Territorians urged to comment on Tobacco Act discussion paper

Health and Community Services Minister Jane Aagaard today reminded Territorians that they have until Friday to comment on the proposed review of the *Northern Territory Tobacco Act*.

Mrs Aagaard said the Government had released a discussion paper seeking public comment on the review, in response to growing public demand for smokefree areas and in an effort to discourage children from taking up smoking.

"Tobacco use is one of the most important health issues for Territorians, with one in five deaths in the NT directly related to smoking," Mrs Aagaard said.

"In response to these issues, the Government is seeking public and industry opinion on proposed changes to three broad areas relating to tobacco use:

- protecting people from Environmental Tobacco Smoke (passive smoking);
- discouraging children from taking up smoking by restricting tobacco advertising and displays; and
- further regulating the sale of tobacco products.

"I would urge community members and industry to have their say on the Tobacco Act review by responding to the discussion paper by the end of the week if they haven’t already done so."


Hard copies are available from government outlets throughout the NT and from:

Alcohol and Other Drugs Program,
3rd Floor, Health House,
87 Mitchell Street, Darwin

or

Central Australia Alcohol and Other Drugs Services,
Sturt Terrace, Alice Springs

or

by contacting Di Rayson, Tobacco Policy Officer, on 8999 2690.


The closing date for submissions in writing is COB Friday 26 April, 2002.