



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**National Emissions Trading Taskforce Public Forum**

Darwin residents and businesses are invited to participate in a National Emissions Trading Taskforce Public Forum to consider the discussion paper, 'Possible Design for a National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme'.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Program Manager of Environment and Greenhouse Policy, Paul Purdon says the forum will be an introduction to the possible design for a national emissions trading scheme and enable stakeholders to discuss how the scheme might work in practice and how it could affect NT business and the community.

"The National Emissions Trading Taskforce was established in 2004 by State and Territory Governments to design a practical model for a national greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme for consideration by Australian Governments," he said.

"In August 2006 the Taskforce released the discussion paper 'Possible Design for a National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme', which outlines key design elements of a possible scheme.

"Emissions trading is a market-based approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"Under an emissions trading scheme participating industries are allocated emissions permits to allow a specified amount of greenhouse gas emissions to be emitted.

"Participants have to control their emissions and / or trade permits to ensure their emissions match the number of permits held."

Mr Purdon says the Northern Territory Government's participation on the Taskforce demonstrates the Government's desire to take a pro-active and nationally constructive approach to greenhouse issues.

"To meet this commitment, it is important that Government investigate a range of options to determine the most appropriate approach to greenhouse gas emissions management for the Territory," he said.

Mr Purdon says that the Territory Government has not yet made a decision on Northern Territory participation in a national emissions trading scheme should such a national scheme eventuate.

"Any decision by Government on the implementation of an emissions trading scheme will be only be made once the potential impacts on the Northern Territory are known, and in consultation with business and the community," he said.



## Northern Territory Government

“This is an investigative process for Government, and we are very interested in business and community views.

“The public forum provides an opportunity for business and the community to learn more about emissions trading and express their views to Government.”

Public submissions on the discussion paper will be accepted until 22 December 2006. The discussion paper is available at [www.emissionstrading.net.au](http://www.emissionstrading.net.au).

The forum will be held on Monday 13 November 2006, from 9.30am – 12.30pm at the Presentation room, Territory Perspective (Ground Floor, Development House, 76 The Esplanade, Darwin).

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Paul Purdon on 8924 4070.

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