$18.38M	\$17.27M⁶	\$18.37M

Explanation of Variations between original estimate and actual expense.

1. Expenditure on financial assistance is dependent on applicant claims submitted.
2. Estimate based on prior year history. Unexpected increase of TBC clientele during 4th quarter. TBC client contacts include call centre, email, fax/mail and counter services throughout the Territory.
3. Estimate based on prior year history and expected industry activity. Other client contacts include business services contacts, site visits and overseas trade visits, seminars, workshops, and other events.
4. Fewer total client contacts resulted in increased average cost.
5. The estimate is for two overseas representatives, during the first quarter there were three which reduced the average cost.

SERVICES DELIVERED UNDER OUTPUT 1

The Business and Trade Development Group delivers services through the Business Services Division, International Business Division, Industry Development Division, Petroleum Mining and Support Division, Defence Support Division and Commercial Service Division.

The Policy and Coordination Group also delivers services under Output 1. The Group provides research and coordination services and advice on strategic policy issues relating to business, industry development and to the Territory's Asian and international relations. These services are provided through the Business and Skilled Migration Division, International and Asian Relations Division, Business Round Table, Policy Development Division and Economics Division.

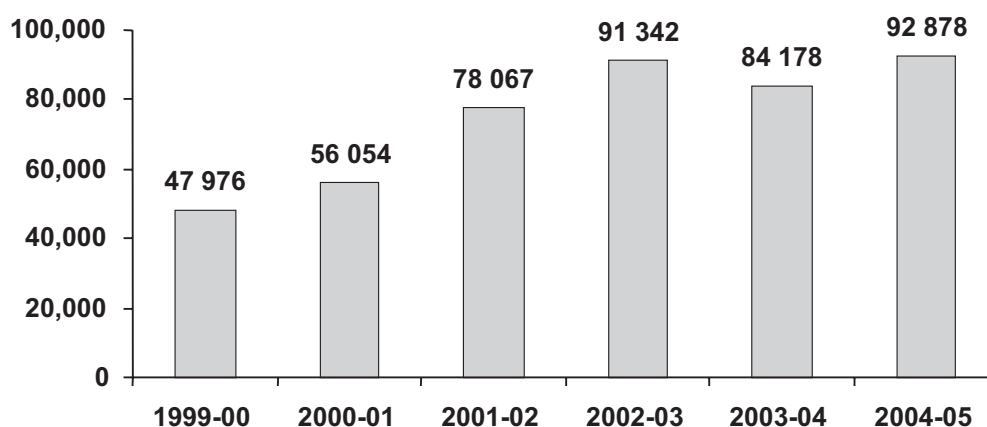
TERRITORY BUSINESS CENTRES

Territory Business Centres (TBCs) provide the first contact and referral point for many services and products from government agencies, including business information, lodgement and issue of permits and registrations required to operate a business, and links to departmental assistance programs. Territory Business Centres are based in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

Key Achievements

- Provided more than 92 878 clients with business information kits and licence information packages about the requirements to operate in the Territory and services to clients across the Territory.
- Introduced digitally-produced licences through the TBC offices in all regions. The new issuing system provides greater security, produces a more durable card and reduces the time required to issue a licence.

Figure 10: Total Customer Contacts through Territory Business Centres, 1999-2005



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES

This service delivers information through Upskills Workshops, Client Managers/Business Consultations, Business Growth, October Business Month (OBM), Territory Women in Business, Youth Desk and referrals to the Business Enterprise Centre (BEC).

Key Achievements

- Provided assistance to 40 businesses to undertake Business Growth programs. This provided business people with the opportunity to work closely with highly-skilled business improvement consultants to achieve better business growth.
- Provided information and assistance to 2895 businesses through the department's Business Consultation service.
- Coordinated regular meetings between the Minister and local business people throughout the year. Sessions were held at locations in Darwin, Palmerston and Alice Springs.
- Funded the Business Enterprise Centre (BEC) to provide guidance to people wishing to start a business. This included business information and advice, Introduction to Business workshops and referrals to other government agencies and business professionals such as accountants and solicitors. The BEC delivered 25 workshops across the Territory.
- Delivered the Upskills Workshops to all regions, including rural and remote areas. A total of 1244 people attended 90 Upskills workshops during the year. In addition, three-hour mentoring sessions were offered to attendees, and 69 people participated with consultants.
- Conducted a successful October Business Month program in 2004, with 4821 people attending 92 events. This was an increase in participants of 64 per cent on the previous year.
- Conducted the first Indigenous Governance Improvement Program (IGIP) workshops in February 2005 under the new IGIP Program. Fourteen workshops were completed by June 2005. IGIP is an initiative of the BEC, AusIndustry and the Territory Government. The program will deliver 30 two-day corporate governance workshops in remote communities of the Territory over an 18-month period.
- Conducted a series of Territory Women in Business events.
- Conducted a range of Youth Business programs, including the Youth Business Awards (with the Department of Employment, Education and Training), Young Achievement Australia, research projects into Youth in Business and participation in the Futures Expo.

LOAN PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

The department manages a portfolio of loans to Territory businesses, including Katherine Flood Natural Disaster Relief Arrangement loans and Drought loans. The portfolio comprised 29 loans totalling \$1.1 million at 30 June 2005.

Key Achievements

- Received loan repayments of \$974 000 during the year.
- Coordinated arrangements for two loans totalling \$200 000, approved by the Treasurer under the Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements, to assist businesses that suffered damage during Cyclone Ingrid in early 2005.

INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE, GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP

The department provides a range of grant and sponsorship programs to eligible businesses and organisations. The programs support industry growth in major centres and the regions. Programs include Business Growth, Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme, Fertiliser Freight Subsidy Scheme, Trade Support Scheme and the joint NT-Commonwealth Government FarmBis program. Details of all payments are at Appendices 2 to 9.

Key Achievements

- Assisted 40 Territory businesses with financial support of \$238 454 from the Business Growth business planning program.
- Provided financial support of \$301 864 under the FarmBis program to 77 primary producers and land managers for training to improve business and natural resource management skills.
- Paid 25 grants, totalling \$270 000, under the Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme towards the introduction of new watering facilities on pastoral properties.
- Provided 17 businesses with grants totalling \$598 425 to assist with the development of industry.
- Approved sponsorship totalling \$255 831 to assist 15 organisations to hold business events or activities across a wide range of industry sectors. Recipients included the Australian Rural Leadership Program, the NT Export Awards and the NT Show Council.
- Provided financial assistance for 17 peak industry associations and non-profit organisations with funding totalling \$2.021 million. This funding provided the organisations with program and operational funding to ensure continuity of services to business and industry. Recipients included the Chamber of Commerce NT, the NT Horticultural Association and the NT Industry Capability Network.
- Assisted 72 businesses under the Trade Support Scheme, with funding totalling \$354 867. The scheme was enhanced in July 2004 and a formal partnership was established with the NT Tourist Commission. The scheme has been well received by businesses seeking to establish or expand export activities throughout the world.
- Provided 46 commercial primary production enterprises with a total of \$56 402 in subsidies during the final year of the Fertiliser Freight Subsidy Scheme.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND ASIAN RELATIONS DEVELOPMENT

The department has maintained strong international relations for the Territory, especially in the Asian region, through economic, political and social and cultural links, as well as contributing to international trade policy and initiatives that support economic development.

The department continued to provide valuable international business services to facilitate international trade development. This included direct interaction with Territory exporters, presentations to senior international government and trade representatives, and participation in international trade delegations. To support the growth of international trade, the department also continued to provide funding support for international marketing development efforts by Territory exporters and for firms seeking to commence exporting or develop current export markets through the expanded Trade Support Scheme (TSS).

Key Achievements

- Managed Territory Government representation in Indonesia and the Philippines and completed new contracts until June 2006 for both representatives. Throughout 2004-05, the representatives provided valuable services that included:
 - assisting visits by Ministers, government officials and business and academic representatives;
 - facilitating trade and investment promotional events;
 - helping develop opportunities to expand Territory merchandise and services exports;
 - contributing to the promotion of the AustralAsia Trade Route;
 - providing advice on investment prospects and coordinated investment missions; and
 - strengthening of Territory Government relationships in Indonesia and the Philippines with national and regional governments and business organisations.
- Assisted with the coordination of the visit to the Territory by His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia, in April 2005
- Organised the first Brunei Indonesia Malaysia Philippines–East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) Darwin Dialogue, which was formally hosted by Minister Henderson in October 2004. This meeting resulted in the Territory being elevated within BIMP-EAGA from ‘Observer’ to ‘Development Partner’ status.
- Advocated Territory interests in national and international trade policy initiatives, including the completion of free trade agreements with the USA, Thailand and Singapore and the development of new agreements with Malaysia, China, ASEAN with New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates, and the World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade in Services.
- Hosted diplomatic visits and delegations including from Anhui Province, Shanghai and Sichuan Province in China, the Philippines, India, BIMP-EAGA, South Africa, Botswana, Thailand, Indonesia and Mexico.
- Prepared new intergovernmental agreements for signature by Minister Henderson between the Territory and the Province of Anhui, China, and the city region of Meizhou, Guandong Province, China, and contributed to agency level agreements with Anhui Province, the Malaysian State of Sabah and Indonesia.
- Supported development of the relationship between the Territory and Indonesia, including planning for an Indonesia Culture Week and the ‘Close Neighbours – Strong Partners’ Relationship Development Conference held in August 2005.
- Initiated forward planning for a Territory reconstruction project in Indonesia in the wake of the tsunami in Aceh and earthquakes on Alor Island, Nusa Tenggara Timor and Nabire in Papua Province in Indonesia.
- Lobbied successfully for the review of the Federal Export Marketing Development Grant to provide a better focus on access by regional and remote businesses.
- Coordinated a trade mission led by Minister Henderson in July 2004 to Kupang, Denpasar and Kuching to develop stronger relationships with government leaders in regional Indonesia and Malaysia.
- Led a mission to Denpasar and Jakarta in August 2004 to discuss the Darwin-based Indonesian Customs Pre-Inspection Facility with senior officials.
- Conducted a successful trade mission to Sabah, Malaysia, in September 2004 for a large contingent of Territory businesses to attend and exhibit at the Sabah International Expo 2004. This mission was accompanied by the Chief Minister and Minister Henderson.

- Coordinated a mission led by Minister Henderson to China in October 2004 to strengthen community, cultural and trade ties in Meizhou and Anhui Provinces and to explore trade opportunities in Guangzhou and Shanghai. This mission also served to develop opportunities in the education, tourism and services sectors.
- Mounted a mission to Balikpapan, Indonesia, in December 2004 to develop business and government links and explore new trade opportunities.
- Participated in the sixth Senior Trade Officials Meeting in Jakarta in October 2004. The key focus of this meeting was agricultural and livestock export agreements with Indonesia.
- Coordinated a mission led by Minister Henderson in February 2005 to promote trade opportunities and the AustralAsia Trade Route in Jakarta, Balikpapan and Surabaya, Indonesia. Minister Henderson also met several Ministers newly appointed to the Indonesian Cabinet.
- Represented the Territory Government at the International Chief Executive Officers' Conference in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, in March 2005. Also presented to BIMP-EAGA officials on the progress of the BIMP-EAGA Business Portal (BEBP), a web-based business-matching service to be operated by the Chamber of Commerce NT and equivalent business organisations throughout BIMP-EAGA.
- Undertook a market study of Sabah, Sarawak (Malaysia) and Brunei Darussalam in May 2005, which resulted in opportunities worth more than \$200 000 being presented to Territory companies.
- Created a niche opportunity to promote Indigenous art and craft in Europe through a campaign to bring German and Austrian art buyers to the Territory to visit regional art communities.
- Attended the first Balikpapan International Expo with 14 delegates from 11 Territory companies in June 2005 in Balikpapan, Indonesia, which provided business opportunities for Territory firms in heavy machinery refurbishment, food supply, construction and aviation services.
- Provided financial assistance under the Trade Support Scheme to support export marketing activities to 95 Territory companies in 2004-05. TSS funding during this period amounted to \$346 000.

INVESTMENT FACILITATION

This service facilitates new investment in the Territory by providing information and advice to inward investors.

Key Achievements

- Successfully worked with the proponent to facilitate commencement of work on a biodiesel manufacturing plant at the East Arm Port.
- Commenced discussions with a second biodiesel proponent about establishing a facility in Darwin.
- Worked with stakeholder groups and Charles Darwin University to identify opportunities for commercialisation of wildfoods into value adding, food processing manufacturers and gourmet restaurants.
- Facilitated establishment of the Marine Industry Working Group to examine future development issues related to the Frances Bay precinct and emerging opportunities for the sector.

INDUSTRY SECTOR STRATEGIES

This Division works with selected industry sectors to help expand the sector and foster new developments. It aims to develop solutions to impediments to the development of industry, such as the lack of airfreight capacity both inbound and outbound from the Territory. Other priorities include the manufacturing, marine and food sectors and bioprospecting.

Key Achievements

- Co-hosted and facilitated a food manufacturing workshop involving horticultural producers, seafood industry representatives, Food Science Australia and representatives of the Australian Government.
- Supported the Manufacturing Consultative Group to assess future needs for the sector and develop programs to help meet identified needs.
- Provided a dedicated project officer to assist with implementation of the Manufacturing Strategy in key target areas.
- Monitored and evaluated Industry Participation Plans to maximise opportunities for Territory business from Government tenders.
- Facilitated a visit to the Northern Territory by members of the Dubai Chefs Association. The visit was arranged in conjunction with National Food Industry Strategy (NFIS). It was followed up by a visit to Dubai as part of the NFIS-sponsored delegation.
- Continued consultation with major air freight carriers to evaluate options for improved air freight capacity into and out of the Territory.
- Supported the Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries in hosting the 'Taste Down Under' dinner event.
- Completed the draft *Policy for Access to Biological Resources for Bioprospecting in the Northern Territory*.
- Promoted Territory foods through events such as the Good Food and Wine Show (Melbourne), Central Australian Expo (Alice Springs), NT Seafood Festival (Darwin), Freds Pass Show (Darwin), NT Expo (Darwin) and the Independent Grocers Expo.

DEFENCE SUPPORT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

The Defence Support Program delivers strategic advice to Government on defence support issues, with a strong focus on identifying and attracting defence industry and business development opportunities to the Territory. The Division also works to assist the Territory's defence support industry develop its capacity and capability, and provides executive support to the Australian Industry and Defence Network-NT (AIDN-NT).

Key Achievements

- Attended the Land Warfare Conference in Canberra and hosted an NT Defence Support Industry exhibit with AIDN-NT and four defence prime contractors.
- Organised workshops in Alice Springs, Katherine and Darwin to improve the ability of businesses to tender for defence work, and to assist businesses to better profile their companies to defence and defence prime contractors. The workshops were attended by more than 100 businesses.
- Conducted an NT Defence Support Industry exhibit and help desk at the Defence and Industry Conference in Canberra, which was attended by 1200 defence, industry and government delegates.

- Conducted an NT Defence Support Industry help desk at the Defence + Industry Regional Briefing at Robertson Barracks.
- Partnered with AIDN-NT to create a Defence Support Industry Development Strategy.
- Co-hosted an industry workshop with AIDN-NT in relation to the 'Collaborating to Compete for Defence Work' project and provided support throughout the project.

PETROLEUM INDUSTRY OPPORTUNITIES

This program provides a range of services aimed at building the Territory's share of expenditure and employment from oil and gas activities in the region. The Division works closely with other government agencies, the NT Industry Capability Network (NTICN) and industry associations.

Key Achievements

- Arranged and led business and trade delegations to Offshore South East Asia in Singapore in November 2004 (five delegates) and Australian Oil and Gas (12 delegates) in Perth in February 2005. These missions were designed to promote Darwin as a regional supply and service centre and attract investment to build Darwin's supply-service capacity.
- Negotiated Local Industry Participation Plans (LIPPs) for the Alcan Gove expansion, Blacktip gas field and Trans Territory Pipeline projects.
- Encouraged and assisted ConocoPhillips and its prime contractors to engage with local industry regarding the Bayu-Undan project, the Bayu-Undan to Darwin gas pipeline and the Darwin LNG plant.
- Monitored the performance of ConocoPhillips and its contractors under LIPPs covering the Bayu-Undan to Darwin pipeline and Darwin LNG plant and lobbied for the introduction of programs to train Territory people for work on those projects.
- Monitored regional oil and gas activity to identify opportunities to build Darwin's strategic importance as a major supply-service hub and engaged with BP and its partners and contractors regarding the use of Darwin as a support to the development of the major Tangguh LNG project in West Papua.
- Assisted IIR, as SEAAOC conference organiser, to identify and secure speakers. In conjunction with the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, arranged a Global Connections seminar. Placed relevant advertisements and prepared articles for industry publications and business associations.
- Met local industry operators to identify and address shortcomings in Darwin's supply and service capability.

MINING INDUSTRY (ONSHORE OIL AND GAS) OPPORTUNITIES

This program delivers a range of services aimed at building the Territory's share of expenditure and employment from mining activities in the region. The Division works closely with other government agencies, NTICN and industry associations.

Key Achievements

- Actively pursued local content outcomes from the planned Alcan Gove expansion and the associated planned development of the Blacktip gas field and Trans Territory

Pipeline by negotiating Local Industry Participation Plans, providing project information and facilitating briefings for local business in Darwin, Katherine and Mataranka

- Undertook minesite visits to gain an understanding of the various companies' needs.
- Arranged a major supply-service seminar to familiarise Alice Springs business with the needs of, and opportunities arising from, the region's miners.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY POLICY DEVELOPMENT

This service develops policies and provides strategic advice to enhance the business operating environment and support development of business and industry in the Territory. It includes coordination of the Chief Minister's Business Round Table, industry participation policy, industry development policy and contributes to whole of government policy development.

Key Achievements

- Developed a Business Services Sector Action Agenda for 2004-05.
- Contributed to Federal agendas through Trade and Small Business Ministerial Councils
- Coordinated business focus groups in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs to examine the issues and contributing factors to business confidence for small and medium enterprises.
- Coordinated the Chief Minister's Business Round Table. Nine meetings were held during the year, with 154 participants, in Darwin, Palmerston, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy.

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

This service delivers economic information and advice service for industry, business, government and the community on a wide range of business and industry and resource development issues. This is primarily directed at improving the capacity, performance and sustainability of Territory businesses and industries.

Key Achievements

- Delivered economic opportunity advice to support policy developments in DBIRD and other industry agencies, advised on economy-wide impacts and issues, and analysed priority sectoral developmental opportunities.
- Delivered an economic performance program that contributed to improvements in the availability, quantity and quality of economic statistics. Also provided information and advice on regional economic profiles, industry production values, employment trends, and business bankruptcy and insolvency levels.
- Provided an economic outlook program, including the eleventh NT Regional Outlook Conference in Alice Springs in November 2004, quarterly business and industry assessments, Sensis and other research reports, and annual outlook analyses for industry resource-based sectors.
- Undertook an evaluation of the Economics Program
- Supported development of a decision-making model for resource allocation within the department

BUSINESS AND SKILLED MIGRATION SERVICES

This service provides a timely, proactive, professional migration service, including contributions to national business and skilled migration policy development.

Key Achievements

- Completed and launched the NT Business and Skilled Migration Strategy 2005-2010.
- Held information and awareness raising sessions in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Darwin on regional migration schemes for the employment of skilled employees from overseas.
- Enhanced employer focused information provided through the Territory's dedicated Business and Skilled Migration web site.
- Promoted the Territory as a business and skilled migration destination internationally, including
 - o Business and skilled migration seminars in Manila, Baguio and Cebu, the Philippines, August 2004;
 - o Joint Territory/Australian/state promotional events on Business Skills Migration in Guangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing, People's Republic of China, February 2005
 - o Information and promotional workshops in Shanghai and Shenzhen, People's Republic of China, February 2005 (in partnership with Australian registered migration agents)
 - o Joint NT/Commonwealth/State Australian Migration Information Day in the Grand Hall of the Australian High Commission in London, March 2005
 - o Emigrate 2005, a major emigration event, Surrey, United Kingdom, March 2005
 - o Support for Charles Darwin University with promotional activities in Bangladesh in March 2005.
- Assisted with Ministerial and departmental overseas visits.
- Certified a range of migration nominations and sponsorships, including:
 - o 98 Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme nominations
 - o 98 Regional Temporary Residence nominations
 - o 14 Skilled Independent - Regional sponsorships
 - o 10 Business Skills Entry sponsorships
- Provided letters of support and invitation to 107 people to assist them to obtain visas to travel to the Territory for business purposes.

Table 2: Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme Certifications (five-year trend)

	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05
Nominations	27	28	55	57	98
Nominations Withdrawn/refused/not completed	1	2	Nil	3	1
Nominations pending			5		2
No of visas			136	140	234

OUTPUT GROUP 2: MINERALS AND PETROLEUM INDUSTRY SERVICES

Output Group 2 comprises a range of strategic services to support development of the Territory's mineral and petroleum resources, and provide exploration and mining titles and safety and environmental regulation. The Output Group comprises Output 2: Minerals and Petroleum Resource Development Services, and Output 3: Minerals and Petroleum Resource Management Services. The department's Minerals and Energy Group has primary responsibility for delivering these Outputs.

OUTPUT 2: MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Activities undertaken in support of the Output include providing information to industry about mineral and petroleum resource availability, community education services and assistance to industry and communities through administration of the Australian Government's Renewable Remote Power Generation.

A major component of this Output is the four-year program, *Building the Territory's Resource Base*, which began in 2003-04. Funding under this program has been allocated across a range of services. Publications produced under this Output are listed at Appendix 10.

Table3: Output 2 Performance Report

Performance Measures	2004-05 Original Estimate	2004-05 Revised Estimate	2004-05 Actual	2003-04 Actual
<i>Quantity</i>				
Geoscientific information products released.	105	155	135 ¹	96
Indigenous community participation activities and knowledge and education programs provided.	18	18	14 ²	18
Assistance provided under Renewable Energy Rebate Programs (1)	\$4.94M	\$5.93M ³	\$3.64M ³	\$4.10M ³
Administrative costs associated with providing Renewable Energy Rebate Programs	-	\$0.591M	\$0.505M	-
<i>Quality</i>				
Customer satisfaction	93%	93%	88%	89%
Agreed national standards met (maps)	100%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Timeliness</i>				
Customer satisfaction with timeliness of services	92%	92%	89%	92%
<i>Cost</i>				
Average cost of geoscientific products released (2)	\$94 000	\$57 811	\$68 661 ⁴	\$98 720
Average cost of Indigenous programs delivered	\$80 000	\$60 408	\$79 732 ⁵	\$72 358
Output Cost (3)	\$16.28M	\$16.57M	\$14.53M ⁶	\$14.73M

Explanation of Variations between original estimate and actual expense.

1. Resources were redirected in the latter part of 2004-05 for the CABS seminar in August 2006.
2. Transition from IMIS to IBIS and additional responsibility for emerging indigenous businesses delayed planned activities.
3. Prior year actual included administrative costs. Actual rebates significantly lower than targeted due to outside influences including world wide shortage of solar panels, unresolved insurance claims delaying installations and delays with the submission of some grant invoices.
4. The average cost of each product increased due to lower number of products produced overall.
5. During the year fewer programs were delivered due to increasing responsibility for emerging indigenous business.
6. Recruitment issues in the Geoscience Knowledge Management group have put pressure on cartographic, GIS and editorial capability, delaying the release of several reports and map products until 2005-06. Actual Renewable Energy Program rebates lower than targeted.

SERVICES DELIVERED UNDER OUTPUT 2

The Minerals and Energy Group delivers services under this Output. Contributing Divisions are the Northern Territory Geological Survey (NTGS) and the Mining and Energy Services Division.

PROMOTION AND INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

A separate Mining Development Division was established as a result of an external review of the former Mines and Petroleum Management Division. One of the review's key recommendations was that development and regulatory functions be clearly separated. The Mining Development Division is intended to attract, promote and facilitate exploration and mining developments, and to reinforce activities of the NT Geological Survey and Titles Divisions.

Key Achievements

- Organised the Top End Secret Road Show to promote the Territory's mineral resources to potential explorers around Australia. Led by Minister Vatskalis, Top End Secret was presented in Brisbane, Perth and Sydney in March-April 2005. Almost 700 exploration and mining company executives attended the show, which was supported by four strategic partners – KMPG, Clayton Utz, the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies and the Sydney Mining Club.
- Tracked results from the Top End Secret Road Show. Inquiries to the NT Geological Survey increased, with 35 per cent of requests for data coming from road show participants. The Titles Division also received an increase in applications, with 29 per cent of applications for exploration licenses coming from road show participants.
- Convened meetings with numerous investment consortiums and groups from Asia and Australia to discuss investment and supply opportunities in the NT mining industry.
- Facilitated contacts between investment groups, developers, explorers and miners with the aim of developing mining joint ventures in the NT.

REGIONAL GEOSCIENTIFIC STUDIES

This service enhances mineral and petroleum prospectivity in the Territory by providing integrated geoscientific studies on individual geological terrains. Information is collected in the field by NTGS staff and by using geophysical methods such as airborne surveys. The information is then collated and interpreted by the geological survey team. Published text and map products are delivered free-of-charge to clients via hard copies, CD/DVD ROM and the NTGS website. Maps are published both as hard copies and in digital Geographic Information System (GIS) format.

Key Achievements

- Geophysical interpretations of basement rocks were completed for seven 1:250 000 mapsheets in the poorly-exposed northern and western Arunta Region, with two 1:250 000 interpreted geology maps released.
- Released a preliminary 1:500 000-scale (GIS) of the Pine Creek Orogen, an important mineral-bearing geological region in the northern part of the Territory.
- Commenced a major new program of mapping and mineral deposit studies in the eastern Arunta Region, including shallowly-buried basement under the northern Simpson Desert.

- Released new 400 m line spaced airborne geophysical data for around 15 000 km² in the Simpson Desert region
- Released three new 1:250 000 maps, explanatory notes and a CD of new geochronology (rock/mineral dating) data following completion of mapping of the prospective Warumpi Province (south-western Arunta Region).
- Released a new 1:500 000 map of the southern Georgina Basin.
- Released four new fully attributed GIS datasets of 1:250 000 mapsheets. These digital versions are a significant advance on previous hard-copy maps.

MINERAL DEPOSIT STUDIES

This service undertakes studies of mineral deposits and mineral prospective terrains to enhance exploration potential.

Key Achievements

- Released a comprehensive report entitled Gold Mineral Systems of the Tanami Region. This report provides an in-depth study of gold forming processes. It is aimed at providing essential parameters for focused mineral exploration.
- Published a professional paper jointly with the University of Leoben (Austria) on the Browns polymetallic deposit in the international journal of Economic Geology. Considerable interest has been generated in the area as a result of this publication.
- Initiated and completed a study on the potential for phosphate deposits in the vicinity of the Alice–Darwin railway corridor. This low-cost study involved testing water-bore cuttings for phosphate. Several prospective occurrences have been located. The results were presented in the Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) meeting in Alice Springs in March and a paper is being prepared for the forthcoming Central Australian Basins Seminar.
- Commenced a study to understand the nature of mineralising fluids in the northern Arunta Region.
- Finalised a report on a regional multi-commodity study of the southern Georgina Basin. This project addresses the relationships between petroleum and base-metal fluid systems.
- Continued work on understanding the metallogeny (study of the origins of mineral deposits) of the mineral deposits of the Jervis Mineral Field. This project is aimed at better understanding the mineral potential of the region.
- Continued work on a comprehensive publication dealing with the geology and mineral resources of the Territory.
- Completed explanatory notes, GIS and map for the Mount Evelyn 1:250 000 mapsheet.
- Provided assistance to a gravity survey sponsored by the NTGS, industry and the University of Tasmania to explore the iron ore potential of the iron ore deposits of the Frances Creek iron field.

PETROLEUM SYSTEMS OF SEDIMENTARY BASINS

This survey develops information packages on on-shore petroleum occurrences and gas and petroleum prospectivity.

Key Achievements

- Released a DVD ROM of 31 peer-reviewed technical papers into Timor Sea Petroleum Geoscience in July 2004.
- Released Onshore NT Petroleum Exploration CD ROM in February 2005. This CD summarises the exploration potential of the Georgina, Amadeus, Pedirka/Eromanga, Beetaloo and Wiso basins and was widely circulated at AGES, APPEA, AAPG conferences and the Northern Territory Minerals Council forum.
- Promoted the exploration potential of the Territory's onshore basins at the AGES conference in March 2005.
- Presented a peer-reviewed paper on the onshore petroleum potential at the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) Conference in Perth, WA.
- Undertook detailed planning and organisational work for the Central Australian Basins Symposium, in Alice Springs in August 2005. The conference included 53 technical presentations. The abstracts volume has been presented to the publisher and full peer-reviewed papers will be published in 2006 by NTGS.

GEOCHEMICAL DATASETS

This service produces geochemical datasets and display products for in-house and company exploration data.

Key Achievements

- Continued development of the database by adding information from company exploration reports, and acquiring a compilation for the Pine Creek Orogen. A total of 41 067 sample locations and 3917 drillhole locations were added to the database during the year. The database holds 242 960 samples and 63 080 drillhole locations. This includes drillhole, stream-sediment, rock-chip, whole-rock and soil-sample data, and is available as MapInfo and Explorer 3 datasets. The data is distributed via the website (STRIKE) and on CD.
- Added 2638 samples to the Diamond Database during the year. The database holds 60 665 sample locations and diamond chemistry information.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS

This service disseminates regional geophysical data and interpretations to the exploration industry via maps, reports and image web server.

Key Achievements

- Completed an airborne geophysical survey (magnetic, radiometric, elevation) over the Simpson Desert. Approximately 40 000 line km of data were acquired in 2004-05.
- Acquired 3728 new 2 x 2 km-spaced gravity stations in the northern Tanami Region, west of Lajamanu. This program was undertaken in partnership with the Australian Government.
- Re-processed the Territory's repository of airborne magnetic, radiometric and elevation data to allow global access via the Australian Government's geoscience web portal.

- Produced an additional Territory-wide geophysical compilation (relief map of the NT), as a companion product to existing 1:2 500 000-scale geological, magnetic, elevation, radiometric and gravity maps of the NT.

INDUSTRY INFORMATION SERVICES AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

This service manages the collection, indexing, scanning, and open-file release of statutory mineral and petroleum exploration reports.

Key Achievements

- Enhanced the range of services available through STRIKE, the interactive web mapping application that enables internet users to view and spatially compare both vector and raster geological, geophysical, exploration, tenement and ancillary data covering the Territory.
- Launched a new version of the geophysical Image Web Server in May 2005. The system has been upgraded with a range of enhancements designed to improve the usefulness of the information for clients.
- Added a further 690 mineral exploration and 187 petroleum reports and datasets into the Industry Reports Management System (IRMS). IRMS holds more than 16 450 mineral exploration reports and 3250 records relating to onshore and offshore petroleum exploration.
- Published IRMS databases containing records of more than 12 950 mineral exploration and 1850 petroleum open-file reports via the website and CD.
- Commenced updating the IRMS minerals database. More than 14 000 records have been edited, with 5500 being substantially revised to make them more useful to explorers. Over 500 legacy reports, some dating back several decades, have been open-filed.
- Commenced updating the IRMS petroleum database. More than 600 records were added or modified in 2004-05.
- Updated the core library database, COREDAT. There are now more than 3850 open-file records available for searching via the website.
- Added 52 holes and 561 trays (not including water bores) of drill core samples to the NTGS drill core library in Darwin, and 11 holes and 904 trays to the drill core library in Alice Springs. This brings total holdings (not including water bores) at Darwin to 1903 holes in 26 966 trays and, at Alice Springs, 1278 holes in 16 501 trays. The two drill core libraries attracted 193 visitors in 2004–05.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND FOSSICKING SERVICES

This service delivers a series of educational sessions with Indigenous Community Councils and schools to teach children and community leaders about mining and the role they may be able to take in developing partnerships. It also provides policy advice and support services for the department's role in fossicking in the Territory.

Key Achievements

- Undertook knowledge building programs with Indigenous communities. Programs promoting exploration and mineral resource development techniques were presented to schools in remote communities, with a focus on upper primary and secondary students.
- Delivered presentations specifically tailored to the interests of community councils and traditional owner groups. These included presentations about the Trans Territory Pipeline project in numerous affected communities, mining industry project development, mineral exploration (diamond exploration in particular), extractive operations and geoscientific research.
- Promoted career education through the school program and Futures Expos. Supported several career expos specifically targeting Indigenous students and communities.
- Developed a comprehensive range of mining career brochures, which are being used by secondary schools and are available on CD.
- Introduced an electronic Fossicking Permit system, superseding the self-issue system. Applications may now be lodged via the internet.

INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION SERVICES

This service acts as secretariat to the Indigenous Mining and Enterprise Task Force (IMETF), a group established to enable Indigenous engagement practitioners from the mining industry to work together to achieve Indigenous employment and business outcomes. It also provides information, advice and resources to assist industry in its engagement with Indigenous stakeholders.

Key Achievements

- Developed the Territory's first interactive CD to assist new explorers to navigate through application processes. It also provides industry with a broad range of resources to improve the effectiveness of engagement with the Indigenous community.
- Supported the IMETF to improve opportunities for Indigenous engagement in the mining industry through employment and support enterprise. Meetings were held at Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek and Borroloola. IMETF has also been active in promoting employment and contracting opportunities through the Futures Expos around the Territory.

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM SERVICES

This service provides assistance to industry and communities in its administration of the Australian Government's Renewable Remote Power Generation Program and the Photovoltaic Rebate Program.

Key Achievements

- Approved 68 projects under the Australian Government funded Renewable Remote Power Generation Program, resulting in committed funding of about \$2.56 million. Of these projects, 48 were for indigenous outstations, and 15 for pastoral properties. It is estimated that projects approved during 2004-05 will collectively save more than 294 600 litres of diesel fuel and almost 796 tonnes in greenhouse gas emissions per year.
- Approved funding of \$0.5 million for three industry support projects: \$365 000 to develop resources for Certificate II Electrotechnology Remote Area Power Supply Servicing course; \$97 000 for a demonstration project; and \$38 000 to investigate the feasibility of using solar power in Uluru National Park.

- Completed 67 projects, and paid out rebates totalling about \$3.37 million. Progress payments of \$274 920 were also made for the three industry support projects.
- Provided a grant of \$30 000 to the Alice Springs Town Council to assist with the development of an Expression of Interest (EOI) for hosting a Solar Cities trial in Alice Springs. The EOI was lodged with the Australian Greenhouse Office on 22 July 2005.

Table 4: Renewable Energy Rebates Approved 2004-05

Off-grid user type	Number	Renewable capacity of projects approved (kilowatts)	Rebate approved (\$)	Expected savings per annum	
				Diesel fuel (litres)	Greenhouse (tonnes CO ₂)
Pastoral stations	15	26.705	332 964	51 800	128
Industrial Operations	3	5.19	62 574	9 350	25
Small indigenous (including Bushlight)	48	156.365	2 118 415	232 480	574
Government operations	1	3.15	40 243	4 300	12
Households	1	0.45	4 789	1 100	3
Total	68	191.86	2 558 985	299 030	796

Table 5: Renewable Energy Rebates Paid 2004-05

Off-grid user type	Number	Renewable capacity of projects paid (kilowatts)	Rebate paid (\$)	Expected savings per annum	
				Diesel fuel (litres)	Greenhouse (tonnes CO ₂)
Pastoral stations	19	17.05	333 309	40 500	109
Major projects (large Indigenous communities)	0	0	1 182 280	0	0
Small indigenous (including Bushlight)	46	103.295	1 454 164	162 750	432
Government operations	1	3.15	392 573*	4 300	12
Industrial operations	1		3 866	1 000	3
Total	67	123.50	3 366 192	208 550	556

*Progress payments

OUTPUT 3: MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Activities undertaken in support of the Output include granting and maintaining tenure for resource management, and safety and environmental regulation (including inspection and audit) for mining and petroleum operations.

Table 6: Output 3 Performance Report

Performance Measures	2004-05 Original Estimate	2004-05 Revised Estimate	2004-05 Actual	2003-04 Actual
<i>Quantity</i>				
Mineral and petroleum titles and exploration licenses administered.	4 556	4 556	4 725 ¹	4 681
Mineral and petroleum safety and environmental plans and activities managed.	260	260	304 ²	253
<i>Quality</i>				
Customer satisfaction	93%	93%	88%	89%
<i>Timeliness</i>				
Legislated/established timeframes met	95%	95%	100%	95%
<i>Cost</i>				
Average cost of managing mineral and petroleum titles and exploration licences.	\$909	\$1 054	\$1 022 ³	\$881
Average cost of managing mineral and petroleum safety & environmental plans and activities.	\$19 000	\$21 847	\$18 555 ⁴	\$23 413
<i>Output Cost</i>	\$9.14M	\$10.48M	\$10.47M ⁵	\$8.97M

Explanation of Variations between original estimate and actual expense.

1. This figure is affected by the number of titles on foot and the staffing level of the Titles Division. Both factors fluctuate considerably over time.
2. A reflection of the increase in exploration.
3. Overheads higher than expected
4. Decrease in average costs due to increase in plans and activities managed.
5. Increased funding during the year for Mt Todd, increased revenue for mining applications and dealings and increased overhead expenses.

SERVICES DELIVERED UNDER OUTPUT 3

The Minerals and Energy Group delivers services under this Output. Contributing divisions are the Mineral and Energy Titles Division, and the Mines and Petroleum Management Division. During the year, a comprehensive review was undertaken of the Mines and Petroleum Division. A number of changes resulted from the review, including:

- separation of the regulatory and development functions into separate divisions
- creation of the position of Chief Investigator, independently coordinating the investigation of significant accidents and incidents on mining and petroleum operations
- creation of a number of smaller divisions that have responsibility for distinct areas of regulation – the Mining and Petroleum Authorisations Division assesses applications for new operations, the Mining and Petroleum Compliance Division audits and inspects operations for compliance with legislative requirements, and the Mining Evaluation Division undertakes environmental assessment of legacy mines.

The new structure was approved by the Chief Executive on 7 February 2005, and an implementation process commenced which included representatives of all affected areas and Unions NT. The review process, implementation and ongoing service delivery was achieved through the combined efforts of staff, using existing resources, and without impact on departmental clients.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

This service provides a regulatory framework for the exploration and development of petroleum resources that maximises return to the community.

Key Achievements

- Released three petroleum exploration areas in the Northern Territory adjacent area and three areas in the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands adjacent area (jointly referred to as Northern Territory Administered Waters) under the work program bidding system at the 2005 APPEA Conference in Canberra. Bids for these areas will close on 20 October 2005.
- Promoted two onshore areas in the Amadeus and Wiso Basins as suggested exploration areas for hydrocarbons.

Table 7: Oil and Gas Production for the NT in 2004-05.

	2003-04 million m ³	2004-05 million m ³	Change %	Producing Fields
Offshore Oil	2.472	1.489	- 40	Laminaria/Corallina, Jabiru & Challis
Onshore Oil	0.059	0.061	+ 3	Mereenie
Onshore Gas	548	544	- 1	Mereenie & Palm Valley

- Prepared the Final Joint Technical Report for the Argus gas discovery and presented it to the Commonwealth.
- Prepared the Final Joint Technical report of Crux and presented it to the Commonwealth.
- Commenced assessment of Santos application for renewal of a Retention Lease over the Petrel gas discovery in the NT-adjacent area north-west of Darwin.

- Commenced assessment of Coogee application for a Retention Lease over Cash-Maple, a gas discovery in the Ashmore and Cartier Islands adjacent area.
- Commenced assessment of Hardman application for renewal of a Retention Lease over Talbot, an oil discovery in the Ashmore and Cartier Islands adjacent area.
- Liaised with companies undertaking petroleum exploration activities. Companies acquired a total of 4613 line kilometres of 2D seismic data in 2004.

Table 8: Seismic Data and Costs

Company	Line km of seismic data acquired	survey/permit	date	Cost A\$(million)
Norwest Energy	125	Lara2D, AC/P32	16-18 August	0.31
Hardman	429	Rufus 2D, AC/P25	18-22August	0.50
Santos	623	SNT04B 2D, NT/P48	28 August-4 September	0.96
Santos	136	SNT04 2D, NT/P67	6-7 September	0.4
Nexus	3300	Fog Bay 2D, NTP66	16 Sept – 13 October	1.2

Table 9: Summary of Onshore and Offshore Drilling Activity for 2004-05

Well	Permit/Operator	date	status
Offshore wells			
Katandra-1	AC/P24, OMV	13 Dec 2005	Plugged and abandoned
Katandra-1A	AC/P24, OMV	20 Dec 2004	6m Oil discovery , plugged & abandoned
Ponderosa-1	AC/P4, OMV	31 Dec 2004	Plugged and abandoned
Ponderosa-1A	AC/P4, OMV	12 Jan 2005	Plugged and abandoned
Jabiru -11	AC/L1, Coogee	6 March 2005	Work-over
Coot-1	AC/L2, Coogee	7 March 2005	Plugged and abandoned
Marloo-1	AC/P26, Hardman	1 April 2005	Plugged and abandoned
Vesta-1	AC/P26, Eni	9 April 2005	Oil & gas discovery , suspended
Laminaria-5	AC/L4, Woodside	30 April 2005	Work over
Laminaria pilot south -1	AC/L1 Woodside	24 May 2005	Plugged and abandoned
Pethanlonia North -1	AC/P8, Woodside	10 June 2005	Still drilling
Onshore wells			
PV-11	OL3	June – August 2004	Plugged and abandoned
East Mereenie-43	OL 4 & 5	October 2005	Gas well
West Mereenie-18	OL 4 & 5	November 2005	Gas well

MINING REGULATION

This service undertakes assessments and provides advice relating to applications for project developments, authorisations and Mining Management Plans prepared pursuant to the *Mining Management Act* (MMA).

Key Achievements

- Completed more than 160 reviews and assessments of Mining Management Plans.
- Reviewed more than 20 technical reports, plans and monitoring data submissions.
- Prepared assessment reports for all mining development proposals to ensure appropriate level of assessment pursuant to the Environmental Assessment Act.
- Assisted mine operators to meet statutory obligations in achieving improvement to their safety and environment management systems.
- Updated guidelines and advisory notes for various aspects of the MMA

- Established a Mining Security Assessment Board to manage the assessment of securities for mining sites.
- Developed a specific-purpose internal automated Mining Site Report for improved efficiency in monitoring and information transfer.
- Made 37 significant improvements to the Operations Based Information System (OBIS) for mining sites.

Table 10: Activity Summary of Mining Regulation

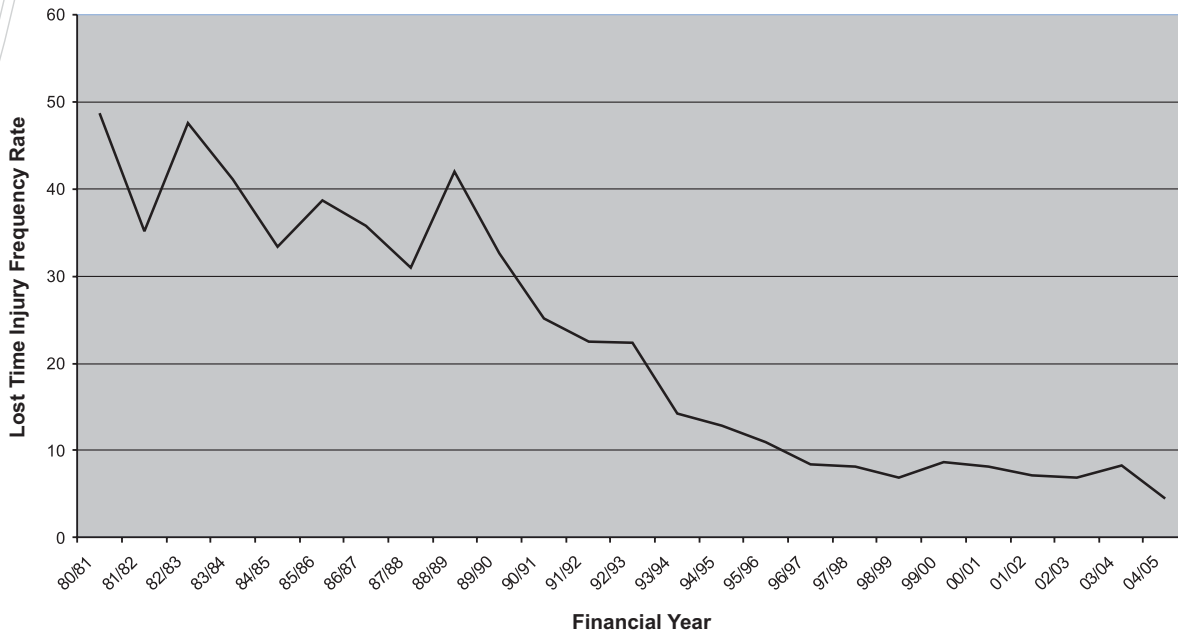
	2004-05
Number of Mining Management Plans assessed	163
Number of Notices of Intent reviewed	4
Number of Preliminary Environmental Reports reviewed	1
Number of new securities established	62
Number of Authorisations issued:	69
• New Authorisations = 39	
• Amendments to existing Authorisations = 30	
Number of new operations registered	49
Average number of new operations assessed per week	2
Number of sites managed in statutory register of mining sites	425
Number of authorised sites securities are held against	257
Security held against operational sites	\$32 625 144.00
Number of incidents reported on authorised sites	576
Number of returns recorded reporting to Mining Management Regulations 3	501
Number of returns recorded reporting to Mining Management Regulations 4	85
Number of Closure Certificates issued	11
Number of activities carried out for Titles Division – clearances, renewals, applications and transfers of titles	506

Table 11: Five-year Employment and Safety Summary

5 Year Summary					
	2000 / 01	2001 / 02	2002 / 03	2003 / 04	2004 / 05
Average Number of Mine Workers	3,535	3,553	3,628	3,525	3,592
Work Hours Exposure	7 891 003	8 013 560	8 273 614	8 211 514	7 755 593
Number of Lost Time Injuries	65	58	57	68	35
Number of Days Lost due to Injuries	1229	1508	1551	1660	652
Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate	8.2	7.2	6.9	8.3	4.5
Incidence Rate	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.0
Duration Rate	18.9	26.0	27.2	24.4	18.6
Injury Index	155.0	187.2	187.8	202.5	83.7
Number of Fatal Injuries	0	0	0	0	1

Note: Any variations with previously published figures can be attributed to receipt of additional and/or superior data from operators. The 2004-05 data should be treated with caution as it is preliminary and may not represent the final data set.

Figure 11: Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate 1980-81 to 2004-05



MINING AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

This service conducts routine audits and inspections of mining activities and reports back to industry on compliance with relevant legislation, standards and criteria. Certificates of closure are issued where rehabilitation has been completed to the satisfaction of the Mines and Energy Minister or to agreed closure criteria.

Key Achievements

- Undertook formal mine audits and field visits on 153 large and small mining project areas. In addition, 140 engineering and technical inspections, audits and site visits were carried out over 25 operational sites.
- Undertook clearance audits for title relinquishment of 206 tenements. A further 300 assessments were made in respect of tenement grants, renewals and other dealings.
- Undertook 16 major investigations in relation to reports of 59 incidents/accidents and complaints.

Table 12: Summary of Audits and Check Monitoring

Activity	2004-05
Field Visits	96
MMP Compliance Audits	43
Close Out Criteria visits	14
Engineering and technical inspections, audits & site visits	140
Investigations of incidents/accidents and complaints	59
Water samples collected for Waste Discharge Licence compliance at Mt Todd mine	150
Water Samples collected for check monitoring purposes	750
Field trips for water quality check monitoring	150

MINERAL AND ENERGY TITLES

The Mineral and Energy Titles Division administers mining and petroleum tenure. The division is comprised of four functional units: Customer Services, Petroleum Titles, Native Title and Aboriginal Land Rights Services and Titles Management System.

The division's core functions are to ensure that mining and petroleum tenure is validly granted in accordance with the relevant Northern Territory and Australian Government legislation. It also monitors compliance with title conditions and relevant legislative requirements and ensures information on mining and petroleum tenure is entered in the division's databases.

Exploration and Mining Titles

Key Achievements

- Continued to develop a co-operative relationship with all stakeholders, including land councils, through regular meetings at both senior and operational levels aimed at streamlining procedures.
- Granted nine exploration licences and commenced processing of two new applications for mineral leases on the Tiwi Islands. This potential development is an example of the benefits of co-operation between the traditional owners, land councils, mining companies and Government.
- Coordinated a 'Partnerships' session at the Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) that addressed forming partnerships with Indigenous people in the exploration and mining industry.
- Commenced a review of the Mining Act.
- Continued to progress the grant of exploration and mining titles through the 'right to negotiate' procedures under the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

Table 13: 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
2000-01	511	195
2001-02	367	307
2002-03	254	415
2003-04	282	226
2004-05	373	187

Data Source: Titles Management System

Note: 1. Titles granted may include applications lodged in a previous year
2. Variations in previously recorded data may be attributed to database validation on title information commenced in June 2004.

Table 14: Mineral Exploration Licence Applications on Aboriginal Freehold Land as at 30 June 2005

Preliminary Stages of Application		Applications in Negotiation		Applications Pending Grant		Applications on Land Affected by Moratorium		Total Number of Outstanding Applications	
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
68	12%	281	52%	42	8%	149	28%	540	100%

Data Source: Titles Management System

Petroleum Titles

Key Achievements

- Arranged for the release of two areas in the NT Adjacent Area and one area in the Ashmore and Cartier Islands Adjacent Area (jointly referred to as Northern Territory administered waters) under the work program bidding system in the 2005 APPEA Conference. First Round bids for these areas close on 10 October 2005.
- Handled an increasing number of dealings and transfers lodged for offshore petroleum titles, with 79 dealings and transfers having been lodged for the 2004-05 year, compared with 44 in 2003-04.

Table 15: Petroleum Title Applications Received and Granted

Northern Territory Administered Waters

Six Access Authorities were granted to title holders to conduct seismic marine surveys.

One Location, which provides the mechanism for transition from an exploration permit to a production licence or retention lease, was declared.

Three retention lease applications were received.

Seven applications were received for the 2004 offshore acreage release, the highest number for such a release to date.

Seventy-six dealings and transfers were lodged for offshore titles.

Onshore

Twelve applications for exploration permits and one application for a pipeline licence were received during the 2004-05 year.

One exploration permit was granted in the 2004-05 year.

There are currently six granted onshore petroleum exploration permits and 32 applications for exploration permits.

OUTPUT GROUP 3: ANIMAL, PLANT AND FISHERIES INDUSTRY SERVICES

Output Group 3 comprises a range of strategic services to support development of the Territory's animal, plant and fisheries resources. These services include development of new and expanded industry opportunities, and regulation of existing industry sectors. The Output Group comprises Output 4: Animal and Plant Industry Production Services, Output 5: Animal and Plant Industry Resource Protection Services, and Output 6: Fisheries Resource Development and Management Services. The department's Primary Industry Group has primary responsibility for delivering Outputs 4 and 5, whilst the Fisheries Group has primary responsibility for delivering Output 6.

OUTPUT 4: ANIMAL AND PLANT INDUSTRY PRODUCTION SERVICES

Animal and Plant Industry Production Services provides information, advice and facilitation services to agriculture (animal and plant) business operators and industry sectors. These services include new and improved investment opportunities and production technologies delivered through agricultural research and extension activities and market development activities.

Table 16: Output 4 Performance Report

Performance Measures ¹	2004-05 Original Estimate	2004-05 Revised Estimate	2004-05 Actual	2003-04 Actual
Quantity				
Capacity to conduct animal health and plant surveillance and diagnostic services (including laboratories)	\$5.06M	\$5.40M	\$5.57M	\$5.33M
Capacity to provide and maintain research facilities throughout the Territory (research farms)	\$6.33M	\$6.27M	\$6.53M	\$6.43M
Client contacts for diagnostic, certification, export advice and export consignment services	5 300	5 900	6 320	6 130
Research and development projects	98	98	98	91
Quality				
Customer satisfaction	79%	79%	81%	68%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction with timeliness of service	81%	81%	82%	91%
Cost				
Average cost of client contacts for diagnostic, certification, export advice and export consignment services	\$1 004	\$903	\$884	\$943
Average cost of research and development projects	\$142 000	\$140 929	\$138 228	\$172 639
Output Cost	\$30.63M	\$30.81M	\$31.23M	\$33.08M

Explanation of Variations between original estimate and actual expense.

1. Variations relate to externally funded projects and programs, plus \$330 000 litigation costs.

SERVICES DELIVERED UNDER OUTPUT 4

The Primary Industry Group delivers services through the Horticulture Division, Pastoral Division, Resource Protection Division and Primary Industry Services Division.

PASTORAL PRODUCTION

This service aims to enhance the beef industry's contribution to the economy, through sustainable and cost-effective improvements in breeding herd efficiency, post weaning efficiency and increasing industry capacity to meet current and future market requirements.

Key Achievements

- Improved the methods of estimating the safe carrying capacity of different land systems in the Sturt Plateau, Barkly and Alice Springs regions, in partnership with the Tropical Savannas Cooperative Research Centre and industry partners.
- Carried out a comprehensive survey of management practices of the Northern Territory pastoral industry – the first time such information has been collected since 1980.
- Commenced a program of research and demonstration to improve the productivity of heifers. This is funded by Meat and Livestock Australia and is being conducted on the Victoria River Research Station and Douglas Daly Research Farm.
- Provided industry training at an advanced level for property managers and a more basic level for stock camps and head stockmen.
- Completed the major project 'Meeting Post Weaning Market Specifications for the Live Export Trade to SE Asia'.
- Published a major report, Sustainable grazing management strategies for the semi-arid tropics. This is a synthesis of rangeland work carried out in the Victoria River District from 1993-2001 and includes pasture models, methods of estimating carrying capacity, the practical use of fire, evenness of grazing and tree-grass interactions.
- Completed the report of a four-year study of breeder productivity at Alexandria Station. This work set new benchmark standards of breeder performance on the Barkly Tablelands and highlighted the need to maintain fair breeder condition.
- Facilitated new pastoral production enterprises on Indigenous land, in partnership with the Indigenous Land Corporation, the Northern Land Council and the Central Land Council.
- Facilitated lease agreements on Amanbidgi Station, Eley Station Gunbalanya and at Hooker Creek.
- Assisted the Minyerri community at Hodgson Downs to obtain NHT and ILC grants to fence and protect riparian areas along the Hodgson River.
- Facilitated Indigenous training programs to improve the skills and employment prospects of Indigenous people in the pastoral industry.
- Held a successful three-day Indigenous stockmen's training program in Alice Springs with 30 participants.
- Assisted with the development of a pastoral apprentice scheme for young Indigenous people in the Elliott Region

LIVESTOCK MARKET ACCESS

This service delivers inspection, treatment and certification services to facilitate the sale of animals and animal products.

Key Achievements

- Facilitated the export of 205 204 head of Territory-bred cattle to South East Asia by providing disease surveillance and certification services to Territory cattle producers and exporters.
- Supported the trade of 340 024 head of cattle to interstate markets through passive and active animal disease surveillance by exclusion of emergency animal diseases, maintained free zone status for certain diseases, and the provision of inspection, treatment and certification services.
- Developed, in consultation with industry, the Northern Territory policy for livestock identification, to ensure that the Territory meets the National Livestock Identification System implementation requirements.
- Contributed to the development of the new National Live Export Standards for livestock.
- Developed policy, in conjunction with the cattle industry, for the management of cattle during extended dry periods to ensure acceptable animal welfare outcomes.

VETERINARY LABORATORY

This service provides accurate, efficient and reliable veterinary laboratory services to support diagnostic, regulatory and research programs in livestock animal health.

Key Achievements

- Processed 1 827 laboratory submissions which generated 42 761 tests.
- Provided a quality assured veterinary testing service in the broad fields of veterinary pathology and veterinary virology for the production animal and aquaculture industries.
- Provided a testing service for export certification purposes and a laboratory testing service for the Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy (NAQS).
- Participated in national programs to maintain livestock market access, including the National Granuloma Submission Program, Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program, National Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy Freedom Assurance Program and National Arbovirus Monitoring Program.
- Completed external projects, including the MLA Bluetongue Survey, MLA Bluetongue Persistence trial and Biosecurity Australia Cattle Protection trial.

WATER MICROBIOLOGY

This service provides accurate, efficient and reliable microbiology testing service for water quality programs.

Key Achievements

- Provided an accurate, efficient and reliable microbiology testing service for water quality programs, including and processing 6129 water samples.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

This service provides research, development and extension services to enhance and promote mixed farming development. Programs include intensive cattle and buffalo production from improved pastures, hay and seed production, dry-land wet season crop production, irrigation production and agroforestry production.

Key Achievements

- Provided the detailed submissions on the agricultural potential of the Katherine-Daly region to the Daly Region Community Reference Group.
- Supported increased production from mixed farms, through provision of expert advice to producers. Cattle production increased as more land was planted to improved pasture in the Douglas Daly Region and in the north of the Territory.
- Developed the Rural Blockies Extension Network, with six officers representing four agencies including DBIRD. Four field days were conducted in the rural area.
- Continued the comprehensive research program to select superior sesame cultivars for the Territory and interstate. Plant breeder's rights were granted for two new cultivars, Rakabe and Rosemarie, in May 2005.
- Developed and presented a sampling course and developed testing methods to facilitate the sale of Territory fodder cubes into Western Australia.
- Assisted industry to increase hay and seed production. Total hay production was up approximately 14 000 tonnes to 52 890 tonnes and seed production up 164 tonnes to 305.1 tonnes in 2004-05.
- Successfully completed a three-year collaborative peanut variety evaluation between DBIRD, the Grains Research and Development Corporation, the Queensland Department of Primary Industry and the Peanut Company of Australia
- Successfully completed the first year of an irrigated lucerne evaluation, with promising results.
- Published a Technical Bulletin reporting the results of a Meat and Livestock Australia Producer Initiated Research and Demonstration project on Wynn Cassia in the Douglas Daly District
- Achieved the best average Estimated Breeding Values for Days to Calving and Scrotal Circumference in the Brahman Group Breedplan Genetic Evaluation System with cattle from the Douglas Daly Research Farm breeder trial.
- Achieved higher performance from the multi-breed composite cattle at the Douglas Daly Research Farm compared to Brahmans, in reproduction and weight gain.
- Achieved 18 of 25 purebred Riverine buffalo cows pregnant from the trial of a new artificial insemination protocol.

RESEARCH FARMS

This service provides a platform for government and industry to deliver research development and extension programs to the primary industry sector. The service includes the management of the research farms at Berrimah Farm, Beatrice Hill Farm, Douglas Daly Research Farm, Katherine Research Station, Victoria River Research Station, Arid Zone Research Institute and Old Man Plains Research Station (part of the Owen Springs Pastoral Lease).

Key Achievements

- Commenced infrastructure development of the Old Man Plains Research Station outside Alice Springs to enable the first grazing management research trial to commence in 2005-06.
- Held a major field day at Victoria River Research Station, Kidman Springs and published a booklet summarising past and current research at the station.
- Held producer field days at Douglas Daly Research Farm and Beatrice Hill Farm.
- Held the Katherine Research Station annual farm and garden day, which attracted a record crowd.

TECHNICAL SERVICES LIVESTOCK EXPORTS

This service delivers expert technical advice to importing countries and supports research in tropical beef production.

Key Achievements

- Continued to provide technical support for the Negros cattle industry development project in the Philippines following pledges by local Filipino farmers to take delivery of a second shipment of cattle in mid-2005.
- Successfully completed a technical assistance program for the Sabah Government in preparation for the importation of Australia cattle and buffalo expected in late 2005.
- Coordinated the preparation of a Memorandum of Cooperation between DBIRD and the Sabah Government on cattle industry and trade that was formally signed by the Territory Minister and his Sabah counterpart in February 2005.
- Conducted an international short course at the CDU Rural College and submitted a proposal to establish a new postgraduate unit in tropical beef production as part of a joint program with the university.

HORTICULTURE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

This service works with industry to support development of the horticulture industry at all points in the supply chain.

Key Achievements

- Formed the Horticulture Partnership Group and commenced initial work on an investment plan for horticultural development.
- Worked with the mango industry to develop a Harvest Labour Strategy and fine tune a crop forecasting system to improve tactical planning for harvest operations.
- Reviewed and re-prioritised the Horticulture Division efforts in the Katherine region at the Katherine Horticulture Advisory Forum / Future Directions Forum.
- Achieved commercialisation of five new Zingiber cut-flower hybrids from the DBIRD breeding program.
- Worked with the NT Horticulture Association and NT Agriculture Association to develop a Best Practice for Sustainable Land Use project, which resulted in an environmental best practice project officer for a one year scoping project.

- Assisted industry to develop production management systems for Panama Disease of banana and other horticultural crops.
- Conducted a range of extension activities, including 34 workshops and five field days.
- Organised a Fruit and Vegetable Processing Forum to inform 33 delegates about the latest technology and lessons in food processing.
- Initiated a pilot mango supply chain project in partnership with a commercial packer. This project will provide training, supply chain technical support and performance feedback for 25 growers to improve quality outcomes in the marketplace.
- Further developed the Horticulture Information Service with the publication of three fact sheets, eight growing notes, two product description language charts and 20 miscellaneous publications.
- Provided display and horticulture information products to a variety of Government and non-government shopfronts, retail nurseries and farm suppliers in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs, Taminmin Community library and numerous schools.
- Implemented and supported the uptake of the ConnectNT client management system throughout the Horticulture Division, including the Katherine and Alice Springs regions, and assisted with its implementation across other primary industry divisions at Berrimah Farm.
- Developed a dynamic website for horticulture with all the new publications, direct access to past research reports, seasonal information for growers, a large number of useful links and up to date general information.
- Piloted a resource allocation model developed by DBIRD economists to improve focus investment in the research and development programs.
- Initiated a program to train Indigenous industry employees in horticulture in Central Australia Training in table grape production techniques and vegetable growing has begun.
- Provided horticultural advice to remote Indigenous communities participating in community garden projects in the Top End.

PESTICIDE CHEMICALS AND PLANT ANALYSIS SERVICES

This service provides pesticide, chemistry and plant analysis services to meet the needs of primary industry, government agencies and the private sector.

Key Achievements

- Continued expansion of pesticide residue monitoring to meet the increased demand for testing horticulture produce for quality assurance. This included a risk-based monitoring program focused on tropical vegetables and tropical fruit excluding mangoes. A total of 110 samples were tested for this program.
- Supported cattle industry tick control program through provision of acaricide dip analysis for the Territory and Kununurra region of Western Australia. Around 175 samples were analysed.
- Analysed 130 samples of post-harvest chemical dips and sprays for Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) programs and horticulture industry requirements.
- Analysed 1755 plant samples for primary industry and departmental agriculture and horticulture projects.
- Participated successfully in the Australasian Soil and Plant Analysis Proficiency testing

programs and the chemical residue analysis within the National Analytical Reference Laboratory program.

PLANT HEALTH PRODUCTION SERVICES

Plant Health Production Services aims to increase farm production, reduce chemical usage and ensure continual market accessibility. This is achieved by a range of services conducted by officers within the NT Quarantine, Plant Pathology and Entomology sections.

Key Achievements

- Conducted 205 audits for (ICA) conditions, 132 ICA follow-up visits and 1108 farm visits for product certification or endorsement.
- Provided inspection and trapping service for melon thrips in Darwin nurseries for market access.
- Continued surveillance for red imported fire ant, an exotic pest under eradication in Queensland.
- Surveyed for pests and diseases of field crops, including cotton and peanuts, in the Katherine and Douglas-Daly regions, by the Pathology and Entomology groups.
- Assessed and tested banana cultivars for resistance to Fusarium wilt tropical race 4 in conjunction with the Horticulture Division.
- Selection and breeding of snake beans for resistance to three strains of the Fusarium wilt disease that has almost destroyed the Territory's snake bean export industry.
- Completed more than 1760 plant disease diagnostic cases in the Darwin laboratory and 97 in the Katherine laboratories. An additional 1100 mango samples were examined in the Katherine 'sea-freight' trial.
- Participated in a joint trial assessing disease development in mangoes under conditions experienced in sea transport.
- Conducted research on the biology of grapevine leaf rust in support of the National Grapevine Leaf Rust Eradication Program.
- Continued diagnostic services for the National Grapevine Leaf Rust Eradication Program.
- Continued trials on the biology and control of termite pests in conjunction with manufacturers of termiticides, resulting in permits being issued by the Australian Pesticide and Veterinary Medicines Authority for the use of Termidor® on a range of horticulture crops.
- Curated and upgraded the NT Economic arthropod collection and added records to the database, which is now part of the national Australian Plant Pest Database.
- Launched a website and database of insect fact sheets.
- Responded to 1030 client contacts to Entomology, including 318 visits to properties for extension or research work.
- Presented displays at the Darwin, Freds Pass and Katherine shows, including new posters on insect and mite damage and on mouthparts of insects and mites.
- Delivered presentations at field days and workshops and talks on pests and control measures to growers of mangoes, rambutans, citrus, melons, Asian vegetables, table grapes and peanuts.

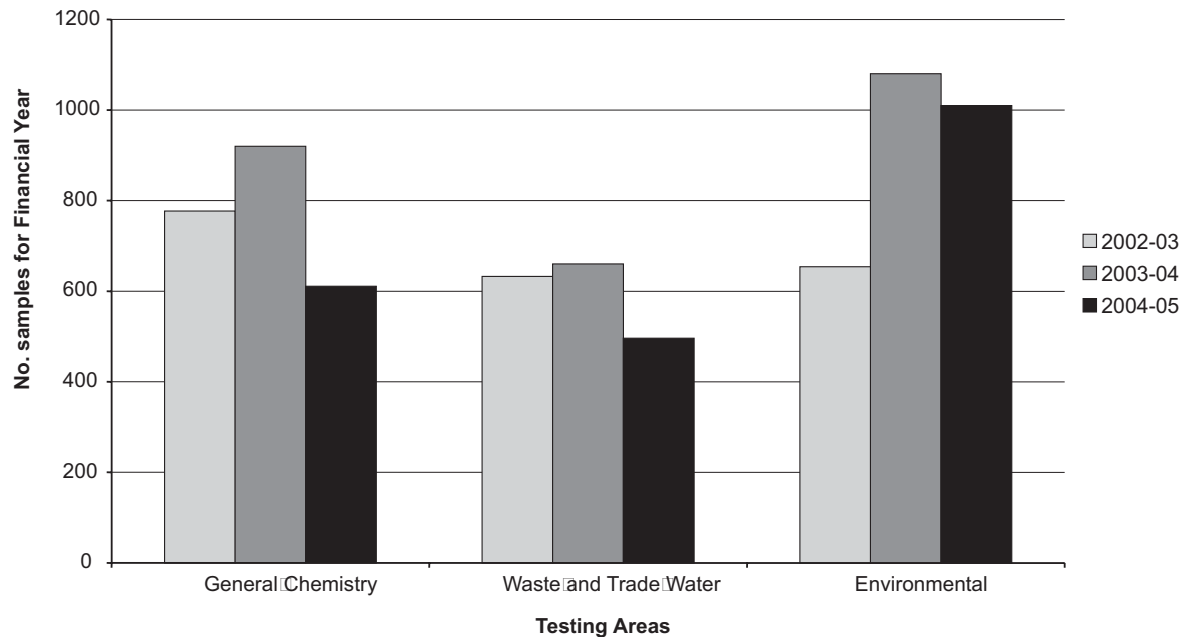
WATER CHEMISTRY SERVICES

The Water Chemistry Laboratory provides timely and accurate sewage analysis, potable water and environmental water analysis to meet the needs of primary industry, government agencies and the private sector. The Power and Water Corporation is the major client.

Key achievements

- Analysed samples as summarised in the chart below for the past three years

Figure 12: Comparison of Water Sample Tests, 2002-03 to 2004-05



- Progressed National Association of Testing Authorities accreditation.
- Successful participation in analysis proficiency trials conducted by the Low Level Nutrient Collaborative Trial Committee with senior staff attending the resulting workshop in Melbourne.

OUTPUT 5: ANIMAL AND PLANT INDUSTRY PROTECTION

Animal and Plant Industry Protection Services deliver animal and plant regulatory control and agricultural resource protection. Services include policy development, licensing of meat industry premises, plant disease controls, animal disease controls and NT Quarantine.

The group's performance in achieving this Output is measured in order to continually assess the effectiveness of the services. Details are contained in the following table.

Table 17: Output 5 Performance Report

Performance Measures ¹	2004-05 Original Estimate	2004-05 Revised Estimate	2004-05 Actual	2003-04 Actual
Quantity				
Monitoring programs implemented for plant pests and diseases	13	13	13	14
Capacity to identify, assess and plan the management of an emergency or endemic animal disease outbreak including surveillance	\$1.23M	\$1.56M	\$1.53M	\$2.85M
Quality				
Customer satisfaction	82%	82%	81%	68%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction with timeliness of service	92%	92%	82%	91%
Cost				
Average cost of monitoring programs	\$190 000	\$318 346	\$313 038	\$321 000
Output Cost	\$3.74M	\$5.70M	\$5.593M¹	\$8.38M

Explanation of Variations between original estimate and actual expense.

1. Overheads increased from \$800 000 to \$2.3M, which includes \$300 000 litigation costs. The balance relates to external funding variations.

SERVICES DELIVERED UNDER OUTPUT 5

The Primary Industry Group delivers services through the Horticulture Division, Pastoral Division, Resource Protection Division and Primary Industry Services Division.

PLANT HEALTH PROTECTION

Plant Health Protection provides a range of biosecurity services to protect the Territory's horticulture and agriculture plant industries. These services are provided by the NT Quarantine, Plant Pathology and Entomology Sections and by a specially formed team involved in the eradication of an exotic disease, grapevine leaf rust.

Key Achievements

- Continued targeted surveillance for the exotic grapevine leaf rust, citrus canker, banana, black Sigatoka disease, giant African snail and fruit fly as part of national surveillance programs.
- Continued a comprehensive network of active and passive surveillance systems and widespread publicity against the red imported fire ant, a significant pest of humans, livestock and infrastructure.

- Continued surveillance for banana Fusarium wilt, cotton diseases, melon thrips, currant lettuce aphid, spiralling whitefly and western flower thrips.
- Audited banana properties affected by Panama Disease for compliance with gazetted conditions.
- Provided a pest identification service to AQIS and NT Quarantine.
- Maintained more than 200 fruit fly surveillance traps throughout the Territory in local and national trapping grids to provide early warning for non-endemic species.
- Continued the National Grapevine Leaf Rust Eradication Program in the Darwin/ Palmerston area with ongoing surveillance of all remaining grapevines and two native grapevine species.
- Prepared drafting instructions for new plant health legislation. A Bill is being drafted.
- Continued participation with Plant Health Australia in developing an Industry-Government Cost-Sharing Agreement for the eradication of exotic plant pests and diseases and owner reimbursement costs.

ANIMAL DISEASE OUTBREAKS

This service provides a capacity to identify, assess and plan to deal with an emergency or endemic animal diseases.

Key Achievements

- Continued surveillance for tuberculosis under the Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program 2 program. The last tuberculosis case in cattle was identified in 1999 and in buffalo in 2002.
- Increased emergency animal disease response capacity by further training for industry and government positions within emergency control centres.
- Coordinated the Territory's participation in the national Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine agreement to ensure the availability of vaccine as an eradication option in the event of an incursion of foot and mouth disease.
- Implemented the Newcastle Disease National Management Plan for poultry in the Territory.
- Delivered whole of government and industry awareness and training activities in preparation for the national exercise on avian influenza (Exercise Eleusis) to be conducted in November 2005.

OUTPUT 6: FISHERIES RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Fisheries Resource Development and Management Services provide information and support to the fishing and aquaculture industries, and manage marine resources to ensure their sustainable use. Services include new investment opportunities through aquaculture research, policy development, licensing and developing fishery management plans.

Table 18: Output 6 Performance Report

Performance Measures	2004-05 Original Estimate	2004-05 Revised Estimate	2004-05 Actual	2003-04 Actual
Quantity				
Aquaculture licences maintained	18	18	18	18
Regional communities engaged in fisheries activities	7	7	7	7
NT fisheries with management arrangements	17	17	17	17
Quality				
Legislation standards met	80%	80%	80%	80%
Customer satisfaction	88%	88%	79%	88%
Timeliness				
Customer satisfaction with timeliness of service	81%	81%	87%	81%
Cost				
Average cost per aquaculture licence maintained	\$140 000	\$145 955 ¹	\$138 111 ²	\$144 000
Average cost of engaging regional communities in fisheries activities	\$110 000	\$147 669	\$128 553	\$103 000
Average cost of management arrangements for NT fisheries	\$360 000	\$392 479	\$392 302	\$380 000
Output Cost	\$9.30M	\$10.33M ¹	\$10.06M ²	\$9.72M

Explanation of Variations between original estimate and actual expense.

1. Revenue estimate for barra fingerlings increased to reflect prior year result.
2. Revenue for research, AFMA and NTFIRDF not achieved and therefore full budget not available

SERVICES DELIVERED UNDER OUTPUT 6

The Fisheries Group delivers services through the Fisheries Services Division and the Aquatic Resource Management Division. Fisheries Services includes the Aquaculture Branch, while Aquatic Resource Management includes Aquatic Resource Research and Aquatic Resource Management.

FISHING INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

This service facilitates the ecologically sustainable development and management of fisheries in the Territory. This includes submitting environmental assessment reports to the Australian Department of Environment and Heritage for each fishery that exports marine species to demonstrate the fishery is managed in an ecologically sustainable manner. Export fisheries are assessed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* (EPBC) against the Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries.

Key Achievements

- Achieved export accreditation under the EPBC for the shark, trepang and aquarium fisheries from the Australian Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH).
- Worked with Tasmanian Seafoods to investigate opportunities for spawning and rearing trepang through the establishment of a joint research facility at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre on Channel Island.
- Signed an agreement with the Gwalwa Daraniki Association to commence mud crab aquaculture activities on Indigenous land owned by the Kulaluk Community.
- Negotiated with industry regarding the further development of the demersal fishery.

AQUACULTURE

This service assists the Territory's aquaculture industry. It includes provision of an aquatic animal health service, support for aquaculture farmers, support for development of Indigenous aquaculture, identification of sites for aquaculture, investor advice and liaison with other government agencies. It also includes development of policy, legislative support and assessment of leases and licensing arrangements.

Key Achievements

- Assisted in securing funding to establish a mud crab aquaculture venture and demonstration site on Gwalwa Daraniki land at Kulaluk.
- Provided technical assistance and advice to traditional owners seeking to establish a mud crab aquaculture operation north-east of Maningrida.
- Publication of the NT's Aquaculture Development Plan for 2005 to 2010, *Farming the Future 2010*.
- Developed a policy on accessing prawn broodstock from the Northern Prawn Fishery.
- Developed a policy on risk assessments for the translocation of aquaculture species.
- Developed a policy on translocation requirements for both barramundi and pearl oyster fisheries.
- Drafted a translocation zoning strategy that sets out guidelines to control the movement of aquatic life both within and into Territory waters, with the aim of controlling the spread of disease.
- Drafted a sea cucumber ranching policy.
- Developed a draft Indigenous Aquaculture Policy and Development Strategy.

HATCHERY STOCK PRODUCTION

The Darwin Aquaculture Centre operates a commercially-based barramundi hatchery on Channel Island to support the local pond-based industry and the Marine Harvest sea cage farm located at Port Hurd. Marine Harvest has a fingerling supply agreement with the Territory Government. Larvae and fingerlings are also sold to other local and interstate farms.

Key Achievements

- Designed and implemented an intensive, recirculating, larval rearing system for barramundi.

- Produced 2 million barramundi fingerlings at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre.
- Restocked impoundments and other waterways with juvenile barramundi.
- Provided more than 1.2 million fingerlings to local barramundi farms, helping to boost local farmed production to almost 1000 tonnes for the first time.

AQUACULTURE RESEARCH

This service undertakes research into potential species that might be suitable for aquaculture ventures in the Territory. It also provides support for current and future aquaculture ventures until the industry develops to the point where such activity is fully self-funded.

Key Achievements

- Completed technical work on a major study of hatchery and nursery stages of mud crab aquaculture, with a final paper currently being developed.
- Undertook pond grow-out trials of crablets (juvenile crabs) for potential use in the mud crab aquaculture industry.

AUSTRALIAN FISHING ZONE

This service supports the Commonwealth-funded function of policing the Australian Fishing Zone (out to the 200 nautical mile limit). It acts as an agency of the Commonwealth to deliver a comprehensive surveillance, apprehension and prosecution service to protect the fishery resources in the Australian Exclusive Economic Zone (AFZ) from the activities of unlicensed foreign fishing vessels.

Key Achievements

- Apprehended more than 100 vessels and secured 70 convictions.

LICENSING, DATA MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

This service provides policy, licensing, data collection and processing, information provision and advice on fisheries matters. Effective decision making relies on the analysis of fisheries data, which is collated and maintained on a range of electronic and manual storage systems.

Key Achievements

- Produced a comprehensive manual that details procedures for the receipt, input, validation and retrieval of logbook return information collected by the Fisheries Group.
- Collected, entered and validated all 2004 commercial catch and fishing tour operator data used for reporting purposes to assist with research and management activities targeting the Territory's aquatic resources.
- Development and implementation of the Discoverer database that allows for the retrieval of logbook data information for the purposes of report generation and assessment.

NORTHERN TERRITORY SEAFOOD COUNCIL

The Northern Territory Seafood Council works with the commercial fishing sector to enhance sustainable development of the Territory's seafood industry. In 2004-05, DBIRD provided the council with funding and in-kind support to the value of \$175 000. A component of this funding was for the placement of a Fisheries Extension Officer with the council. The role of

this position is to provide advice to commercial fishing operators on all aspects of fishing operations, including the handling of product, the use and development of fishing gear and techniques, and undertaking safe fishing practices.

Key Achievements

- Assisted with preparing and delivering the successful 2004 Seafood Festival, as well as assisting with preparations for the 2005 festival.
- Provided advice on hazard analysis of critical control points for five managed fisheries and vessels.
- Maintained the fisheries gear loan scheme that assists commercial fishers to trial and develop new fishing gear and techniques.

FISHERY 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

- Implemented significant changes in management arrangements for the shark, trepang and aquarium fisheries, resulting in the granting of export accreditation for each fishery under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Control Act*.
- Clarified the commercial barramundi fishery area through revision of the Barramundi Management Plan.
- Arranged for the buy back of one full 10-unit (1000m of net) commercial barramundi licence.
- Held the first Barramundi Fishery Strategic Planning Workshop with industry to prepare a five-year plan and a 10-year vision for the barramundi fishery.
- Revised the Spanish Mackerel Management Plan to implement a system of catch shares as a method of allocating resources between competing groups. In Australia, this is the first time a formal agreement (as stipulated in the management plan) has been reached between commercial, recreational and Indigenous fishers on resource allocation issues.
- Completed a review of the aquarium fishery including a review of the coral harvest arrangements.
- Implemented significant new management arrangements to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the shark fishery.
- Undertook consultations to establish an offshore sectorial plan for the Territory's offshore snapper fisheries that will assist in the future development of the fishery in remote areas.

INDIGENOUS LIAISON

This service provides support and assistance to the community-based Indigenous fishing sector. Coastal community groups are ideally located for new developments in the fishing industry, as well as continuing traditional subsistence fishing activities. Work includes

fostering consultation between Indigenous people and key stakeholders with respect to the management and development of the Territory's aquatic resources.

Key Achievements

- Commenced the Goulburn Island and the Marthakal marine ranger programs.
- Assisted three members of marine ranger groups to complete Certificate 2 level courses in fisheries compliance.
- Assisted all marine ranger programs, which receive funding from the Fisheries Group, to obtain vessels to undertake coastal surveillance and monitoring activities.
- Commenced working with traditional owners to establish a mud crab aquaculture operation north-east of Maningrida.
- Provided advice to the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation (Maningrida) to assist with its purchase of a fully commercial mud crab licence.
- Commenced discussions with representatives from Croker Island, Goulbourn Island, Howard Island and Ngukurr on identifying suitable sites for undertaking community-based aquaculture activities.
- Commenced discussions with representatives from Groote Eylandt on undertaking community-based aquaculture for trepang.
- Commenced discussions with representatives from the Amangal (Adelaide River) and Wooliana (Daly River) communities on the possible establishment of community-based aquaculture activities.
- Commenced negotiations with the Gumatj Association on the possible establishment of aquaculture and developmental wild harvest fishing activities in the Nhulunbuy area.
- Provided information and advice to Yirwarr Seafoods in support of efforts to establish an Indigenous operated seafood industry in the Nhulunbuy region.
- Assisted Indigenous operators with their efforts to purchase a fully commercial coastal line licence to undertake fishing activities in the Cobourg region.
- Facilitated discussions with traditional owners on the establishment of a private boat ramp and camping facilities at Tree Point to allow easier access for those wishing to fish in the Shoal Bay area.

RECREATIONAL FISHING MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING FISHING TOUR OPERATORS

This service manages the Territory's recreational fishing industry and the guided fishing tourism industry, with the objective of ensuring sustainable and equitable catch shares between fishing industry sectors.

Key Achievements

- Established new River Watch Centres on the Victoria, Roper, East and South Alligator rivers to complement existing centres on the Daly, Mary and McArthur rivers. These centres provide information on fishing regulations and related activities and are integral components of the River Watch Program initiative.
- Provided funding to enable the fishing tour sector to employ its own executive officer to oversee activities of the newly-created Northern Territory Guided Fishing Industry Association.

- Released barramundi fingerlings into Lake Bennett and Lake Todd and continued the stocking program in Manton Dam.
- Reached agreement with the Jawoyn Association to stock barramundi fingerlings into Lake Todd, allowing access for controlled recreational fishing and camping activities, and creating opportunities for commercial activities to benefit local Indigenous land owners.
- Delivered a three-day junior fishing workshop in both Katherine and Nhulunbuy.
- Completed upgrading of the Buffalo Creek and Dinah Beach boat ramps and progressed plans to enhance fishing access at Mule Creek, Rocky Creek, Palmerston boat ramp, Point Stuart and Channel Point.
- Promoted the Territory as a fishing destination at the Sydney and Melbourne fishing and boating shows and at various Territory events.
- Provided logistical support to five of the Territory's major annual fishing tournaments.

MARINE RESOURCE RESEARCH

This service researches Territory fish stocks to support management activities and provide information to industry and the public. Many of the fish resources subject to research are considered to be at or near the maximum sustainable harvest level. Monitoring of trends and assessment of stock status are essential to ensure optimal exploitation, maximise economic and social benefit, and minimise the risk of over-exploitation.

Key Achievements

- Secured funding and undertook preparations for the July 2005 Australian Society for Fish Biology annual conference and the workshop sponsored by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) on monitoring of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.
- Secured funding and undertook preparations for the July 2005 National Barramundi Workshop.
- Investigated 10 fish kills across the Territory. Usually such fish kills are due to natural phenomena such as anoxic (lack of oxygen in the water) conditions or algal blooms.
- Initiated in situ barramundi fishery monitoring. This entails Fisheries staff observing species, size and sex composition of landed barramundi and threadfin salmon catch, as well as bycatch that is taken or released.
- Instituted the recreational tagging component of the Genetag project, which aims to compare the performance of genetic and conventional tagging, as well as engage the recreational fishing community in the monitoring of fishing rates in the mackerel fishery. More than 400 Spanish mackerel were simultaneously conventionally and genetically tagged by recreational fishers.
- Continued the Genetag project in the commercial Spanish mackerel fishery, resulting in more than 400 fish being gene tagged by commercial fishers while undertaking their routine fishing activities.
- Commenced studies funded by the FRDC into the attributes of, and impacts of fishing on, jewfish aggregations.
- Released a final report of a major study on mud crab abundance and habitat.
- Initiated the Northern Shark Assessment Group to coordinate research and provide ongoing stock assessments of the northern Australia shark fisheries.
- Revised the stock assessments of blacktip sharks in the northern Australia fishery.

- Undertook the first stock assessment of grey mackerel in northern Australia.
- Undertook a stock assessment workshop for mud crabs.
- Successfully obtained FRDC funding for a two-year project to develop ecosystem-based fishery management strategies (using the NT demersal and Timor Reef fisheries as case studies).

AQUATIC PESTS

This service monitors and manages aquatic resources to detect aquatic pest incursions in order to protect the Territory's fishing, aquaculture, tourism and marine based industries.

Key Achievements

- Inspected 255 boats. One visiting yacht found to be carrying the bivalve *Perna* species was successfully treated and subsequently cleared of the marine pest.
- Investigated 12 sightings of aquatic pests. Two freshwater pest species confirmed, found and eradicated. Control of exotic aquatic snails in Darwin and Katherine was achieved in conjunction with increased community awareness.
- Expanded the monitoring program to include Garden Point (Apsley Strait, Melville Island) in collaboration with a shipping and agro-forestry consortium, PenSyl Pty Ltd, and sites in Gove Harbour in collaboration with mining company, Alcan Gove, in addition to existing sites in Bynoe Harbour, Darwin Harbour, Raffles Bay and Milner Bay (Groote Eylandt).
- Continued inspection activities in Darwin Harbour and along the coastline. No significant marine pest incursions were identified.
- Arranged for the Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries to sign the Inter-governmental Agreement for a National System for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pest Incursions.

SERVICE DELIVERY IN REGIONAL AREAS

DBIRD has a strong involvement in promoting economic development throughout all regions of the Territory. The department delivers programs through offices in Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs, supplemented by a range of visits and activities provided by specialised units in Darwin.

SUPPORT TO REGIONAL CENTRES

- The International Business Division delivered the Trade Support Scheme to develop export opportunities and enhance international trading skills.
- The Petroleum and Mining Support Division visited mining operations, delivered seminars such as the Tennant Creek Supply Seminar and Alice Springs Supply Seminar, and participated in the Mt Isa Mining Show.
- The Defence Support Division introduced quarterly visits to RAAF Base Tindal and six-monthly visits to Alice Springs to liaise with the management of Pine Gap. It also liaised with regional businesses in those regions on defence-related opportunities.
- The Industry Development Division serviced regional clients through the Food Group (developing new food related opportunities) throughout the Territory.
- The Commercial Services Division managed the Katherine Flood Natural Disaster Relief Arrangement loans and Drought loans as well funding arrangements for regional industry associations.
- The Business Services Division delivered Upskills business skills workshops and Business Growth programs throughout the Territory. In addition, New Starter workshops for new or intending business operators were also held across the Territory. The October Business Month program held 44 events in regional areas, attracting approximately 2500 participants.
- Nine meetings of the Chief Minister's Business Round Table were held in communities across the Territory. A total of 154 participants attended meetings in Darwin, Palmerston, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and Nhulunbuy.
- Business focus groups were held in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs to examine the issues and contributing factors to business confidence for small and medium enterprises.
- Meetings were held in Nhulunbuy, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Darwin during the development of the Business and Skilled Migration Strategy.
- Joint awareness and information sessions about business and skilled migration were held in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek in conjunction with the Commonwealth Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- Workshops were conducted in Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs to enhance understanding, quality and timeliness of advice to Ministers and Cabinet.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Katherine

Pastoral Production

- Pastoral production activities focused on improved grazing management, which offers the greatest potential for growth in the pastoral industry in terms of productivity and sustainability. Territory rangelands are currently stocked at a much lower level than elsewhere in northern Australia, with only an estimated 11 per cent of annual pasture growth being consumed by cattle. There is potential to safely increase cattle numbers if carried out in conjunction with infrastructure development and an improved understanding of grazing ecology.
- Pastoral Production officers are undertaking several projects to develop safe utilisation rates and improved grazing systems. These include a large-scale trial at Pigeonhole in conjunction with Heytesbury Beef and a major project with the Tropical Savannas Cooperative Research Centre.
- Pastoral Production increased training programs for the industry. The program included three-day advanced courses for land managers, notably in Grazing Land Management and Cattle Nutrition. Two short courses for stockmen were also run. One is the Rangeland Management Course and the other is the Stock Course. These courses have been enthusiastically supported by the industry. The aim of the short courses is to get more skilled and more committed stockmen and thereby aid the retention of station staff. The shortage of skilled staff is a major issue for the industry.
- National Livestock Identification System information packages were developed and distributed.
- DBIRD supported a number of training programs. Courses attracting the most participants include the EDGE Network's Grazing Land Management and Nutrition EDGE, Grazing for Profit School and Low Stress Stock Handling
- A large animal welfare training package has been developed and delivered to animal health staff including a field based assessment unit.

Horticulture and Agriculture

- Katherine mangoes were successfully freighted to Europe by sea using controlled atmosphere technology.
- Regional staff collaborated with the Queensland Department of Primary Industry and the Western Australian Department of Agriculture on mango productivity and melon supply chain projects.
- A record crowd of more than 1900 people attended the Katherine Farm and Garden Day. The Katherine Chamber of Commerce combined the Katherine Expo with Farm and Garden Day. Exhibitors attended from both Katherine and Darwin regions
- The strategic plan Future Directions for Katherine Horticulture was reviewed in February 2005. Goals for the industry were re-prioritised and an action plan was developed for DBIRD and local industry.
- Plant pathology research in 2004-05 included the effects of foliar application of potassium and of fungicides for the management of *Alternaria* leaf spot on cotton, the effects of low temperature and picking time on mangoes, and the use of Amistar fungicides on post-harvest disease incidence on mangoes.
- The Grow to Learn, Learn to Grow program was written into the Territory school curriculum by the Department of Education, Employment and Training (DEET). A pilot

program was run in 2005 and DBIRD produced resource material for participating schools. Five Katherine town schools participated – Clyde Fenton Primary School, MacFarlane Primary School, Katherine South Primary School, Katherine High School and St Josephs College. The project was also trialled remotely at two Indigenous community schools in Barunga and Manyallaluk.

- Extension services were provided to growers in Katherine through the local best practice group and disease management advice was provided on numerous occasions, including regular grower field visits.

Indigenous Development

- A Senior Indigenous Pastoral Development Officer was recruited to boost the Indigenous Pastoral Program. Leases have been proposed for three separate areas of Indigenous land for pastoral development within the Northern Land Council region, with an estimated total capacity of more than 10 000 head.
- A successful pilot has been held in Elliott to address hurdles that prevent young Indigenous people entering the pastoral industry workforce.

Resource Protection

- The liver fluke snail, *Pseudosuccinea columellain*, was found in a pet shop in September 2004. The infestation was treated and public awareness program was undertaken. In addition, four consignments of papaya were seized from fruit shops in Katherine for papaya black spot contamination. Action was also taken to avoid the introduction of the mango seed weevil, *Sternochgetus mangiferae*, following the rollover of two trailers of a road train carrying mangoes north of Katherine.
- A Katherine Quarantine Officer was awarded a DBIRD Employee Award at the ceremony in December 2004.
- An information package was developed on Avian Influenza Information Package
- Northern Arnhem Indigenous Land Rangers were trained in disease monitoring including tuberculosis, and regional office staff participated in the national disease surveillance manager's course. The Tuberculosis Freedom Assurance Program (TFAP-1) ran to schedule with no tuberculosis detected in the region.
- An animal health conference was held in March in Katherine. This included a field training session in BSE surveillance attended by veterinarians from East Timor.

Business and Trade

- DBIRD hosted 19 Upskill Workshops in the Katherine Region, attended by approximately 190 people. TBC received 6 600 client contacts and 25 businesses participated in individual mentoring sessions with consultants.
- DBIRD hosted six successful Territory Women in Business events, attended by approximately 210 women.
- DBIRD sponsored a number of Indigenous businesses to have booths at two Katherine Business Expos.

Tennant Creek

Resource Protection

- The three-year bluetongue virus survey was completed successfully at the end of 2004. Samples provided information on the distribution of the virus and its variations

in different seasons, providing an updated and more accurate map of infected and free areas.

- Sentinel herds for the National Arbovirus Monitoring Program (NAMP) were established and maintained throughout the period. Blood samples were collected every three months.
- DBIRD commissioned the repair and use of the cattle dip facility at Elliott at the end of 2004. Construction and repair work is in progress.
- Additional tick line inspections have been instigated on properties in the protected area of the cattle tick distribution map. Concerns were raised when ticks were found on one property in this zone last year. Otherwise, the distribution of the ticks seems stable.
- Support was given to the North Australia Quarantine Service during its three-yearly surveillance of the north coast. Post mortems were undertaken of feral pigs and cattle and samples collected for laboratory analysis. Distribution patterns of these animals were also noted.
- First Industry Liaison Officer training course was run by Animal Health Australia and DBIRD in March 2005.

Pastoral Production

- TFAP-1 has been completed and all the requirements met by producers in the Tennant Creek region. TFAP-2, which covers the period 2003-06, is running well and all properties involved are up to date with their requirements, either through abattoir monitoring or direct testing of cattle.
- The 2004 Pastoral Survey of the Barkly was completed in conjunction with the Alice Springs, Katherine and Darwin regions.
- The third Barkly Herd Management Course was presented to 15 participants with presenters from BeefQuality Cooperative Research Centre, University of New England, Heytesbury Beef, S. Kidman & Co and DBIRD at Helen Springs and Eva Downs stations.
- Three Barkly Rangeland Management Courses were presented to 30 participants from four stations. Courses included a new biodiversity section developed through Envirofund money secured by Barkly Landcare and Conservation Association.
- A project was undertaken to compile all research work undertaken on the Barkly with implications for the pastoral industry. The projects have occurred over the past 55 years and have been conducted by government departments in association with pastoralists.
- Two herds of heifers were established to monitor performance and another herd for demonstration for the Improved Heifer Performance in Northern Australia project.
- One year of data collection was completed for the Managing Grazing by Alternating Watering Points project in association with the Australian Agricultural Company.
- In collaboration with Barkly Landcare and Conservation Association and Julalikari Aboriginal Corporation, controlled burning practices were assessed at four sites across the Barkly as a tool for pasture and biodiversity management of the Mitchell Grasslands.
- In collaboration with Barkly Landcare and Conservation Association, funding was secured for a three-year project to produce *A Field Guide to Plants of the Barkly*.

Business and Trade

- Business and Trade Development (BTD) hosted a successful mining supply event for the Bootu Creek project, attended by 40 local businesses.

- BTD was strongly involved in a local initiative to establish a domestic waste recycling plant and bioreactor in Tennant Creek.
- Business and Trade Development commissioned a 'Living and Working in Tennant Creek' DVD which is available to local businesses and government agencies for staff recruiting purposes.
- The Tennant Creek Territory Business Centre dealt with more than 1400 enquires in 2004-05.

Minerals

- Clearances were obtained from the Central Land Council for the Gravity Survey of the 1:250,000 Birrindudu Sheet. The survey involves the use of a helicopter to conduct a 1 km grid survey. The team was based at Birrindudu Station.

Indigenous Development

- Indigenous Business and Industry Services secured funding for the Northern Land Council to conduct a scoping study of the economic opportunities at the Bradshaw Military Training Facility, and the Bootu Creek Mining Project.
- Discussions were held with regional Indigenous communities, organisations and individuals. Several promising initiatives have been identified in the civil works and service industries. Development assistance and advice has been provided.
- The Tennant Creek IBIS officer assisted in hosting a series of visits by children from Indigenous communities and organisations as part of NT Youth Week.
- The Tennant Creek IBIS officer assisted the NT Electoral Commission with remote polling in the Southern Barkly Region for the Territory Election.

Central Australia

Indigenous Development

- DBIRD assisted the Yuendumu Mining Company, which is owned and operated by Indigenous Territorians, with a business planning exercise during which a major contract was secured with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment.
- A successful Indigenous business display was co-ordinated and sponsored by DBIRD for the Central Australian Expo. Eight Alice Springs Indigenous businesses took part.
- Tours to the Granites gold mine commenced for Indigenous people interested in mining careers. Working with Newmont, the Central Land Council (CLC), the Juvenile Diversion Unit and the Institute for Aboriginal Development, the department ran tours to give participants knowledge of working at a mine.
- An Indigenous pastoral production project officer was appointed under a partnership with the Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) and the CLC. The project aims to re-establish pastoral activities on Indigenous land. The inaugural Indigenous Cattlemen's Workshop in October 2004 attracted 34 participants. A historic lease agreement on a portion of Wave Hill will engage Indigenous people and a local pastoralist in restocking an area and providing employment.
- The department worked closely with the CLC and ILC on the Centrefarm Indigenous horticultural development initiative, including a number of priority projects for horticultural development on Indigenous land with Indigenous participation.

- A training program for Indigenous people carried out in association with the Anmatjere Council has resulted in the first two employees in the table grape industry.

Resource Protection

- The Central Australian Animal Health Network conference was held in Alice Springs, with attendance by animal health officers from neighbouring states.

Pastoral Production

- A 522 sq km portion of Owen Springs Station was acquired to become the Old Man Plains Research Station. A development plan was completed and survey, fencing and road building commenced. This project will link to the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre. Old Man Plains is also being used as a demonstration site for a pilot environmental management system project led by the Central Land Management Association (CLMA).
- A Central Australian Grazing Strategies partnership was developed between DBIRD, the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre, CSIRO, CLMA and industry. The partnership was successful in obtaining Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry funding to develop best practice guidelines for grazing strategies in Central Australia. Old Man Plains Research Station will be the focus of a four-paddock grazing trial as part of this project.
- The Alice Springs District Pastoral Industry Survey was completed, documenting current management systems in the region.
- Considerable resources were contributed to the development of a Central Australian EDGE Network's Grazing Land Management Model funded by the Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA).
- The Central Australian pastoral industry has become involved in the MLA Heifer Fertility Project that is being conducted throughout all regions in the Territory and the Pilbara District of WA.

Horticulture and Agriculture

- Extensive community consultation has been undertaken for the Alice Springs Water Re-use Project, a joint project with the Power and Water Corporation that aims to recycle effluent water from Alice Springs for horticultural development at AZRI. A pipeline has been built from the treatment ponds to AZRI, and successful research and development on the use of soil aquifer treatment for storing water underground has commenced.
- The Horticultural Land and Water Committee is working with horticultural industry representatives in consolidating information on resources and opportunities for commercial horticultural development.

Business and Trade

- A total of 154 Alice Springs business people attended 16 Upskills Workshops in 2004-05. Topics included Business Planning, Marketing, Indigenous Business Development, Corporate Governance, Exhibiting at Trade Shows and How to Recruit and Retain Staff.
- Ten local businesses undertook Business Growth programs and received \$53 865 in grants
- The Territory Business Centre had 5692 client contacts

- The department hosted a Chamber of Commerce NT event in Alice Springs, Business at Sunset, at which the Minister for Business and Industry launched Stage 1 of the Territory Business Channel website – www.tbc.nt.gov.au
- The department delivered two defence industry workshops in Alice Springs. These focused on doing business with the Joint Defence Facility at Pine Gap, and were attended by 70 businesses.
- The Central Australian Food Group held a successful first event, New Tastes Wildfood Luncheon, at Charles Darwin University's Desert Lantern restaurant. The event involved local producers and executive and apprentice chefs from four member restaurants.

Minerals

- The fourth annual Mining and Petroleum Supply seminar in Alice Springs attracted more than 80 local businesses, including mining, petroleum and exploration companies.
- A 720 km deep seismic traverse across the Tanami region began in May. It is a co-operative project with Geoscience Australia, ANSIR, the Western Australian Government, the Territory Government and the private sector. It will provide information on the origin of the gold mineralising systems.
- Major geoscience programs are being conducted in the Eastern Arunta, Northern Tanami and Amadeus Basin and Georgina Basin geological regions. These focus on understanding the mineral potential of the regions through targeted studies of known mineral deposits.
- A successful field trip was conducted for the first time to show industry clients the geology of the newly-described Warumpi Province. It provided exploration licence holders and other industry representatives with a unique opportunity to assess the mineral potential of this region.
- DBIRD has joined Desert Knowledge Australia to promote the mining service industry across desert Australia. A network of local business people regularly video conferences counterparts in four other states. The DBIRD program has assisted local businesses to secure annual procurement by mining and exploration companies in Alice Springs in excess of \$100 million.

Corporate Governance

CORPORATE COMMITTEES

The Board of Management has primary responsibility for the strategic leadership and management of DBIRD. Supporting the Board of Management are several key committees that provide advice to the Chief Executive and Group Heads on strategic issues. Other activities that support strong corporate governance within DBIRD include Planning and Performance Management, Risk Management and Corporate Communication.

The Corporate Management Group has a major role in supporting good corporate governance within DBIRD. The group's responsibilities include financial management, human resources and records and information management.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management comprises the Chief Executive, Group Heads and Regional Directors.

Board of Management Members at 30 June, 2005

Mike Burgess, Chief Executive and Chairman of the Board of Management.

Mike took over as Chief Executive of DBIRD on 10 May 2004. His former position was Deputy Chief Executive of the Department of the Chief Minister. He previously held a variety of senior positions, including Executive Director, Conservation and Natural Resources, in the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment. Mike is a Civil Engineer who has worked in the Territory since 1979 in areas ranging from water and electricity supply to sustainable natural resource management. He has been involved in developing major infrastructure and strategies to improve essential services in urban and remote areas. He has lived and worked in Darwin, Alice Springs and Katherine.

John Carroll, General Manager, Minerals and Energy

Before the establishment of DBIRD, John was CEO of the Department of Industries and Business (DIB) from June 2000. Before moving to the Territory in March 2000, he was Deputy Director-General, Business, Innovation and Trade in the Queensland Department of State Development and Deputy-Director General and Director-General of the Queensland Department of Economic Development and Trade. John has 30 years of public sector experience in Canberra, Queensland and the Northern Territory.

Geoff Farnell, General Manager, Business and Trade Development

Geoff was appointed General Manager, Business and Trade Development, in October 2002. Prior to this appointment, he was Executive Director, Office of Resource Development and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Mines and Energy. Geoff has worked in the manganese, coal and gold sectors of the mining industry. He was previously the resident manager of the Parkes gold mine for both BHP Gold and Newcrest Mining and an Assistant Director of the Australian Mining Industry Council.

Marj Morrissey, Executive Director, Policy Development and Coordination

Marj was appointed Executive Director, Policy Development and Coordination, in June 2003. Since joining the NT Government in 1996, she has worked in a range of leadership positions relating to business and industry policy and program development and implementation. Her career has spanned education, the arts and the public sector. She was the manager of artsACT before moving to the Territory.

Rod Gobbey, General Manager, Primary Industry

Rod was appointed General Manager Primary Industry in May 2005. Prior to this appointment he held senior management positions with the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment over a period of 10 years. These positions included: Manager, Animal Health Field Branch; Manager, Animal Health Laboratory; Chief Inspector of Meat Hygiene; Manager, Animal Health Management Branch; Director, Food Quality and Safety; Director of Agriculture; Acting General Manager, Food Agriculture and Fisheries and Acting General Manager, Biosecurity and Product Integrity.

Richard Sellers, Executive Director, Fisheries

Richard initially acted as the Executive Director, Fisheries in DBIRD, until being confirmed in the position in April 2002. Since coming to the Territory in 1999, he has held senior positions as Assistant Director Fisheries and Director Legal and Policy in the DPIF. From 1996 to 1999, he held senior roles within Fisheries Western Australia, including Regional Manager Mid West and Commercial Fisheries Program Manager. Richard has management and research experience from a range of public sector roles within the WA Education Department, the WA Museum and Western Power, as well as experience in the fishing industry.

Rita Harvey, Executive Director, Corporate Management

Rita moved to the Corporate Management Group when it was formed in 2003 from the position of Deputy General Manager, Business and Trade Development. Her former executive roles include Deputy Chief Executive with several agencies, including the Department of Education and the Department of Asian Relations, Trade and Industry. She was also the NT Regional Commissioner for the Australian Securities and Investment Commission and the NT Commissioner for Corporate Affairs. She has 30 years of private and public sector experience in management and accounting. Sectors she has been involved with include insurance, fashion, hospitality, mining, engineering and stockbroking.

Joe Martin-Jard, Executive Director, Indigenous Business and Industry Services

Joe was appointed Executive Director, Indigenous Business and Industry Services, in March 2004. He re-joins the NT public sector after working as the ATSIC Regional Manager in Tennant Creek. Joe is originally from Darwin and has a strong interest in Indigenous economic development, particularly Indigenous business development. He started his employment at Narbalek uranium mine in Kakadu National Park in 1979. Joe has since been in the public sector for more than 20 years in Darwin, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek and Canberra.

Phil Anning, Regional Director, Central Australia

Phil was Regional Director Alice Springs with the DPIF before becoming Regional Director, Central Australia, when DBIRD was formed. Phil worked throughout northern Queensland with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries before moving to the Territory in 1999. He has experience in rangeland research, extension agronomy, horticultural development and agribusiness as well as international consultancy experience in Asia and Africa for the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organisation and private agribusiness consortia.

Paul Black, Regional Director, Tennant Creek (from 7 March 2005)

Paul joined DBIRD in early March 2005. He was involved for many years with the Australian Meat Industry, including being state manager in Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. Paul has owned properties in the south-east of South Australia and the western districts of Victoria, and represented the Victorian Farmers Federation Pastoral Board. He was a board member of the Sheepmeat Council of Australia, the inaugural Chair of Flockcare Ltd, a board member of the National Farmers' Federation Legal Advisory Board,

and many other agricultural representative bodies. Paul's interest in quality assurance saw him become involved in the formation of Cattlecare and Flockcare manuals, and he attended auditor's courses for ISO 9000-9001.

Alister Trier, Acting Regional Director, Katherine

Alister has acted in this position since June 2005. He joined the agency in 2002 in the role of Pastoral Industry Development Officer in the Indigenous Pastoral Program, before which he managed Delamere Station in the Victoria River District for five years. He has also worked in the Middle East, South East Asia, Europe and America in a variety of roles involving livestock and live exports. He has been a member of several industry representative bodies and advisory committees, and is currently a member of the National Farmers' Federation NFF Farm Business and Economics Committee.

Retiring Board of Management members

Jack Peart, Regional Director, Katherine (retired 31 May 2005)

Jack was appointed to the position of Regional Director, Katherine in May 2002. He combined this role with his responsibilities as Director Pastoral in the Primary Industry Group of the department. Prior to DBIRD's establishment, Jack held positions with DPIF, including Assistant Secretary Pastoral, Director Pastoral, Director Agriculture and Regional Director, Tennant Creek. He joined that agency as Senior Advisory Officer in Alice Springs in 1989 after a career in the private sector, including managing his own Queensland cattle property, working with a feed and fertiliser company and as a consultant in Asia.

Jenny Purdie, Regional Director, Tennant Creek (retired 30 September 2005)

Jenny held the position Regional Director, Tennant Creek with DPIF from December 1999 before taking up the role of DBIRD's Regional Director, Tennant Creek, in November 2001. She has previously worked in the Alice Springs herbarium and her diverse experience extends to working with the Darwin herbarium, the Berrimah Veterinary Laboratory, the stock inspector service, the domestic meat industry and as Principal Inspector (Meat) in Darwin.

Roger Smith, General Manager, Primary Industry (retired 27 October 2004)

Roger became the General Manager Primary Industry following DBIRD's creation in November 2001. Roger was CEO of the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (DPIF) from October 1996 and before then was Deputy CEO of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE) and Deputy Director of the Conservation Commission. His diverse experience of 34 years spans areas such as forestry, fire management, parks management, heritage conservation, Landcare, environment protection and natural resource management.

EXTENDED BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Extended Board of Management (EBoM) comprises the Board of Management plus all Directors and Managers reporting to Group Heads. EBoM meets twice a year to develop corporate strategy and planning processes that assist the department to meet Government objectives. EBoM also fulfils an important role as a senior corporate forum to share information and feedback on a wide range of issues impacting on the department.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Risk Management and Audit Committee has a critical role in assisting the CEO and Board of Management to achieve the strategic objectives of the department within the Government's framework of corporate governance, accountability, strategic directions and performance and risk management. The committee met three times in 2004-05.

The committee and the Director, Corporate Governance, also assist the groups to undertake strategic risk management activities. In 2004-05, these included:

Corporate Management

- Reviewed human resource and finance delegations
- Undertook the customer satisfaction survey for DBIRD
- Reviewed Performance Reporting for the Working for Outcomes Framework.
- Developed a Strategic Business Risk Assessment for the Corporate Management Group.

Business and Trade Development

- Commenced risk management review for ConnectNT
- Developed a policy on staff travel to locations that were the subject of high risk travel advisories from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Policy Development and Coordination

- Organised for Risk Management Services from the Department of the Chief Minister to undertake a risk assessment to ascertain and mitigate major risks that could impede the Policy Development and Coordination Group's achievement of objectives.
- Organised for Risk Management Services to review the effectiveness of the trial Indonesian Customs Pre-Clearance Facility at the Darwin Business Park.
- Undertook a program evaluation of the Economics Program.

Minerals and Energy

- Commenced a review of the Titles Division financial management processes for mineral titles and its information technology systems to ensure the capabilities for future requirements and identify areas for improved efficiency.
- Commissioned a review of the Northern Territory Geological Survey.
- Commissioned a review of the Mines and Petroleum Management Division.

Primary Industry

- Completed the Strategic Business Risk Assessment for the Primary Industry Group

Fisheries

- Completed the Strategic Business Risk Assessment for the Fisheries Group.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Information Management Committee (IMC) is chaired by the Executive Director, Corporate Management, and includes representatives of all Groups, the Chief Financial Officer and the Director, IT Services. The committee plays a key role in coordinating the department's investment in IT and addressing strategic information management issues.

EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Employee Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) advises the Board of Management on strategic employee development issues. It also oversees the implementation of employee development policies across the department. EDAC oversaw development and implementation of the DBIRD Strategic People Plan.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY STEERING COMMITTEE

The Occupational Health and Safety Steering Committee advises the Chief Executive and Group Heads on the development and implementation of departmental safety policies, as well as health and safety issues affecting departmental staff. The committee also oversees workplace safety committees in the department.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS FORUM

The Executive Officers Forum provides an opportunity for executive officers from all Groups to improve systems and workflow in corporate areas of the department. It is chaired by the Executive Director, Corporate Management, and examines the department's administrative policies, procedures and reporting requirements.

OTHER MANAGEMENT GROUPS

In addition to these whole of agency bodies, all Groups have a range of internal systems to ensure strategic objectives are being met. These include regular meetings of senior management groups, individual divisions and planning forums.

PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

All DBIRD Groups undertake regular planning and performance management activities. These include:

- Annual planning days which include all the Group's staff.
- Divisional planning and reporting on a monthly or quarterly basis.
- Staff performance appraisals on a six-monthly basis
- Joint planning exercises with specific industry sectors.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

The department's Groups undertake a range of corporate communication activities to ensure staff are aware of progress towards meeting Government objectives as well as new developments impacting on DBIRD. Groups also have a strong focus on their clients and use various techniques to maintain communication with stakeholders. The intranet and

internet are increasingly being used as efficient methods to provide up-to-date information available to staff and clients. Other activities include:

Internal Communication

- Regular senior management meetings, supported by divisional and branch meetings.
- Regularly updated intranet site for staff to access information and services, including a discussion forum and the ability to provide anonymous feedback to management.
- Major Group planning forums, supported by various divisional and branch planning sessions.
- Achievement review processes for all staff on a six-monthly basis.

External Communication

- Regularly updated internet site to give clients and the wider public information about DBIRD activities and provide points of contact for inquiries.
- Electronic newsletters to key industry groups
- Specific hardcopy newsletters mailed out to key industry groups.
- Provided information to the NT Business Review in the NT News.
- Direct contact and information sharing between the department and key client groups, including joint planning meetings, field days, industry exhibitions.
- Attendance and displays at a wide variety of industry specific events.
- Displays at major NT events, including the show circuit and NT Expo.
- Frequent media announcements about significant DBIRD events.

WHOLE OF DEPARTMENT SERVICES

The Corporate Management Group provides a range of services to support all Outputs of the department. The Ministerial Liaison service of the Policy Development and Coordination Group also works across the entire department. The costs and personnel for these services are recognised as overheads and are averaged across the Outputs on a pro rata basis.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

The Corporate Information Division is responsible for the department's responsibilities under the *Information Act*, including records management, freedom of information (FOI) and privacy. The Director, Corporate Information, is the department's decision-maker on FOI applications and also works with the Information Technology Services Division on information management issues.

Key Achievements:

- Achieved a 64 per cent compliance rating in the whole of government records management compliance survey compared to the average for Government agencies of 53.1 per cent.
- Made significant progress towards updating the department's Records Retention and Disposal schedules, with six schedules awaiting approval by NT Archives
- Undertook a review of the records titling Thesaurus for the Primary Industry Group, which is 80 per cent complete.
- Provided training and advice through the Freedom of Information and Privacy Branch to departmental staff about FOI and privacy issues.
- Processed seven FOI applications in 2004-05, all within statutory timeframes.

Compliance with Section 11 of the *Information Act*

Details of information held by the Department, including information about how to lodge applications, can be found via the DBIRD website (www.dbird.nt.gov.au).

Compliance with Part 9 of the *Information Act*

The department is making good progress towards compliance with Part 9 of the *Information Act*. The e-based records management compliance survey conducted by NT Archives Service showed DBIRD had achieved an overall compliance of 64 per cent against the agency average of 53.1 per cent. DBIRD's particular areas of strength were in Identifying and Capturing Records, which achieved 70.5 per cent against the average of 56.8 per cent, and the Records Disposal area, which achieved 76.4 per cent against the average of 52.4 per cent.

The creation of the Records Disposal and Thesaurus project positions was a major contributing factor in the progress made in addressing a backlog in dealing with historical records. The major focus for 2005-06 will be in the areas of security of, and access to, records, as well as classification and titling of records that will be assisted by the completion of the Thesaurus project.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT, FINANCE AND ASSET SERVICES

The Division provides advice and support to the department's management and program delivery areas in respect of financial management and the delivery of a range of support services such as procurement, travel, vehicles, security, facilities and asset management, financial reporting, whole of agency budget management and financial analysis.

Key Achievements:

- Developed and rolled out an information package to advance the understanding of the Budget development and management processes to the various business groups.
- Restructured the General Ledger to cater for organisational changes within the Minerals and Energy Group.
- Introduced monthly reconciliations of key balance sheet items.
- Reviewed procurement practices, developed specific training courses and issued monthly procurement newsletters as part of the agency procurement management plan.
- Actively participated in whole of government activities, including working parties for the upgrade of the Government Accounting System; pilot agency for Agency Purchase Requisition On-line (APRO); Procurement Reform encompassing simple tenders, Minister's Directions, common use contracts; and management and implementation of the new on-line corporate credit card system.
- Reviewed and updated agency financial and travel policies and procedures and worked closely with outsourced service providers to identify improved billing, payment processes and reporting.
- Reviewed Vehicle Management Procedures resulting in the implementation of a robust policy governing home garaging.
- Completed the Territory Perspective upgrade/refurbishment at Development House linking Government's strategies and objectives with the business community needs.
- Implemented improved policies, procedures and practices developed in conjunction with stakeholders in respect of works programming, fleet management, assets and property management.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Division's services cover all aspects of Human Resources management, including:

- HR processes
- Organisational development and workforce planning
- Workforce relations
- Performance enhancement
- Leadership development
- Strategic recruitment, selection
- Reviewing and redesigning human resource processes
- Liaison with external service providers

Detailed information about the department's Human Resources policies and achievements can be found in Our People page 98.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

The Marketing and Communications Division provides journalistic and editing expertise, as well as strategic expertise in events and media management. It ensures the department adopts a whole of government approach to communications. The Division also manages the department's corporate photographic library, corporate displays and promotional materials, develops communication and strategic marketing plans and manages contractors, including graphic designers, internet designers, advertising agencies, the Government Printing Office and specialist writers. The Division services regional offices through client managers and the work of a specialist officer based in Alice Springs.

Key Achievements:

- Raised the profile of the Defence Support Division among local and national industry bodies through an integrated communications strategy.
- Marketed the tenth anniversary of October Business Month through a communications strategy that lifted attendances and increased the profile and reach of the campaign.
- Increased awareness of the Trade Support Scheme through a direct mail and associated targeted media campaign.
- Increased public awareness of the Gene Tagging Program through a range of media activities.
- Raised the profile of the annual Barracade research program into fish stocks through articles in Territory and national media.
- Arranged the launch and publicity of the Fisheries Status Report.
- Prepared and implemented a communications plan to launch the new Horticultural Information Service.
- Arranged Emergency Animal Disease Crisis Media Training, which involved participation on the national working group that designed the training program, and taking part in the roll out across Australia.
- Developed a media strategy to boost attendance at Katherine Farm and Garden Day, which saw attendance rise by 60 per cent.
- Supported the Top End Secret campaign to boost mineral and petroleum exploration in the Territory.
- Designed and managed DBIRD's participation in the Territory show circuit and NT Expo, including preparation of exhibition displays as well as transport, erection, operation and removal.
- Planned and managed DBIRD's advertising requirements in all media.

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE

The Legal and Legislative Division coordinates and manages the legal and legislative program of the department. The division provides advice and assistance on legal and legislative matters and processes across the department. A list of legislative amendments can be found at Appendix 12.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Corporate Governance Division promotes good governance through a range of services that ensure the department is managed in an open and accountable manner, particularly in the way it delivers its policy advice and manages and delivers its wide range of programs. The Division coordinates and monitors audits and performance reviews, provides a robust department-wide risk management framework and coordinates strategic business planning.

Key Achievements

- Completed the Strategic Business Risk Assessments for all DBIRD Groups. The process was facilitated by Risk Management Services in the Department of the Chief Minister.
- Coordinated the annual customer satisfaction survey for DBIRD. The survey is an opportunity for DBIRD to canvass clients and stakeholders for their feedback regarding the quality and timeliness of the diverse services that DBIRD provides. This year, 900 clients were surveyed across the Territory.
- Led development of the DBIRD Strategic Framework, *Building Business and Industry 2005-2010*. The plan outlines the key strategic priorities for DBIRD for the next five years.
- Reviewed and implemented a revised Performance framework and set of measures for reporting against the Territory Government's Working for Outcomes framework. The revised framework enables more meaningful reporting against DBIRD's activities and has restructured the outputs to align with two key areas of development and management.
- Facilitated a range of audits and reviews, including:
 - Output performance reporting review
 - Review of the Mines and Petroleum Management Division of the Minerals and Energy Group
 - Program Evaluation of the Economics Program
 - Review of Financial and Human Resource Delegations in DBIRD

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Department of Corporate and Information Services (DCIS) provides a fully managed IT service to DBIRD. 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 Executive Director, Corporate Management, on matters involving DBIRD.

Key Achievements:

- Coordinated a pilot project to develop a Customer Relationship Management System (CRMS) for the department. The focus of the project is on better management of relationships with clients serviced by DBIRD programs. It will enhance DBIRD's capacity to understand and respond to client needs and to evaluate and report on quality and timeliness of service.
- Installed a new Business Application Server in Alice Springs.

- Coordinated new messaging services and upgrade to Lotus Notes 6.5
- Coordinated the implementation within DBIRD of the Active Directory in the Territory Government environment. The Active Directory will provide an integrated IT network across Government.

MINISTERIAL LIAISON

The Ministerial Liaison Branch is responsible for coordinating the flow of advice and information between the department and Ministers' offices. The branch plays a key role in ensuring the information is accurate and consistent and is provided in a timely manner.

Our People

OUR PEOPLE

DBIRD has a strong commitment to supporting and developing staff of the department to achieve their potential and deliver the best possible service to its clients. 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.

The Board of Management endorsed the 2005 Strategic People Plan priorities and supported efforts to address corporate training needs, professional development and equal employment opportunities throughout the department.

STAFFING PROFILE

The total number of actual staff in the Department as at 30 June 2005 was 652. This was an increase of 2 per cent on the previous year,

Figure 13: Staffing Profile as at 30 June 2005

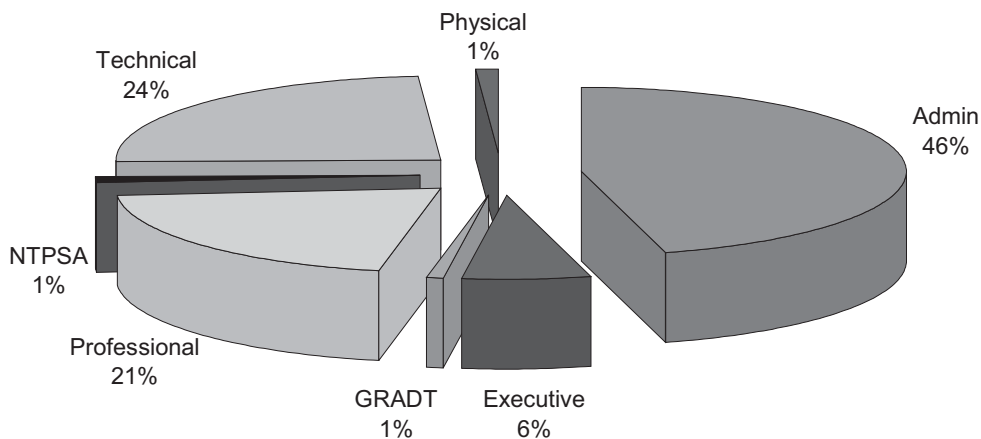
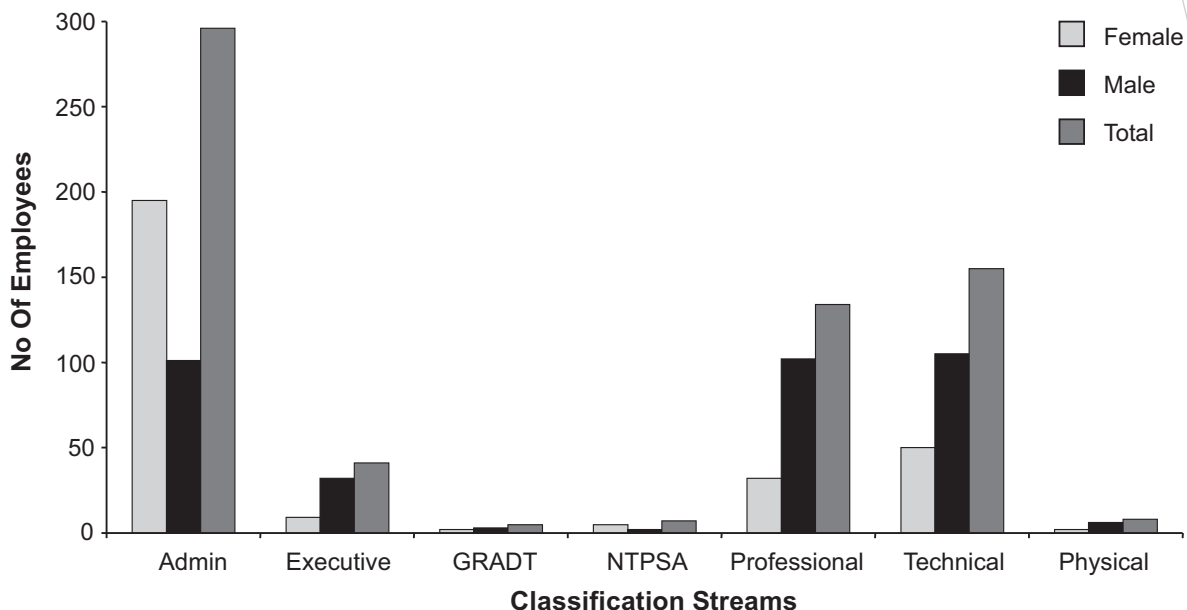


Table 19: Staffing Establishment by Output Group (Fulltime Equivalent)

Output Group 1: Business, Trade and Industry Development Services	
Business, Trade and Industry Development Services	104
Output Group 2: Minerals and Petroleum Industry Services	
Minerals and Petroleum Resource Development Services	87
Minerals and Petroleum Resource Management Services	98
Output Group 3: Animal, Plant and Fisheries Industry Services	
Animal and Plant Industry Production Services	123
Animal and Plant Resource Protection Services	43
Fisheries Resource Development and Management Services	59
Overhead Staffing	99
Total	613

Figure 14: Employment Classification by Gender, as at 20 June 2005

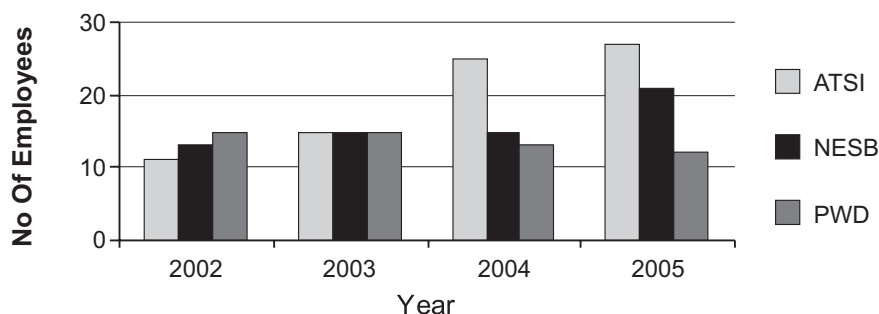


EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO) GROUPS

The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identifying persons employed in DBIRD has increased slightly over the past year. This is the result of the department participating in entry-level programs and also encouraging staff to provide their EEO details into the myHR database, an online human resources system that allows employees to access their own salary, leave and other personal information through the DBIRD intranet.

Identification as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI), or from a Non-English Speaking Background (NESB), or being a Person with a Disability (PWB), is voluntary. Therefore the data in the table below cannot be guaranteed as accurately reflecting the diversity in the agency. The myHR statistics do, however, indicate that more than 58 per cent of departmental staff have recorded their EEO data, an increase of 4 per cent on 2004.

Figure 15: Equal Employment Opportunity Groups in DBIRD, 2002 to 2005



Capability Building

Total expenditure on formal training activities in 2004-05 was:

- HECS \$10 133.71
- Training and Development \$323 863.73
- Conferences \$167 096.48

While these figures show a reduction from 2003-04, DBIRD has maintained a consistent level of spending on training throughout the 2004-05 year and achieved significant savings by negotiating competitive rates with providers and using whole of government panel contracts. In addition, the department sharpened its training focus to agreed corporate needs and was able to negotiate bulk rates for multiple programs.

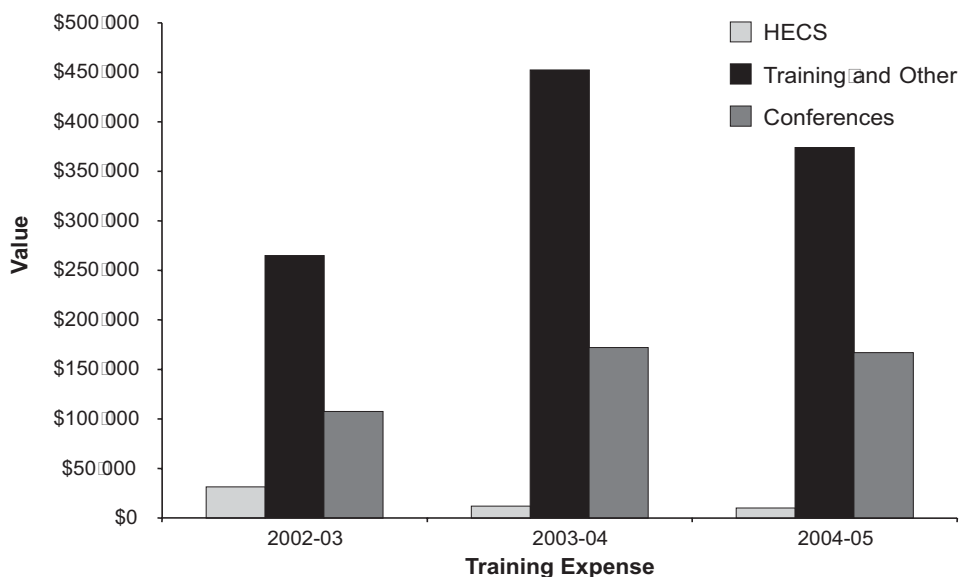
Two employees graduated from the Public Sector Management Program in 2004-05 and a further five employees are participating in the current programs. Three employees graduated from the Executive Development Program.

A supervisory and leadership learning needs assessment was undertaken throughout the department to prioritise development needs for employees in supervisory/management positions. The analysis of this assessment is being used to plan supervisory leadership training over the next 18 months.

Two indigenous employees from Darwin have nominated to undertake the Kigaruk Indigenous Leadership Development program for the coming year. The program is aimed at developing leadership capabilities for Indigenous men in the Northern Territory public sector and articulates to a Diploma of Frontline Management at Charles Darwin University.

The Minister for Mines and Energy – Earth Sciences/Geology Cadetship was launched in November 2004 with the aim of encouraging young Territorians to gain a professional qualification and embark on a career in the mining industry. Ms Susan Farquhar was selected from a small but competitive group of candidates, and she has commenced her studies at Charles Darwin University. The cadetship includes an annual stipend of \$12 000 for three years, a chance to work in the mining industry during vacation periods, and non-financial support in the form of a mentor working with NT Geological Survey. The cadetship is to be reviewed after two years.

Figure 16: DBIRD Training Expenditure, 2002-03 to 2004-05



DBIRD STRATEGIC PEOPLE PLAN

The Strategic People Plan was revised following progress over the last 18 months in developing a flexible, adaptable workforce for DBIRD that is capable of meeting Government priorities and community expectations today and for the future.

In endorsing the 2005 Plan, the Board of Management agreed on six new priorities. These were:

- Performance Management
- Leadership Development and Generic Selection Criteria
- Development of a DBIRD Generic Skills Framework
- Cultural Competence Program
- Governance Program
- Implement an Accredited Project Management Program

Significant progress has been achieved in meeting these priorities. Around 75 employees have taken part in the project management training, 134 participated in governance / ethics training and 30 employees in cross-cultural awareness training.

Specialised cross-cultural skill training aimed specifically at employees who engage with Indigenous clients was also delivered to some 16 employees. A follow-up career development program for Indigenous employees was conducted.

Work commenced on the development of a generic skills framework which will be finalised in 2005-06 for implementation across the agency to be used in position descriptions, performance assessments, probation assessments and to inform ongoing development strategy.

The review of the Performance Management system is under way, including consideration of support mechanisms to improve the support mechanisms available for supervisors to give and receive feedback.

Performance Management

An Employee Awards ceremony was held in December 2004 in Katherine. The aim of the Employee Awards scheme was 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 three minor awards.

The main award winner receives an amount of \$4000 in the case of an individual, or \$10 000 in the case of a team. The minor awards consist of \$2500 for an individual or \$5000 for a team. The award money is to be used towards personal and professional development opportunities, equipment for the group or wellness programs.

The winner of the 2004 Employee Awards was Alison Jacks, for her significant role in the creation, development and implementation of a vegetable growing and education project between local schools, the community and the Katherine Research Station. The minor awards went to three teams for recognition of their outstanding contribution to research and development in the primary industry and minerals and energy areas.

Equity and Diversity

The department continued to support the 'Willing and Able' strategy, which aims to improve the conditions of employment for people with disabilities and to develop partnerships with external disability organisations. The department will build on this involvement and ensure sector-wide strategies are implemented throughout all work groups.

A diversity policy was approved in 2004 with 13 Diversity Contact Officers receiving training and appointed to their roles in 2005.

In early 2004-05, anti-discrimination awareness sessions were delivered in Darwin, Alice Springs, Katherine and Tennant Creek. The training provided staff with an outline of the relevant legislation, its implications and how the department's policy aligns with legislation. About 60 departmental staff participated in the workshops, with further sessions being scheduled for late 2005.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

DBIRD'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. It is anticipated the department will continue to maintain this program in future years to assist employees to meet personal and professional challenges.

Occupational Health and Safety

The department continues its focus on the management of chemicals in the workplace with training on Chemalert (Chemicals Database), providing information on the procurement, handling, storage and hazard classification of chemicals. This also included training in handling of dangerous goods for those employees involved in transporting/dispatching chemicals.

In partnership with the Department of Corporate and Information Services (DCIS), DBIRD is developing training packages to build OHS capabilities in the department. Following a full review of the OHS Management System, an implementation program was commenced in 2004-05. The implementation plan emphasises risk management planning and documentation.

RETIREMENTS

- Peter Blake, Chief Executive Officer, retired on 20 July, 2005 after 23 years service.
- Don Cherry, Farm Manager Victoria River Research Station, retired after 17 years service with the NTPS.
- Virginia Garner, Water Microbiologist, retired from the Alice Springs office after almost 34 years of service.
- Vinod Kulkarni, Senior Horticulturalist, resigned after 15 years service with the NTPS.
- Glenys Lancaster, a 25-year member of the Minerals and Energy Group's Titles Division, retired.
- Michel La Pointe, administrative officer, retired after 24 years service with the NTPS.
- Jack Peart, Regional Director Katherine, retired after 16 years service with the NTPS.

- Jenny Purdie, Regional Director Tennant Creek, retired after 36 years service with the NTPS.
- Janice Saxon, Customer Services Officer with the Territory Business Centre, retired after 25 years service.
- Graham White, Fisheries Technical Officer, retired after 42 years service with the NT, Commonwealth and Queensland.
- Roland Griffin, Principal Research Scientist, retired after 34 years of service with the NTPS.
- Colin Shelley, Manager of Aquaculture, retired after 16 years of service with the NTPS.
- Roger Smith, General Manager Primary Industry, retired after 34 years service.

Financial Statements

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OVERVIEW

For the Year Ended 30 June 2005

The Department's overall operating deficit of \$6.0 million for 2004-05 exceeded the budget forecast of \$3.3 million by \$2.7 million but within \$0.6 million of the 2003-04 deficit. The variation against budget arose principally from the net effect of a deferment of Output Appropriation and the lower than anticipated expenditure in externally funded projects.

Significant changes between the 2003-04 and 2004-05 results occurred in the following areas:

- Total net Operating Revenue decreased by \$4.8 million as a result of:
 - A decrease of \$4.9 million in Output Appropriation arising from the deferral of receipt to the 2005-06 financial year which will be reimbursed through an equity injection.
 - The impact of the reduced revenue was compensated by an increase in Other Agency Revenue of \$1.8 million, attributable to an unforeseen dealing fee in 2004-05 for the sale of a petroleum lease in the Ashmore Cartier adjacent area and an increase in revenue for offshore petroleum titles. This increase was in turn offset by a decrease in miscellaneous revenue for externally funded projects of approximately \$0.8 million.
- Total net Operating Expenses decreased this year by an overall amount of approximately \$4.2 million. The relative improvement in operating expenses over the previous year is due to the following:
 - There was no significant decrement from asset revaluations in 2004-05. In the previous financial year, an asset revaluation decrement of \$1.5 million and \$1.0 million in investment write-down were recorded against "Other Administrative Expenses".
 - Similarly, the charge against "Purchase of Goods and Services" for one-off legal settlements in 2004-05 decreased by \$1.4 million over the previous year.
 - A number of other smaller decreases in expenditure also occurred, including consultant payments and property management expenses.
 - Against these decreases were the offsetting effects of increased charges for depreciation and employee expenses. Compliance with Australian Accounting Standard AAS30 requires accrued employees entitlements to be accounted for on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

An equity withdrawal of \$6.5 million in excess cash balances and the deferment of \$4.9 million in Output Appropriation in 2004-05 resulted in a significant decline to the Department's financial position at 30 June 2005 over that of the previous year. This is largely reflected in the \$8.1m reduction of cash at bank between the two financial years.

Accounts receivables continued to improve as the focused campaign to follow up on outstanding debtors takes effect.

Loan repayments were lower than anticipated in 2004-05 resulting in the balance for Advances not reducing in line with budgeted estimates.

Property plant and equipment decreased by approximately \$1.5 million in 2004-05. This decrease was the net result of depreciation expenses offset against additional purchases.

Total liabilities remained static in 2004-05 at \$13.8 million.

Key Financial Data

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
Statement of Financial Performance		
Total Revenue	83 187	87 886
Total Expenses	89 154	93 239
<i>Net Operating Deficit</i>	(5 967)	(5 353)
Key Sources of Revenue		
Grants and Subsidies	5 628	5 824
Output Revenue	61 742	66 828
Other Agency Revenue (from External Funding Bodies)	3 206	4 237
Agency Fees and Charges	7 011	5 056
Interest	58	115
Profit on Disposal of Assets	73	267
Services Received Free of Charge, Notional Revenue only (DCIS & Risk Management Services)	5 469	5 559
Total Revenue	83 187	87 886
Statement of Financial Position		
Total Assets	70 862	82 207
Total Liabilities	13 830	13 835
<i>Equity</i>	<i>57 032</i>	<i>68 372</i>

Total expenses and revenue has decreased in 2004-05 compared to 2003-04, primarily attributable to Output Group 3 (Animal Plant and Fisheries Industry Services). Output Group 3 is also the main generator of external sources of revenue for the Agency.

CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development 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 Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements, presents fairly the financial performance for the year ended 30 June 2005 and the financial position on that date.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



.....
MIKE BURGESS
Chief Executive
DATE: 26/8/05



.....
Bernard Ho
Chief Financial Officer
DATE: 26/8/05

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	NOTE	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
OPERATING REVENUE			
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>			
Current		1 198	1 822
Capital		4 431	4 002
<i>Sales of Goods and Services</i>			
Output Revenue		61 742	66 828
Other Agency Revenue		8 709	6 942
Interest Revenue		58	115
Miscellaneous Revenue		1 507	2 351
Services Received Free of Charge	13	5 469	5 559
Profit on Disposal of Assets	3	73	267
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	2	83 187	87 886
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses		45 366	44 647
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>			
Purchases of Goods and Services	4	24 782	27 672
Repairs and Maintenance		1 425	1 664
Depreciation and Amortisation	7	3 370	2 554
Other Administrative Expenses		5 572	8 008
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>			
Current	23	4 997	4 974
Capital	23	3 641	3 713
Interest Expense	14	1	7
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2	89 154	93 239
NET OPERATING DEFICIT	12	(5 967)	(5 353)
Net Increase in Asset Revaluation Reserve	11	15	2 259
Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in Accumulated Funds		15	2 259
Total changes in Accumulated Funds from non-owner related transactions		(5 952)	(3 094)

The Statement of Financial Performance is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

	NOTE	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Deposits	5	1 219	9 367
Receivables	6	1 639	2 651
Prepayments		251	302
Advances and Investments	21	1 036	1 693
Other Assets			
Total Current Assets		4 145	14 013
Non Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	66 717	68 194
Total Non Current Assets		66 717	68 194
TOTAL ASSETS		70 862	82 207
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Deposits Held	18	2 892	2 508
Payables	8	3 296	3 669
Borrowing's and Advances	9	0	28
Provisions	10	7 642	7 630
Other Liabilities			
Total Current Liabilities		13 830	13 835
TOTAL LIABILITIES		13 830	13 835
NET ASSETS		57 032	68 372
EQUITY			
Capital	11 (a)	67 708	73 096
Reserves	11 (b)	2 274	2 259
Accumulated Funds	11 (c)	(12 950)	(6 983)
TOTAL EQUITY		57 032	68 372

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

	NOTE	2005 \$'000 (Outflows)/ Inflows	2004 \$'000 (Outflows)/ Inflows
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Operating receipts			
<i>Grants and Subsidies Received</i>			
Current		1 198	1 822
Capital		4 431	4 002
<i>Receipts From Sales of Goods And Services</i>			
Output Revenue Received		61 742	66 828
Other Agency Receipts		14 598	11 753
Interest Received		94	174
Total Operating Receipts		82 063	84 579
Operating Payments			
<i>Grants and Subsidies Paid</i>			
Current	23	(4 997)	(4 974)
Capital	23	(3 641)	(3 713)
Payments to Employees		(45 221)	(45 199)
Payments for Goods and Services		(30 087)	(32 840)
Interest Paid		(1)	(7)
Total Operating Payments		(83 947)	(86 733)
Net Cash From/(Used In) Operating Activities	12	(1 884)	(2 154)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Investing Receipts			
Proceeds from Asset Sales		73	1
Repayment of Advances		895	1 089
Total Investing Receipts		968	1 090
Investing Payments			
Purchase of Assets	7	(1 089)	(714)
Advances and Investing Payments		(168)	(174)
Total Investing Payments		(1 257)	(888)
Net Cash From/(Used In) Investing Activities		(289)	202
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Financing Receipts			
Deposits Received		384	158
Equity Injection	11	173	808
Total Financing Receipts		557	966
Financing Payments			
Repayment of Borrowings		(28)	(104)
Equity Withdrawals	11	(6 504)	0
Total Financing Payments		(6 532)	(104)
Net Cash From/(Used In) Financing Activities		(5 975)	862
Net Decrease in Cash Held		(8 148)	(1 090)
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		9 367	10 457
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	5	1 219	9 367

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2005

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Objectives and funding

The Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development provides a leadership and coordination role for the economic development of businesses and industries and the development of and trade in natural resources across the regions of the Northern Territory. Industries covered include minerals, petroleum, pastoral, agriculture, horticulture, fishing and the manufacturing and service sectors.

The Department's budget capacity is predominantly funded by Parliamentary appropriations, with the balance being funded from Agency own revenue source. In 2004/05 approximately \$9m was generated from external corporations and Commonwealth Agencies and approximately \$7m generated through fees and charges, of which approximately \$1.8m was not linked to budget capacity. A further \$57,000 was received in interest.

(b) Central Holding Authority

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

The Central Holding Authority also records all Territory items. Territory items are revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled by the Government and managed by Agencies on behalf of the Government. The main Territory item is Territory revenue, 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 liabilities that are not practical or effective to assign to individual Agencies such as unfunded superannuation and long service leave.

Territory items

The Central Holding Authority recognises all Territory items, therefore the Territory items managed by the Agency on behalf of Government are not included in the Agency financial statements. However, as the Agency is accountable for the Territory items they manage on behalf of Government, these items have been separately disclosed in Note 20, titled Schedule of Territory Items.

(c) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

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

These financial statements do not comply with Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards, as Australia is not adopting these requirements until reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. However the potential impact on accounting policies that will arise from the transition to the new standards is disclosed in Note 22.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies, which have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

(d) Changes in accounting policies

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

(e) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration are not recognised as revenues.

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 revenue.

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.

Rendering of services

Revenue from rendering services is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion of the contract.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

Sale of non-current assets

The profit or loss on disposal of non-current asset sales is included as revenue at the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed.

The profit 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.

Contribution of assets

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

(f) Goods and services tax

Revenues, 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 these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item 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 Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is 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 from, or payable to, the ATO.

(g) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank controlled by the Agency.

(h) Receivables

The collectibility of debtors or receivables is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts.

Trade debtors and other debtors to be settled within 90 days, are carried at amounts due.

(i) Property, plant and equipment***Acquisitions***

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$5,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Property, plant and equipment below the \$5,000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

The cost of property, plant and equipment constructed by the Agency 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 useful lives.

Construction work in progress

As part of Stage 1 of *Working for Outcomes*, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole of Government basis. Therefore appropriation for most capital works is provided directly to the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment 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

Assets belonging to the following classes of non-current assets are progressively revalued on a rolling basis with sufficient regularity to ensure that an asset's carrying amount does not differ materially from its fair value at reporting date:

- Land;
- Buildings;
- Infrastructure assets;
- Cultural assets; and
- Self generating and regenerating assets.

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 on a cost basis

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, for the current year, are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are provided as follows:

	2005	2004
Buildings	50 Years	50 Years
Plant and equipment-major items includes Farm Machinery, Scientific Equipment and Vessels	10 Years	10 Years
Cultural assets	100 Years	100 Years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or, in respect of internally constructed assets, from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

(j) 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 lease property.

(k) Payables

Liabilities for trade creditors 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. Trade creditors are normally settled within 30 days.

(l) 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 expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken indicates that accumulated sick leave is unlikely to be paid.

Employee benefits 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; and
- 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 Business, Industry and Resource Development.

(m) Superannuation

Employees' Superannuation entitlements are provided through the NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS), Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and 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 the non-government employee nominated schemes. Any liability for government superannuation is met directly by the Central Holding Authority and the Agency has and will continue to have no direct superannuation liability.

(n) Rounding of amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

(o) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparatives have been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

2. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE BY OUTPUT GROUPS

	Output Group 1 Business, Trade & Industry Development Services		Output Group 2 Minerals and Petroleum Industry Services		Output Group 3 Animals, Plant and Fisheries Industry Services		Total	
	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
OPERATING REVENUE								
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>								
Current	154	262	367	211	676	1 349	1 197	1 822
Capital	-	-	4 431	4 002	-	-	4 431	4 002
<i>Sales of Goods and Services</i>								
Output Revenue	16 484	16 072	16 207	17 841	29 051	32 915	61 742	66 828
Other Agency Revenue	128	59	3 041	1 037	5 540	5 845	8 709	6 942
Interest Revenue	58	115	-	-	-	-	58	115
Miscellaneous Revenue	22	119	112	213	1 374	2 019	1 507	2 351
Services received free of charge	875	889	1 367	1 389	3 227	3 281	5 469	5 559
Profit/Loss on Disposal of Assets	-	-	-	15	73	252	73	267
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	17 721	17 516	25 525	24 708	39 941	45 661	83 187	87 886
OPERATING EXPENSES								
Employee Expenses	8 349	8 222	12 837	11 516	24 180	24 909	45 366	44 647
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>								
Purchases of Goods and Services	4 109	4 828	7 086	6 507	13 587	16 336	24 782	27 671
Repairs and Maintenance	46	6	124	124	1 255	1 534	1 425	1 664
Depreciation and Amortisation	464	-	825	238	2 081	2 316	3 370	2 554
Other Administrative Expenses	809	1 357	1 372	1 622	3 391	5 029	5 572	8 008
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>								
Current	3 944	3 951	-	-30	1 053	1 053	4 997	4 974
Capital	-	-	3 641	3 713	-	-	3 641	3 713
Community Service Obligations								
Interest Expense	1	7	-	-	-	-	1	7
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	17 722	18 371	25 885	23 690	45 547	51 177	89 154	93 239
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	0	(855)	(360)	1 018	(5 606)	(5 516)	(5 967)	(5 353)

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
3. PROFIT/(LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	73	6
Assets omitted in stock-take reinstated	0	261
Profit on the disposal of non-current assets	73	267

4. OPERATING EXPENSES		
The net operating surplus/(deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:		
Administrative Expenses:		
Consultants ⁽¹⁾	2 468	3 210
Advertising ⁽²⁾	164	210
Marketing and Promotion ⁽³⁾	603	635
Document Production	335	429
Legal Expenses ⁽⁴⁾	770	2 120
Recruitment ⁽⁵⁾	192	284
Training and Study	452	640
Official Duty Fares	917	873
Travelling Allowance	586	604
Other Operating Expenses	18 295	18 667
	24 782	27 647

- Note (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.

5. CASH AND DEPOSITS		
Cash on Hand	17	102
Cash at Bank	1 202	9 265
	1 219	9 367

6. RECEIVABLES		
Trade Debtors	672	1 358
Less: Provision for Doubtful Trade Debtors	(52)	(38)
	620	1 320
Interest Receivable	20	56
GST Receivables	295	369
Accrued Revenue	704	906
Total Receivables	1 639	2 651

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Land		
At Fair Value	15 008	15 272
	15 008	15 272
Buildings		
At Fair Value	111 071	109 913
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(62 159)	(59 383)
	48 912	50 530
Plant and Equipment		
At Cost	8 522	7 625
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(5 797)	(5 454)
	2 725	2 171
Cultural Assets		
At Cost	60	69
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(10)	(10)
	50	59
Self Generating and Regenerating Assets		
At Cost (Self)	22	163
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	0	0
	22	163
Total property, plant and equipment	66 717	68 194

Following a valuation of a majority of DBIRD's holding of land and buildings by the Australian Valuation Office as at 30 June 2004, a further valuation of three buildings was undertaken the current financial year. The revaluations were conducted in accordance with Treasurer's Direction 2.4 – current replacement cost, accumulated depreciation and depreciated replacement cost.

7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)**Reconciliations**

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

30 June 2005	Note	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Construction (Works in Progress)	Plant & Equipment	Leased Plant & Equipment	Cultural Assets	Self Generating and Regenerating Assets	Intangibles	Total
Cost/Valuation											
Balance at the beginning of the year		15 272	109 913	0	0	7 625	0	69	163	0	133 042
Additions		0	0	0	0	1 089	0	0	0	0	1 089
Disposals		0	0	0	0	(72)	0	0	0	0	(72)
Transfers (net)	11(a)	(264)	1 130	0	0	(120)	0	(9)	0	0	738
Revaluation (net)	11 (b)	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	(141)	0	(114)
Balance at the end of the year		15 008	111 071	0	0	8 522	0	60	22	0	134 683
Accumulated depreciation											
Balance at the beginning of the year		0	(59 383)	0	0	(5 454)	0	(10)	0	0	(64 847)
Depreciation and amortisation		0	(2 764)	0	0	(606)	0	0	0	0	(3 370)
Disposals		0	0	0	0	71	0	0	0	0	71
Transfers (net)	11(a)	0	0	0	0	192	0	0	0	0	192
Revaluation (net)	11(b)	0	(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(12)
Balance at the end of the year		0	(62 159)	0	0	(5 797)	0	(10)	0	0	(67 966)
Written down value											
Balance at the beginning of the year		15 272	50 530	0	0	2 171	0	59	163	0	68 194
Balance at the end of the year		15 008	48 912	0	0	2 725	0	50	22	0	66 717

7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

30 June 2004	Note	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Construction (Works in Progress)	Plant & Equipment	Leased Plant & Equipment	Cultural Assets	Self Generating and Regenerating Assets	Intangibles	Total
Cost/Valuation											
	Balance at the beginning of the year	12 926	105 874	0	0	6 955	0	69	163	0	125 987
	Additions	87	15	0	0	699	0	0	0	0	801
	Disposals					(27)	0	0	0	0	(27)
	Transfers (net)		794			(2)	0	0	0	0	792
	Revaluation (net)	2 259	3 230	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5 489
	Balance at the end of the year	15 272	109 913	0	0	7 625	0	69	163	0	133 042
Accumulated depreciation											
	Balance at the beginning of the year	0	(52 579)	0	0	(5 160)	0	(10)	0	0	(57 749)
	Depreciation and amortisation	0	(2 125)	0	0	(428)	0	0	0	0	(2 554)
	Disposals	0				27	0	0	0	0	27
	Transfers (net)	0	(4 679)	0	0	107	0	0	0	0	(4 572)
	Revaluation (net)	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Balance at the end of the year	0	(59 383)	0	0	(5 454)	0	(10)	0	0	(64 848)
Written down value											
	Balance at the beginning of the year	12 926	53 295	0	0	1 795	0	59	163	0	68 238
	Balance at the end of the year	15 272	50 530	0	0	2 171	0	59	163	0	68 194

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)		
Purchase of non current assets		
Payments for Acquisition of Buildings	0	15
Payments for Acquisition of Plant and Equipment	1 089	699
	1 089	714
8. PAYABLES		
Trade Creditors	466	2 221
Other Creditors	1 268	271
Unearned Revenue	1 562	1 173
	3 296	3 669
9. BORROWINGS AND ADVANCES		
Current		
Loans and Advances	0	28
Total Borrowing's and Advances	0	28
10. PROVISIONS		
Current		
<i>Employee Benefits</i>		
Recreation Leave	6 219	6 067
Leave Loading	576	731
<i>Other Current Provisions</i>		
Other Provisions	847	833
	7 642	7 630
Total Provisions	7 642	7 630

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
11. EQUITY		
(a) Capital		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	73 096	71 421
Equity Injections - Transfer of Output Appropriation to Capital Works	173	808
- Capitalisation of Completed MNW & Capital Works	1 206	867
Equity Withdrawals - Removal of excess cash balance	(6 504)	0
- Incorrect Capital Works transferred out	(263)	0
Balance at the End of Year	67 708	73 096
(b) Reserves		
Asset Revaluation Reserve		
(i) Nature and Purpose of Reserve		
The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non current assets in accordance with AASB 1041.		
(ii) Movements in Reserve		
Balance at Beginning of the Year	2 259	0
Revaluation Increment/(Decrement) on Land	15	2 259
Balance at End of the Year	2 274	2 259
(c) Accumulated funds		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	(6 983)	(1 630)
Current Year Operating Deficit	(5 967)	(5 353)
Balance at the End of Year	(12 950)	(6 983)

12. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Reconciliation of net operating surplus / (deficit) to net cash used in operating activities.

Net operating deficit	(5 967)	(5 353)
<i>Non Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation	3 370	2 554
Assets Written Down	153	2 575
Assets Donated	0	16
Assets Acquired Nil consideration	0	(261)
Profit on Disposal of Non Current Assets	(73)	(1)
Doubtful Debts Expense – Other	(69)	(22)
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</i>		
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	1 012	(637)
Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments	50	(146)
Decrease/(Increase) in Deferred Income	390	(226)
Decrease in Accounts Payable	(763)	(1 116)
Transfer of Long Service Leave to CHA	0	(7)
Decrease in Provision for Employee Benefits	(2)	(78)
Increase in Other Provisions	15	547
Net Cash Flows From/(Used In) Operating Activities	(1 884)	(2 154)

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
13. SERVICES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE		
Risk Management Services	84	81
Financial Processing Services	1 529	1 651
Human Resource and Payroll Services	863	903
Property Management Services	2 130	2 007
Contract Management Services	208	199
IT Management Services	584	647
Records and Courier Services	71	71
	5 469	5 559

14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is any contract resulting in a financial asset of one Agency and a financial liability of another Agency.

(a) Interest Rate Risk

The Agency's exposure to interest rate risk and the average interest rate for classes of financial assets and financial liabilities is set out below. The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balance at the start of the year.

14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

	Weighted Average interest rate %	Variable interest \$'000	Fixed Interest Maturity			Non- Interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
			Under 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000		
2005 Financial Assets							
Cash Assets						1 219	1 219
Receivables						935	935
Accrued Revenue						704	704
Advances	3.75	196	0	544	0	296	1 036
		196	0	544	0	3 154	3 894
Financial Liabilities							
Accounts Payable		0	0	0	0	466	466
		0	0	0	0	466	466
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)		196	0	544	0	2 688	3 428
2004 Financial Assets							
Cash Assets						9 367	9 367
Receivables						1 744	1 744
Accrued Revenue						906	906
Advances	5.59	359	0	947	207	180	1 693
Total Financial Assets		359	0	947	207	12 197	13 710
Financial Liabilities							
Accounts Payable						2 221	2 221
Borrowings and Advances	4.00		28				28
Total Financial Liabilities			28			2 221	2 249
Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)		359	(28)	947	207	9 976	11 461

(b) Credit Risk

The Agency principally deals with Government Agencies. In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the Agency has adopted the policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient 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 provisions for losses, represents the Agency's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

(c) Net Fair Value

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective net fair values.

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
15. COMMITMENTS		
(i) Capital Expenditure Commitments		
Estimated capital expenditure contracted for at balance date but not provided for and payable:		
Within one year	12	34
One year or no later than five years	0	0
Greater than five years	0	0
	12	34

16. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

No contingent liabilities or contingent assets existed at balance date.

17. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

On 11 July 2005, the Government announced changes to the structure of some public sector Agencies. As a result of those changes, the functions of the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD) were separated and performed by two new agencies:

- Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development (DBERD);
and
- Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines (DPIFM)

The administrative rearrangements did not take effect until 1 July 2005 and accordingly the financial effects of the changes are not reflected in the financial statements for 2004-05. At the date of this report, the identification of all assets and liabilities required to be transferred between Agencies as a result of the changes is continuing and it is not possible therefore to reliably estimate the financial effect of the changes.

18. ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER'S TRUST ACCOUNT

In accordance with section 7 of the *Financial Management Act*, an Accountable Officers 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 01/07/04	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance 30/06/05
Aboriginal Land Rents	548	1 523	1 403	668
Compensation Liabilities	346	132	1	477
Cash Securities	1 333	402	283	1 452
Employee Award Scheme	17	2		19
Miscellaneous	66	11	45	32
BTEC	180			180
CEO Awards	5			5
NTSC Levy	2	102	45	59
Sub-total AOTA	2 497	2 172	1 777	2 892
Clearing Account	11		11	0
Total Deposits Held	2 508	2172	1 788	2 892

19. WRITE OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS	Agency		Territory Items		Agency		Territory Items	
	2005 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2005 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2004 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2004 \$'000	No. of Trans.
Write offs, waivers and postponements under the Financial Management Act								
Represented by:								
<u>Amounts written off, waived and postponed by Delegates</u>								
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or an Agency written off	1	16			2	2		
Losses or deficiencies of money written off	2	4						
Public property written off					45	4		
Total	3	20			47	6		
<u>Amounts written off, waived and postponed by the Treasurer</u>								
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or an Agency written off	4	4			26	2	139	1
Waiver or postponement of right to receive or recover money or property							272	3
Total	4	4			26	2	411	4
Write offs, postponements and waivers authorised under other legislation	-	-			-	-	-	-

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
20. SCHEDULE OF TERRITORY ITEMS		
TERRITORY REVENUE AND EXPENSES		
<i>Revenue</i>		
<i>Sale of Goods and Services</i>		
Fees from Regulatory Services	1 663	1 651
Royalties and Rents	729	74
Other Revenue	137	185
Total Revenue	2 529	2 585
<i>Expenses</i>		
Central Holding Authority Revenue Transferred	2 529	2 585
Total Expenses	2 529	2 585
Revenue less Expenses	0	0

TERRITORY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

<i>Assets</i>		
Central Holding Authority Receivable	2 266	1 891
Total Assets	2 266	1 891
<i>Liabilities</i>		
Unearned CHA Revenue	2 266	1 891
Total Liabilities	2 266	1 891
Net Assets	0	0

21. Advances and Investments

Advances Paid		
Drought Relief	196	358
Rural Adjustment Scheme	0	205
Katherine Flood	544	950
BTEC	33	0
Development Loans	263	180
TOTAL ADVANCES AND INVESTMENTS	1 036	1 693

22. DISCLOSING THE IMPACT OF ADOPTING AUSTRALIAN EQUIVALENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (AIFRS)

The Department of Business Industry and Resource Development has managed the initial transition through attendance at workshops, seminars and guidance from Treasury's Accounting and Policy Branch. An assessment of the transition to AIFRS undertaken has indicated that the financial impact of adoption is expected to be minimal. The process included high level identification of the key differences in accounting policies and disclosures that are expected to arise from the adoption and preparation of changes to accounting policies and systems.

23. GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES

Current Grants		
Grants	4 997	4 974
Capital Grants		
Grants	275	131
Rebates	3 366	3 582
	3 641	3 713

Appendices

Appendix 1	Resource and Primary Industry Sector Outcomes	130
Appendix 2	Industry Development Support Program in 2004-05	134
Appendix 3	Industry Development Grants in 2004-05	134
Appendix 4	Business Growth Expenditure in 2004-05	135
Appendix 5	Trade Support Scheme Expenditure in 2004-05	136
Appendix 6	Fertiliser Freight Subsidy Scheme Expenditure in 2004-05	138
Appendix 7	Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme Expenditure in 2004-05	139
Appendix 8	DBIRD Sponsorship Provided in 2004-05	140
Appendix 9	FarmBis Expenditure in 2004-05	141
Appendix 10	Additional Grants Paid by DBIRD in 2004-05	143
Appendix 11	NT Geological Survey Publications, Maps and Displays, 2004-05	144
Appendix 12	New or Amended Legislation for 2004-05	149
Appendix 13	Ministers, Legislation and Responsibilities relating to DBIRD	150

APPENDIX 1

RESOURCE AND PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTOR OUTCOMES

Mining Sector

The overall value of the mining sector in 2004-05 was 5.7 per cent more than the previous year, and was valued at \$2 424 million. A 21.9 per cent decline in the estimated value of crude oil production from the Laminaria and Corallina oil fields impacted on the total value of the Northern Territory mining sector throughout the last financial year. However, increases in both metallic and non-metallic minerals more than offset this decline in oil production.

Metallic Minerals

The value of metallic mineral production increased by 17.7 per cent. Metallic mineral production was valued at more than \$1565 million for the financial year. The value of manganese production increased over the previous year by 81.3 per cent, because of increases in volume (20.8 per cent) and the price (49 per cent). The value of gold production also increased by \$41.8 million (12.2 per cent), despite a fall in production by 1876 kg (9.7 per cent). The value of lead/zinc concentrate increased slightly (5.5 per cent) while the production volume fell (5.4 per cent). The value of alumina and bauxite produced increased, despite small falls in production volumes.

Non-metallic Minerals

The value of non-metallic mineral production increased by 14.4 per cent. This represents an increase of \$2.9 million from \$20.6 million in 2003-04 to \$23.5 million in 2004-05. The major contributor to the increase in the value of non-metallic minerals was higher value (56.2 per cent) and volume (19.0 per cent) of crushed rock. There were decreases in the value of dimension stone (50.2 per cent), sand (25.9 per cent) and soil (83.4 per cent).

Energy Minerals

The value of energy production decreased by 11.3 per cent during 2004-05. This represents a decrease of \$107 million from \$942 million in 2003-04 to \$835 million in 2004-05. The volume of oil produced fell from 2517 ml in 2003-04 to 1467 ml in 2004-05. Although the price of oil increased by 34.2 per cent during the year, the drop in production volume corresponded to a 21.8 per cent fall in crude oil production value. Natural gas production increased in 2004-05 because of a 3.0 per cent rise in production volume and a 5.2 per cent rise in production value. The value of uranium ore increased by 25.3 per cent because of higher production volume (22.7 per cent) and a 2.1 per cent price rise.

Table 1: Northern Territory Mining Production and Value

	2004/05 QUANTITY Produced (t) Preliminary	2004/05 VALUE(\$) Preliminary	2003/04 QUANTITY Produced (t)	2003/04 VALUE (\$)
Metallic Minerals				
Alumina Produced ₁	1 905 515	446 107 071	2 027 356	440 395 794
Bauxite	5 807 869	165 473 079	6 018 289	150 457 225
Gold (grams)	17 472 347	383 669 715	19 348 773	341 822 307
Manganese	2 999 439	362 412 478	2 481 784	199 874 496
Silver (grams)	1 340 807	438 189	1 708 525	599 110
Zinc/Lead Concentrate	336 538	207 357 247	355 647	196 580 730
<i>Sub Total:</i>		1 565 457 779		1 329 729 662
Non-Metallic Minerals				
Barite			2 000	480 000
Crushed Rock	910 401	13 858 894	764 784	8 870 076
Dimension Stone	2 750	341 792	5 302	685 949
Gravel	205 192	1 032 636	414 289	1 783 862
Limestone	77 180	n.p. ³	39 573	n.p. ³
Quicklime Produced ¹	17 203	n.p. ³	19 840	n.p. ³
Sand	113 912	641 197	153 804	1 333 178
Soil	3 984	46 677	23 941	340 693
Vermiculite	8 769	3 314 497	9 676	3 183 809
<i>Sub Total:</i>		23 529 601		20 562 086
Energy Minerals				
Crude Oil (ML) ²	1 467	559 315 044	2 517	715 137 804
Natural Gas (GL)	483	45 314 320	469	43 069 000
Uranium Oxide	5 729	230 796 906	4 668	184 131 242
<i>Sub Total:</i>		835 426 270		942 338 046
Totals		2 424 413 650		2 292 629 794

Note 1: Value is nett – after accounting for feedstocks

Note 2: Estimate only, fourth quarter oil production estimated for 2004-05.

Note 3: n.p. not for publication

Source: DBIRD

Primary Industries and Fisheries

Rural industries in the Northern Territory comprise cattle and other livestock (including buffalo, crocodiles, poultry, pigs and camels), horticulture (fruit, vegetables, nursery and cut flowers) and crop production (field crops, hay and seed). Fisheries comprise wildstock harvesting, aquaculture and recreational fishing. The estimated value of production of rural and fisheries industries increased by more than \$49 million (11.3 per cent) to around \$486 million in 2004. The increase in the value of the cattle and horticultural industries more than offset the decline in fisheries and other animal production.

Animal Industries

The number of cattle turned off (including live cattle movement interstate, live exports and cattle slaughtered in the Northern Territory) was 2.1 per cent lower than in 2003. There was a slight decline in the number of cattle sold interstate and a slight increase in the number of cattle exported. Abattoir production was well down on the previous year. The large increase in the value of the cattle industry was due the significantly higher prices on offer in interstate markets as a result of increased global demand for Australian beef. The value of other livestock industries decreased by over 25 per cent, predominantly due to the cessation of poultry meat production in the Northern Territory and the subsequent loss in the value of the poultry industry.

Fisheries

Preliminary estimates for the fishing industry indicate that the value of production for Northern Territory fisheries in 2004 was down 6.4 per cent on the previous year. The main cause was a 16.4 per cent fall in the volume of the prawn catch in Northern Territory waters. Aquaculture increased in value by around 14 per cent in 2004.

Field Crops

The value of field crops in 2004 was once again slightly above \$11 million, similar to 2003. A small decrease in the value of pasture seed production was offset by an increase in hay production.

Horticulture

Value of horticulture production (including nursery) during 2004 was an estimated \$97 million, 10.2 per cent higher than 2003. Mango volume was up considerably on the previous year, although the price received for mangoes was down. The value of grapes and bananas fell from 2003. Vegetable production increased by 23.4 per cent over the previous year.

Table 2: Northern Territory Primary Industry and Fisheries Production and Value

INDUSTRY	Value 2004 Preliminary Estimate (\$)	Value 2003 (\$) Actual
Cattle Industry	253 118 954	200 475 854
Other Livestock Industries (Buffalo, Poultry, Horse, Crocodile, Dairy etc)	10 650 076	14 365 259
<i>Total Value of Animal Industries</i>	<i>263 769 030</i>	<i>214 841 113</i>
Fishing Industry		
Fish	25 065 592	26 301 675
Crustaceans ¹	59 636 000	69 470 778
Aquaculture	28 850 000	25 300 000
Molluscs and Echinoderms	1 315 048	1 698 755
<i>Total Value of Fishing Industry²</i>	<i>114 866 640</i>	<i>122 771 208</i>
Field Crops Industry		
Cereal (Sorghum, Sesame, Peanut)	1 423 800	1 432 103
Cotton and Cotton Seed	60 000	95 000
Pasture Seeds	842 700	1 494 330
Hay	8 692 200	8 000 000
<i>Total Value of Agricultural Industry</i>	<i>11 018 700</i>	<i>11 021 433</i>
Horticultural Industry		
Fruit and Vegetables	81 586 000	72 652 000
Nursery ³	15 000 000	15 000 000
<i>Total Value of Horticultural Industry</i>	<i>96 586 000</i>	<i>87 652 000</i>
TOTAL⁴	486 240 370	436 933 394

Note 1: The value relates to prawn fisheries of catch taken from the NT zone and not landings through NT ports. Value for crustaceans sourced from ABARE and AFMA.

Note 2: Total value excludes recreational fishing.

Note 3: Estimated by Horticulture Division, Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Minerals.

Note 4: These statistics do not include value of production of NT pet meat, bee industries & station meat. Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

APPENDIX 2

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM IN 2004-05

Industry Development Support Program	\$ Expenditure
Amateur Fishing Association of the NT	170 000.00
Australian Information Industry Association - NT	33 500.00
Business Enterprise Centre	85 000.00
Central Australian Camel Industry Association	180 000.00
Chamber of Commerce NT	223 000.00
Film and Television Association of the NT	5 000.00
Motor Trades Association	53 000.00
NT Agricultural Association	126 000.00
NT Buffalo Industry Council	68 000.00
NT Horticultural Association	165 000.00
NT Industry Capability Network	550 000.00
NT Livestock Exporters Association	53 000.00
NT Seafood Council	175 000.00
NT Table Grape Producers Association	11 500.00
Taxi Council of the NT (2001) Inc	15 000.00
Territory Construction Association	60 000.00
Welding Technology Institute of Australia	48 000.00
TOTAL	2 021 000.00

APPENDIX 3

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS IN 2004-05

Industry Development Grants	\$ Expenditure
Australian Industry and Defence Network - NT	4 500.00
Battery Hill Mining Centre	18 000.00
Electronic Control Systems	10 755.00
Jabiru Town Council	7 691.00
Katherine Horticulture Association	8 000.00
Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation	100 000.00
Malaysia Airlines	18 000.00
Ngukurr Meat Supplies & Abattoirs Aboriginal Corporation	6 195.00
Northern Land Council	15 000.00
NT Agricultural Association	57 000.00
NT Airports Pty Ltd	42 000.00
NT Cattlemen's Association	30 000.00
Secure Data Centre Pty Ltd	26 714.90
Skretting Australia Marine Harvest	177 569.28
Thamarrurr Regional Council	10 000.00
Tropical Savannas Cooperative Research Centre	17 000.00
Yothu Yindi Foundation	50 000.00
TOTAL	598 425.18

APPENDIX 4

BUSINESS GROWTH EXPENDITURE IN 2004-05

Business Growth	\$ Expenditure
Air & Gas Systems Pty Ltd	13 500.00
AKS Welding and Fabrication	2 500.00
AustralAsian Group of Companies Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Beancounter Australia Pty Ltd	3 500.00
DAC Enterprises Pty Ltd	7 500.00
Darwin Electric Motor Rewind Pty Ltd	10 750.00
Darwin Sheet Metal Pty Ltd	7 565.00
Darwin Shipstores	6 250.00
Didgeridoo Hut	5 250.00
Franklin Delonno	1 200.00
Gorrkbuy Industry Services Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Hanson Training Services Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Industries Services Training Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Inotex Pty Ltd	1 400.00
Integrated Technical Services Pty Ltd	11 099.00
Knights (NT) Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Mailfast NT	3 300.00
Master Coaching Darwin Pty Ltd	3 500.00
McRae Enterprises Pty Ltd	6 545.00
Mick Smith Real Estate Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Music Industry Development Incorporated	8 354.25
Night N Day Auto Care Pty Ltd	4 800.00
North Australian Rural Management Consultants Pty Ltd	2 400.00
Northern Business Communications Pty Ltd	3 500.00
NT Rehabilitation Service Pty Ltd	3 500.00
NT Show Council	8 920.00
Projection Plus	3 500.00
Proper Maintenance	7 500.00
Royal Agricultural Society of the NT	9 090.91
Stickers & Stuff	10 375.45
Stone Island Investments Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Top End Boat Hire and Sales	3 500.00
Top End Business Development Centre Ltd	10 000.00
Tracy Village Sports & Social Club Incorporated	11 330.00
Travel North Pty Ltd	3 500.00
Universal Engineering	4 400.00
Wadiwarra Pty Ltd	5 500.00
Woolstone Pty Ltd	9 675.00
Wrenmore Pty Ltd	4 000.00
Yuendumu Mining Company	9 750.00
TOTAL	238 454.61

APPENDIX 5

TRADE SUPPORT SCHEME EXPENDITURE IN 2004-05

Trade Support Scheme (TSS)	\$ Expenditure
AAT Australian Adventure Tours Pty Ltd	11 641.00
Alice Springs Holidays	2 144.00
Alice Wanderer & Centre Sightseeing	2 960.00
All Cast (NT) Drainage Systems Pty Ltd	1 915.00
Anangu Tours Pty Ltd	3 348.00
Austasia Export Services Pty Ltd	4 693.00
Austour & Travel Company Pty Ltd	5 903.00
AustralAsian Group of Companies Pty Ltd	11 513.00
Bridge Autos Toyota (Darwin)	6 817.00
Bula'Bula Arts Aboriginal Corporation	3 633.00
CAAMA Productions	3 997.00
Central Australian Camel Industry Association	7 495.00
Central Australian Tourism Industry Association	3 335.00
Chamber of Commerce Northern Territory	2 431.00
Clausen, T & R	1 442.00
Colton Park Trading Pty Ltd	2 120.00
Cormack, DJ & RH	1 834.00
Craft Council of the Northern Territory	4 718.00
CSM Technology & Management Services Pty Ltd	12 625.00
Dawson Diesel Services Pty Ltd	1 689.00
Didgeridoo Hut and Art Gallery	2 500.00
Elegant Boxes	2 548.00
Elements Refrigeration	1 099.00
Engine Engineering Services Pty Ltd	1 689.00
Enterprise Media Services Pty Ltd	5 192.00
Equinox Fishing Charters Pty Ltd	1 741.00
Everest Enterprises Pty Ltd	8 030.00
Fair Dinkum Exports Pty Ltd	5 060.00
Gecoz Pty Ltd	7 948.00
Golding, IA & MJ	4 657.00
GS Marine Pty Ltd	2 506.00
Guppytraders.com Pty Ltd	5 287.00
H2O Solutions (Australasia) Pty Ltd	2 452.00
Hanson Training Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	6 665.00
Hepburn Consulting Pty Ltd	1 740.00
Independent Grocers Darwin	2 398.00
Inline Process Fabrication	6 267.00
International College of Advanced Education	16 233.00
Iranda Pty Ltd	6 201.00
Jabiru Tropical Orchards	1 427.00
Jayhak Foods Pty Ltd	3 451.00
John Bradley Productions	2 177.00
Kakadu Air Services Pty Ltd	7 558.00

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Trade Support Scheme (TSS)	\$ Expenditure
Katherine Vet Care Centre Pty Ltd	7 108.00
Kinbacher, Wayne	250.00
King Producers Pty Ltd	4 463.00
Lords Kakadu & Arnhemland Safaris Pty Ltd	3 383.00
Moeco Pty Ltd	1 910.00
Northern Gateway Pty Ltd	2 001.00
Northern Territory Agricultural Association Incorporated	4 088.00
Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association Incorporated	6 229.57
Northern Territory Livestock Exporters Association Incorporated	1 768.00
Northern Territory Buffalo Industry Council Incorporated	2 108.00
NT Fish Pty Ltd	9 378.00
Outback Ballooning Pty Ltd	11 149.00
Safaritrek International Leisure Group	10 509.00
Seafood and Maritime Industries Training	2 119.00
St John's College	2 070.00
TAAU Pty Ltd	4 310.00
Territory Rent-A-Car Pty Ltd	8 834.00
The Asthma Foundation of the Northern Territory Incorporated	5 128.00
The Shade and Canvas Company Pty Ltd	8 973.00
The Spirit Doctor	6 037.00
Tickle Touch Productions	2 979.00
Top Kat Fruits Pty Ltd	5 753.00
Tourism Property Investment Group	7 447.00
Tourism Top End Incorporated	2 606.00
Travel North Pty Ltd	11 432.00
Venture North Australia	5 893.00
Voyages Hotel & Resorts Pty Ltd	4 127.00
Wadiwarra Pty Ltd	9 539.00
Wagners Concrete Pty Ltd	2 197.00
TOTAL	354 867.57

APPENDIX 6

FERTILISER FREIGHT SUBSIDY SCHEME EXPENDITURE IN 2004-05

Fertiliser Freight Subsidy Scheme	\$ Expenditure
ABC Plantations	6 021.53
Ballason Pty Ltd	5 170.96
Ballongilly Farms	125.53
Blackmore River Produce	220.52
Bock, Garry	77.27
Buntine, Patricia Ann	122.65
Cao, Van Long	437.25
Cockatoo Tropical Orchards Pty Ltd	792.00
Cormack, DJ & RH	598.00
Damaroa Farms Pty Ltd	113.30
Dang, Thu-Ha Thi	248.18
Darwin Plant Wholesalers	459.91
Dodd, RC & NE	107.11
Etty, John L	397.51
Fantome Pty Ltd	368.22
Golding, IA & MJ	2 654.57
Gusher Pty Ltd	887.43
Humpty Doo Mangoes	164.17
Jabiru Tropical Orchards	3 618.58
Kahl Table Grapes Pty Ltd	299.06
King Producers Pty Ltd	4 100.38
Myandra Tropical Produce	327.69
Nguyen, Dao Thi & Hung Van	526.90
Nguyen, Thanh Bang & Kim Anh	244.61
Nguyen, Vui Van & NGA TT	255.88
NT Fresh	198.68
NT J & M	267.15
NT Quality Hay & Contracting Pty Ltd	550.00
Pal Enterprises	287.87
Peter Cavanagh Tropical Fruit Exporters	567.40
Pine Creek Produce Pty Ltd	137.50
Plant Investments Pty Ltd	3 419.90
S N Farm	403.97
Shrimp, RJ & JA	330.55
Sokly Produce	1 140.55
Sure lines Produce	228.96
Swartz Produce Farm	343.20
TAAU Australia Pty Ltd	8 250.00
Tomlin, Bernard	185.62
Top Bananas Pty Ltd	8 250.00
Top Kat Fruits (NT) Pty Ltd	524.83
Tou's Garden Pty Ltd	1 384.92
Tran, Thi Hoe	418.27
Tri Vu Mangoes	584.23
Trinh, Bich Ngoc	135.57
Tropical Grafting Services	453.80
TOTAL	56 402.18

APPENDIX 7

PASTORAL WATER ENHANCEMENT SCHEME EXPENDITURE IN 2004-05

Pastoral Water Enhancement Scheme	\$ Expenditure
Avago Station	10 000.00
Cave Creek Station Pty Ltd	5 000.00
Daley, N & DG	10 000.00
Gill, Brett & Suzanne	10 000.00
Hamilton Downs Station	10 000.00
Holt Pastoral Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Hughenden Station Pty Ltd	10 000.00
KG Kimlin Cattle Musterers Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Kiana Station	10 000.00
L & S Nominees Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Lester, BA & C	10 000.00
Mt Doreen Proprietors	10 000.00
Mt McMinn Grazing	10 000.00
Northern Cattle Joint Venture	10 000.00
Numul Numul Station - Coodardie Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Orange Creek Station Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Palmer Valley Station	20 000.00
Porter Contract Mustering	10 000.00
Riggs, Garry & Michelle	10 000.00
Riveren Nominees Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Roadcon Pastoral	20 000.00
Stockwell, BE & TGH	5 000.00
Sturt Downs Station	20 000.00
Suplejack Station	10 000.00
Tarlee Station	10 000.00
TOTAL	270 000.00

APPENDIX 8

DBIRD SPONSORSHIP PROVIDED IN 2004-05

Sponsorship	\$ Expenditure
Aust Academy of Technical Sciences - Crawford Fund	20 000.00
Australian Institute of Company Directors	6 000.00
Australian Rural Leadership Program	25 300.00
Chamber of Commerce NT - NT Export Awards 2004	28 000.00
Chamber of Commerce NT - Expo 2005	75 000.00
Chamber of Commerce NT - Regional Expos 2005	19 000.00
Charles Darwin University - 2005 Fashion Prize	500.00
Engineers Australia - Northern Division	5 000.00
North Darwin Regional Business Association	6 000.00
NT Show Council Incorporated	5 000.00
Palmerston Regional Business Association	25 000.00
Royal Agricultural Society of the NT	7 850.00
Seafood Festivals Pty Ltd	10 000.00
Telstra 2005 Small Business Awards	18 181.82
Youth Business Awards 2004	5 000.00
Sub total	255 831.82
End of Year Accruals	5 800.00
TOTAL	261 631.82

APPENDIX 9

FARMBIS EXPENDITURE IN 2004-05

FarmBis	\$ Expenditure
Acacia Hills Farm Pty Ltd	1 442.61
AgriPartners Pty Ltd	3 544.68
Alliance Consulting & Management	23 279.78
Aquagreen	177.27
Atkinson, D	1 875.00
Baker, G F & L J	2 246.25
Ball, C	2 392.50
Barkly Herd Management	5 575.68
Barkly Pastoral Company	2 246.25
Bonalbo Pastoral Enterprises	3 951.13
Borsato Ventures NT	1 043.18
Boyce, P	2 246.25
Calogeras, C	1 034.91
Colonial Agricultural Company	954.55
Crystalbrook Farming Company	118.18
Dennis Nominees Pty Ltd	118.18
El Nino Irrigation	5 444.32
FarmSafe WA Alliance Incorporated	3 600.00
Finnis Agricultural Enterprises	1 496.24
Florina Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	11 235.00
Frangipani Farm	512.91
Glen Arden Pastoral Company	7 563.75
Grazing Land Management	10 373.64
Greater North Bananas Pty Ltd	493.18
Hayseed Ag Pty Ltd	1 125.00
Heytesbury Beef Pty Ltd	7 447.53
Howie, SD & AW	7 361.18
Hu Organics	912.27
Indigenous Cattlemen's Workshop	2 350.00
Inotex Pty Ltd-Territory Lettuce	1 704.55
Jabiru Tropical Orchards	10 545.45
Katherine Cattle Transit Centre	4 117.50
Katherine Fruit Orchards	1 050.00
KCB Mangoes	118.18
Legune Pastoral Company Partnership	3 961.68
Limpine Pty Ltd	576.14
Low Stress Stockhandling Pty Ltd	17 780.00
Lyndavale Pty Ltd	2 246.25
M G Grazing Company	2 655.68
Marriott, C	954.54
Norbuilt Properties Pty Ltd	2 042.04
Northern Land Council	6 671.27
NT Agricultural Association	10 381.68
NT Cattlemen's Association	35 371.13

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FarmBis	\$ Expenditure
NT Construction Accounting Services Pty Ltd	1 000.00
NT Horticulture Association	11 955.91
NT J & M	739.50
NT Table Grape Producers	617.40
Nursery & Garden Industry	5 236.66
Pangaea Pty Ltd	9 089.67
Paspaley Pearls	5 146.45
Pearl Oyster Propagators Pty Ltd	275.82
Primary Industry Advisory Council (NT) Inc	721.45
Progress Fisheries	2 500.14
R & M Rural Contracting	120.45
R A Coppock & Co	4 117.50
Red Centre Farm	296.59
Riveren Nominees Pty Ltd	3 743.18
Robinson, JB	5 621.25
S Kidman & Co	4 772.73
Seafood & Maritime Industries Training Ltd	2 850.00
Simbani Integrated Technology	540.00
Simmons, LG & AB	288.64
Stockwell, BE & TGH	542.05
Sturt Plateau Best Practice Group Incorporated	4 456.79
Symes, I	456.30
The North Australian Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	5 980.47
Top Bananas Pty Ltd	610.50
Tou's Garden Pty Ltd	1 652.27
Townsend Cattle Company Pty Ltd	2 666.36
Wallco Management	4 469.54
Westpac Beyond Survival	3 982.73
William, Terrence	118.18
Williams, K	2 367.17
Williams, M	2 367.17
Yandilla Park Farm	105.46
ZPR Gardens	118.18
Sub total	301 864.02
End of Year Accruals	16 500
TOTAL	318 364.02

APPENDIX 10

ADDITIONAL GRANTS PAID BY DBIRD IN 2004-05

INDIGENOUS MARINE RANGER GRANTS IN 2004-05

Indigenous Marine Ranger Grants	\$ Expenditure
Bawinanga Aaborginal Corporation	60 000.00
Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Inc	60 000.00
Marthakal Homeland Resource	60 000.00
Thamarrurr Regional \Council	61 000.00
Tiwi Land Council	60 000.00
Waruwi Comminity Inc	60 000.00
TOTAL	361 000.00

MISCELLANEOUS FISHERIES GRANTS IN 2004-05

Miscellaneous Fisheries Grants	\$ Expenditure
NT Guided Fishing Industry Association Inc	40 000.00
Industry Research	120 015.00
Fisheries Research & Development Corporation	86 625.57
Seafood Festivals Pty Ltd	10 000.00
TOTAL	256 640.57

TUBERCULOSIS FREEDOM ASSURANCE PROGRAM IN 2004-05

A total of \$259,899.01 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.

APPENDIX 11

NT GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PUBLICATIONS, MAPS AND DISPLAYS, 2004-05***Text/Digital Publications***

- Ahmad M, Wygralak AS, Ferenczi PA and Bajwah ZU, 1993. Pine Creek, *Northern Territory*. 1:250 000 metallogenic map series explanatory notes, SD52-08. Northern Territory Geological Survey, Darwin and Alice Springs. (CD ROM version)
- Ambrose G and Marshall T, 2005. Northern Territory of Australia, onshore hydrocarbon potential, 2005. *Northern Territory Geological Survey, Record 2005-002*.
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MAPS

Special Series (various scales)

- North Arunta Region Interpreted Geology 1:500 000
- Geology of the Southern Georgina Basin 1:500 000

Territory-wide maps (1:2 500 000 scale)

- NT Magnetics Map, 2005 Edition
- NT Radiometric Map, 2005 Edition
- NT Elevation Model, 2005 Edition
- NT Relief Map, 2005 edition

1:250 000 Geological Series

- Mount Rennie

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- Woodgreen

1:250 000 Interpreted Geology Series

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GIS geology dataset releases (as map tiles)

- Sandover River 250k (full attribution)
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- Tennant Inlier 500k Interpreted (graphics attribution)
- Mount Rennie 250k Geology (full attribution)
- Mount Liebig 250k Interpreted (full attribution)
- Noonamah 100k Geology (full attribution)

Regional GIS dataset releases

- Pine Creek Orogen

CONFERENCE DISPLAYS

- Society of Economic Geologists (SEG)
- Eastern Australian Basins Symposium (EABS)
- Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (ASEG)
- Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA)
- American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG)
- Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES)
- MINING 2005
- Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC)
- North Australian Remote Sensing and GIS Conference 2005 (NARGIS)

AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS

- Daly
- Jinduckin
- Jervois
- Simpson

APPENDIX 12

NEW OR AMENDED LEGISLATION FOR 2004-05

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act

The purpose of this new Act is to provide controls over the possession, sale and use of agricultural and veterinary chemical products. It also deals with the manufacture, sale and use of fertiliser and stockfeed to manage the risk to people, the environment and animals. The new legislation replaces a small part of the *Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act*, administered by the Department of Health and Community Services, which previously served to control the use of pesticides. The new legislation provides a 'one stop shop' for the regulation of agriculture and veterinary chemical products, fertilisers and stockfeed.

The Bill was introduced in March 2004 and passed during the May 2004 sittings of the Legislative Assembly. The new Act commenced in June 2005.

Mining Amendment Act 2003

These amendments were in response to recommendations made in the consultant's Report of the Competition Review of the *Mining Act*. The amendments provide for the inclusion of an object clause in the legislation and the removal of several minor restrictions. These included such issues as size restrictions on the total area that could be held under an exploration licence, maximum areas of a mineral lease, and removal to nominate the mineral to be mined on a lease. All minerals can be mined on a granted lease unless specifically exempted.

The amendments were introduced during the November 2003 sittings and passed during the February 2004 sittings. The amendments commenced during March 2004.

Petroleum Amendment Act 2004

The purpose of the amendments is to implement the final recommendations of the Competition Review of the Act and finalise some minor legislative matters. The majority of the Competition recommendations were previously implemented 12 months earlier in the *Petroleum Amendment Act 2003*.

The Bill was introduced during the May 2004 sittings of the Legislative Assembly and the amendment is expected to commence in August/September 2004.

APPENDIX 13

MINISTERS, LEGISLATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES RELATING TO DBIRD

The Hon Paul Henderson, MLA

MINISTERIAL ROLE	LEGISLATION	DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
Minister for Business and Industry	Northern Territory Products Symbol	Development, Information, Advisory and Facilitation Services to Territory Business Operators and Industry Sectors Enterprise Improvement Services, including Facilitation of Business Management Capabilities Building Territory Industry Participation Policy Financial Assistance to Industry Associations and Business Promotion and Facilitation of Investment Opportunities (Onshore) Territory Business Centres Business Case Management Services
Minister for Defence Support		Defence Support
Minister for Asian Relations and Trade		International Trade Development, Strategy and Policy International Industry Investment Attraction and Facilitation Asian Relations Intergovernmental and International Relationships Northern Territory Overseas Representation Overseas Development Assistance Project Participation

The Hon Kon Vatskalis, MLA

MINISTERIAL ROLE	LEGISLATION	DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
Minister for Mines and Energy	Energy Pipelines	Mining Development
	Gas Pipelines Access (Northern Territory)	Mining Titles Administration
	Granites Exploration Agreement Ratification	Northern Territory Geological Survey
	McArthur River Project Agreement Ratification (except royalties)	Mining Occupational Health and Safety
	Merlin Project Agreement Ratification (except royalties)	Environmental Management of Mining Operations
	Minerals (Acquisition)	Petroleum Industry Development
	Mining	Petroleum Titles Administration
	<i>Mining Act</i> 1939-1979	Petroleum Occupational Health and Safety
	Mining (Gove Peninsula Nabalco Agreement) (except royalties)	Environmental Management of Petroleum Operations
	Mining Management	Administration of Petroleum Industry Operations (Onshore and Offshore)
	Mt Todd Project Agreement Ratification (except royalties)	Energy Policy, Planning and Development
	Petroleum (except royalties)	
	Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) 1954-1981	
	Petroleum (Submerged Lands)	
<i>The Northern Territory Mining Act 1903</i>		
Validation (Mining Tenements)		

Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries	<p>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Northern Territory)</p> <p>Biological Control</p> <p>Brands</p> <p>Exotic Diseases (Animals)</p> <p>Compensation</p> <p>Fisheries (except enforcement)</p> <p>Meat Industries</p> <p>Plant Diseases Control</p> <p>Poisons and Dangerous Drugs (section 52A(2) and (3))</p> <p>Stock (Control of Hormonal Growth Promotants)</p> <p>Stock Diseases</p> <p>Stock Routes and Travelling Stock</p> <p>Veterinarians</p>	<p>Primary Production (including Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Industries)</p> <p>Fisheries Development and Research</p> <p>Aquaculture Development</p> <p>International Agricultural Quarantine</p> <p>Interstate Agricultural Quarantine</p>
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Ref: Northern Territory Administrative Arrangements Order

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