[redacted]
PO Box 9124
ALICE SPRINGS, NT 0870

Department of Industry Tourism and Trade
GPO Box 4550
DARWIN, NT 0801

RE: Submission on application for Mineral Title Application - Mineral Authority 33582 sought by P.F. & C.J. Brown PTY LTD

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to oppose the above Mineral Title application.

Roe Creek is a wonderful river. It is lined with magnificent old river gums. These huge trees contain hollows which are home to many birds and animals. Red tailed black cockatoo, rainbow bee-eaters, the Australian bustard, mulga snake and woma python have been observed in the area.

Roe Creek is suffering from severe erosion. As a result, many old river gums have either fallen or are at risk of falling with the next river flow.

There is evidence of highly unstable banks and erosion. As well as causing tree losses, this erosion looks like it is causing property loss at Temple Bar Caravan Park.

Sand mining in a river is a questionable practice at the best of times, especially in small rivers like Roe Creek.

Mining is highly inappropriate in a river that is already severely eroding.

Guidelines from other Australian jurisdictions agree. The guidance from Western Australia makes it clear:

1. In-river sand mining should avoid eroding sections of waterways

2. It is lower risk to mine old river sand deposits not in the river channel -"*resources can sometimes be sourced from the floodplain area or abandoned stream channels such as on terraces and outer areas of floodplains. These can be easier to access and have lower environmental risk than mining within the waterway channel".*

3. Impacts are less in larger rivers.

Based on the WA guidelines sand mining would not be allowed in Roe Creek at all, as mines should avoid eroding sections of waterways.

This Mineral Title application for a mine occupying 4 hectares was advertised on 9 August.

It is in part of Roe Creek where the banks are significantly eroding. The roots of river red gums that line the back are already heavily exposed. The river bed is characterised by areas of exposed clay, with minimal sand left.

The river appears to be showing the signs of sediment deficient flow. This is unsurprising as it is downstream of two large sand mines, these mines will consume sediment first.

A healthy river and protecting river gums and property are more important than sand mining.

Old sand deposits away from the active channels are often a far safer alternative. The NT Government could facilitate safer extraction by identifying availability of alternative sand sources.

I call on you to refuse the Mineral Title Application - Mineral Authority 33582 advertised by P.F. & C.J. Brown PTY LTD.

Regards

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