

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
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ASPECTS OF BILL C-48 THAT REQUIRE CONSIDERATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE N.W.T.

Bill C-48 shows a total disregard for the socio-economic, environmental, and constitutional input and aspirations of N.W.T. residents. This Act calls for total control of the exploration, development and production stages of the oil and gas industry. The above has taken place despite assurances, to the contrary, in the National Energy Program.

1. The Act gives two Federal Ministers total control over the socio-economic terms and conditions associated with oil and gas projects.

The Act negates the socio-economic mandate accorded to the Government of the N.W.T. under the N.W.T. Act and the recent written and verbal recognition of this mandate by the Federal Government. This involvement has developed to the stage where all socio-economic agreements for development proposals are signed by the proponent and a Minister of this Government.

2. The Act gives two Federal Ministers total control over the environmental terms and conditions associated with oil and gas projects.

There is an obvious conflict in the two roles demanded of the implementation agency. It must perform the contradictory roles of enforcing rapid development, while at the same time ensuring that environmental and socio-economic requirements are realized.

The Act threatens our future aspirations and negates the small strides we have made over the past year. It raises a question with respect to the role of E.A.R.P., and as well any review process envisaged by the Government of the N.W.T.

3. There is no recognition of the resource-revenue sharing needs of the N.W.T.

This aspect conflicts with statements in the National Energy Program as well as past and recent assurances by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs that this need is recognized and will be resolved.

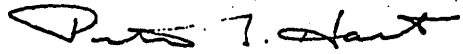
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4. There is no consideration in the Act for the unextinguished aboriginal claim to land and resources. This conflicts with the Indian Oil and Gas Act and present negotiations.
5. The institutional structure set up to administer the Act, despite statements to the contrary, point clearly to the growing control of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources over Canada Lands, both off-shore and lands north of the 60th parallel.
6. Bill C-48 conflicts with the N.W.T. Act and given that it supersedes the N.W.T. Act, it is a clear backwards step in the constitutional development of the Northwest Territories.
7. There is no recognition of assured energy supplies at reasonable prices to Territorial residents.
8. The Act jeopardizes the current formal and informal inter-change of information between this Government and D.I.A.N.D.

Information furnished under the Act by industry will be considered privileged by the Federal Government and will not be disclosed to any outside party without the written permission of the developer.



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