NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Inquiries Act

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER

I, Sally Gordon Thomas, Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, under section 4A of the Inquiries Act, appoint John Adrian Lawler to inquire into and report to me on the matters mentioned in the Schedule.

Dated 18 December 2013

Dally Thomas

Administrator

By Her/Honour's Command

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

acting for

Chief Minister

08:59

18/12/13

SCHEDULE

- 1. The circumstances of the purported decision of the then Minister for Lands and Planning to grant a lease over Lot 5260 Town of Darwin known as Stella Maris (the *site*) to Unions NT on or about 3 August 2012.
- The public policy and public accountability considerations involved in making the purported decision to grant a lease of the site to Unions NT without putting the matter out to expressions of interest or public tender.
- 3. The performance of relevant persons, including the then Minister for Lands and Planning, in carrying out their obligations under the relevant regulatory regime and ensuring the proper accountability processes were applied in the tenure management of the site.
- 4. The adequacy and effectiveness of the regulatory regime in ensuring transparency, good governance and community input into the process of leasing or granting Crown land.
- 5. The provision and accessibility of relevant information to affected stakeholders and the public in relation to the proposal and purported decision to grant the lease of the site to Unions NT.
- Any measures that might help ensure transparency, good governance and community input into the process of leasing or granting Crown land with particular reference to the purported decision to grant the lease of the site to Unions NT.
- 7. Any other suggestions or recommendations the Commissioner considers relevant to the above matters.