

NORTHERN TERRITORY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION INC

Member - National Farmers' Federation & Cattle Council of Australia



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Cattlemen call for more time and information

The NT Government's aggressive reform package being implemented across the Territory clearly demonstrates the lack of knowledge and ignorance for regional industries, the NT Cattlemen's Association (NTCA) said today.

The Association agrees with the government's argument that many existing small local government councils are mismanaged and technologically insolvent.

"Had the NT Government engaged with key groups from day one, they could have utilised our experience in regional matters to develop better fiscal and social outcomes for all Territorian".

The Government time fame of 18 months to ram through this major NT reform package is simply irresponsible." Said Mr Roy Chisholm

The NT Cattlemen's Association call on the NT Government to show the community the fiscal modelling that demonstrates regional growth under this regime.

Mr Chisholm said the nine regional shire transitional committees set up to investigate and implement the proposed shire changes, consisted only of local government representatives and regional council members - and no key economic stakeholders.

"This is a ridiculous situation. The government has clearly moulded these transitional committees to deliver its own agenda on the local government reform, without any reasonable consultation with industry."

"We urge the government to consult with the pastoral sector and other economic contributors to better understand the imminent problems before rushing headlong down this road and forcing an impost on regional businesses, property holders and small indigenous communities."

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