



# NT Infrastructure Plan and Pipeline **2023**

## **CENTRAL AUSTRALIA**





# Acknowledgement of Country

Infrastructure NT acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians across the Northern Territory and their connection to country.

We pay our respects to their communities and Elders – past, present and emerging.



*Above: Central Australia flood event. Credit: Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.*

*Cover: Mparntwe / Alice Springs aerial panorama. Credit: Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities.*



# Central Australia

Stunning desert landscapes, Aboriginal cultures, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, outback adventure and historic discoveries.

## The Central Australia region:

- > covers 543 080 kilometres of land – 40% of the Northern Territory's land mass
- > enjoys abundant sunshine, low humidity and cool winter temperatures, and freedom from most pests and diseases to support a wide variety of crops such as table grapes, dates, melons, figs, olives, bush foods and vegetables
- > boasts a rich fossil site preserving the bones of 30 species of animal, including megafauna, that lived in Central Australia 8 million years ago.

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## Major industries and growth sectors in Central Australia



Tourism



Minerals

The Central Australia region covers 3 local government areas, including Alice Springs Town Council, Central Desert Regional Council and the MacDonnell Regional Council.

The region's heart is Alice Springs, also known by its Arrrente name Mparntwe. The town is located 1500 kilometres south of Darwin and 1500 kilometres north of Adelaide and is the second largest town in the Northern Territory.

The region has a population of 40 558 people, with approximately 28 000 residing in Alice Springs. A large percentage of the population also lives in outlying communities including the Yulara township, which provides accommodation and services for the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. There are 22 major and 4 minor communities, 19 town camps and 208 homelands in the region.

There are several sectors that support the region's economy including mining, resources, agribusiness, tourism and defence.

The mining sector is the most productive sector in the region and is one of the largest employers. There are 6 mining projects in Central Australia with major project status including Arafura, Thor, Tellus, and Aqua Aerum.

The resources sector is also a strong contributor to the region's economy. The NT's onshore conventional gas is produced from the Amadeus Basin, Dingo, Palm Valley and Mereenie gas fields, located in the Central Australia region.

Tourism is an important contributor to the economic and cultural activity in the region. Many domestic and international visitors come to Central Australia to visit its outstanding natural wonders including Kata Tjuta, Kings Canyon, Uluru and the West MacDonnell Ranges.

Each year, Alice Springs hosts Parrtjima – the only authentic Aboriginal light festival of its kind, showcasing the oldest continuous culture on earth through the newest technology – all on the 300 million year old natural canvas of the iconic red centre and the West MacDonnell Ranges.

Aboriginal tourism plays a vital role across the region, enabled by authentic cultural experiences. The National Aboriginal Art Gallery in Mparntwe (Alice Springs) will become a touchstone experience for Australians and international visitors seeking to better understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, and to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art as a quintessential element of our shared national story. The modern, state of the art gallery will exclusively house First Nations artwork. The project will help change the way that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is understood and experienced, placing our First Nations peoples and their culture at the very centre of the Mparntwe (Alice Springs) visitor experience.

Other visitor experiences in the region include adventure and events such as the Finke Desert Race that sees people on motorbikes, cars and buggies competing in Australia's greatest desert race.

The Larapinta Trail is a 223 kilometre walking trail starting in Alice Springs and winding through the Tjoritja -West MacDonnell National Park and is tipped as one of the best trekking experiences in the world.

The Alice Springs CBD Revitalisation Project will establish the region as Australia's inland capital. The revitalisation of the Alice Springs CBD is one of the Northern Territory Government's priorities to improve the liveability and attractiveness of Alice Springs for residents and visitors. The \$23 million project includes lighting upgrades, a River Activation Space (completed in February 2022) and cooling initiatives such as shade structures and landscaping.



Defence



Agribusiness



Renewables

## Challenges and opportunities

- Work with the Central Land Council and Traditional Owners to coordinate land access to develop Aboriginal owned land in the region.
- Increase housing supply to meet current and future industry demands in the regions. Scarcity of housing is a significant barrier to attracting and growing new industry and supporting existing private sector employers to grow or diversify.
- Increase short-stay accommodation for community members visiting Alice Springs for medical and cultural reasons and options for workers accommodation.
- Maintain thoroughfares and central public facilities to create 'welcome public spaces' across the region for town and regional councils.
- Identify and release enough residential and commercial land to support growth in the region.
- Increase bandwidth and redundancy in the digital network, which are essential to ensure sufficient regional connectivity to support economic growth across a broad range of industries.
- Develop business capacity and capability and a suitably qualified workforce to meet the demands of a growing economy.



Above: Community Housing Central Australia project. Credit: Community Housing Central Australia and Edifice NT.

## Investment portfolio

The total Central Australia investment portfolio has a direct impact on economic and population growth. It is important to understand the magnitude of economic and population growth to inform the enabling infrastructure plan.

Infrastructure NT has worked closely with Investment Territory to determine the total investment portfolio. This analysis determined the following total investments anticipated for the Central Australia region, subsequent jobs, accommodation needs and population growth.

Analysis is based on Investment Territory 2022–2023 Progress and Outlook: May 2023

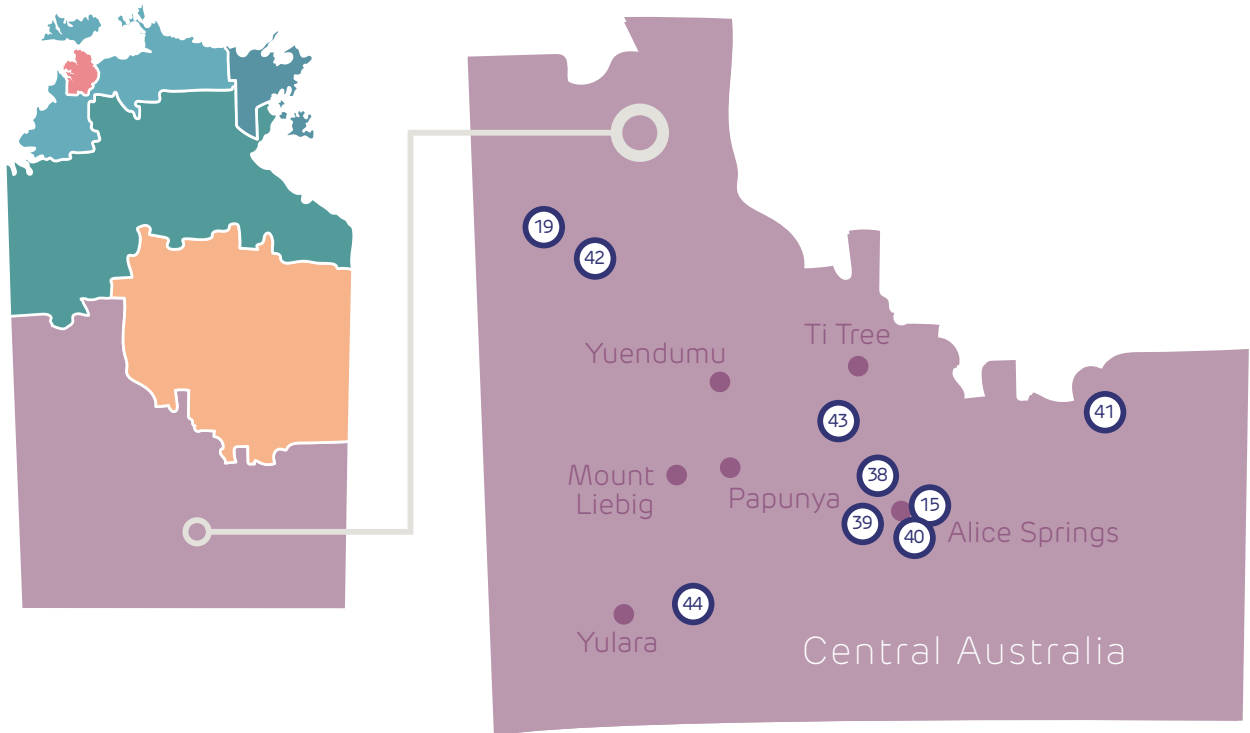


Note 1: Includes direct and indirect where provided by proponents

Note 2: Includes direct and indirect where provided by proponents in the NT only

Note 3: Based on 2.6 multiplier (ABS average persons per household NT regional)

Note: Numbers are approximate over 10 years. Further refined analysis is ongoing.



#### KEY

● Town/city

① Project

*Locations are indicative*

#### TERRITORY-WIDE PROJECTS

④ DCI data centres

⑤ Inlingo Network Unite

⑥ HyperOne

⑦ NEXTDC

⑩ Northern Territory freight and logistics capacity improvements (regional logistics hubs)

⑪ Northern Territory remote community power generation program

⑫ Aurizon – Railway service expansion

## Nationally significant

The following projects, programs and proposals identify and articulate the infrastructure investment that will impact the national economy or achieve national policy objectives and outcomes.

### Digital industries

4 5 6 7

Digital



Education



Health



Lifestyle



Connectivity in northern Australia will be faster and more reliable and resilient following the launch of Darwin's first ever direct connection to the global network of high-capacity subsea telecommunications cables.

Vocus' Darwin-Jakarta-Singapore Cable (DJSC) system is a major leap forward in Australia's global connectivity, bridging the digital divide and unlocking new opportunities for growth, innovation and development in the Northern Territory.

The 7700 kilometres DJCS cable system was completed following deployment of a final 1000 kilometre cable, which linked Vocus' existing North-West Cable System, running from Port Hedland to Darwin, to its Perth-based Australia-Singapore Cable – resulting in the first international submarine cable connection into Darwin.

The cable was supported by a \$7.9 million investment from the Northern Territory Government as part of its Terabit Territory strategy.

The project is a significant milestone towards Darwin becoming a major digital hub for the region. It will provide substantial direct and indirect benefits for northern Australia by supporting the connectivity needs of local businesses and communities with more reliable communications. This will benefit a wide range of stakeholders from remote Indigenous communities through to resource operators in the Pilbara by providing low-latency connectivity directly into Asia and enable locals to connect on a global scale.

The cable will also enhance the resilience and security of Australia's international cable network, ensuring uninterrupted and reliable connectivity, including during natural disaster and faults on other cables. This will provide businesses, governments, and individuals with greater confidence and assurance that their communication needs will be met – even in challenging circumstances.

The launch of the Darwin-Jakarta-Singapore Cable will deliver 40 terabits per second of internet capacity between Australia and Asia and pave the way for new data centres in Darwin to put us on the map as a key digital hub.

Further large scale networks are in development.

HyperOne's \$1.5 billion data super highway will be Australia's first hyper scale national fibre network, currently proposed to incorporate 3 routes connecting Darwin to:

- Adelaide, stage 1, (through the spine of the Northern Territory)
- Brisbane (along the Barkly Highway via Townsville)
- Perth (via a subsea connection).

HyperOne's planned network, once complete, will comprise over 20 000 kilometres of new high speed fibre cable across Australia including approximately 2200 kilometres through the Territory, capable of carrying over 10 000 terabits per second.

Hawaiki Nui is a 26 000 kilometre submarine cable connecting New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore and the United States.

With a design capacity of 240 terabits, the Spatial Division Multiplexing (SDM) cable system will include up to 20 fibre pairs and link Singapore, Jakarta, Darwin, eastern Australia, the South Island of New Zealand, Hawaii and Los Angeles. The cable is intended to be ready for service in 2027.





Inligo Network Asia Connect (ACC-1) Cable 1 is a privately funded international subsea cable connecting Darwin to South East Asia (Singapore, Medan, Jakarta, Makassar, Dili, Manado and Guam), Japan and the United States. The ACC-1 Cable has 16 fibre pairs with a combined capacity of circa 256 terabits per second. The network will support a minimum of 40×400 gigabit per second wavelengths per fibre pair. This new system will provide an alternate, low latency, high capacity transmission service path between customers in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Darwin with connections into South East Asia and the north Pacific, all delivered on a unified optical platform across the terrestrial and subsea cable systems.

Inligo Network Unite Cable System (Unite) is a private terrestrial fibre network, which will provide additional links:

- Phase 1 is a new link between Darwin and Adelaide
- Phase 2 will extend links from Adelaide to Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney
- Possible subsequent phases are a branch connecting to Papua New Guinea (with potential opportunities to connect Nhulunbuy and Groote Eylandt).

Unite will connect directly into Inligo's ACC-1 Cable system.

The total integration between the international ACC-1 Cable system and the domestic Unite terrestrial system will provide customers seamless connectivity between Darwin, South East Asia, Japan and the United States while also enabling connectivity to the southern capitals, all on the one, fully integrated platform. This functionality will provide Darwin based data centre operators and their customers the shortest routes available into South East Asia and southern Australia, opening up new industries supported by the leading edge connectivity provided by ACC-1 and Unite.

NEXTDC will construct its \$80 million premium grade (D1) data centre in the Darwin CBD. This centre is the key enabler of the Territory Government's Digital Territory Strategy that is aimed at positioning Darwin as a highly competitive location to maximise growth and investment in the local digital economy.

DCI is developing a TIER-Ready III, secure cloud edge data centre, called DRW01, able to support an IT load of up to 10 megawatt with the initial development on a 2.7 hectare site in the Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield region with an option to expand to 5 hectares. DCI recognises the Northern Territory's position as the digital gateway to Australia's forward-facing defence and space industries, as well as Asia to the north. Darwin is a strategic location in Australia and has already created a digital ecosystem with key elements such as a renewable energy, international and Australia-wide network connectivity.

“All digital highways lead into or through Darwin and that will equal jobs of the future, while growing our digital industry. Driving digital investment in the Territory will open the door to new opportunities for advanced manufacturing, data-centres and cloud-based computing services for Territorians and investors.”

## National Aboriginal Art Gallery 15



The National Aboriginal Art Gallery project is an exciting and transformative endeavour to create a world-class destination celebrating the artistic traditions and cultural expressions of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It will be a space that honours the stories and truth-telling of First Nations people nationally.

The National Aboriginal Art Gallery continues to progress, with the Territory Government acquiring Anzac Oval and the design well advanced. The gallery is part of the Anzac Hill precinct, which includes a new Tourism Central Australia visitor information centre, realigning Schwarz Crescent and landscaping, featuring the Kwatye (water) play initiative.

The Northern Territory Government has committed approximately \$69 million to deliver the precinct, and the Australian Government has committed a further \$80 million to support the gallery.

The gallery will be First Nations led and governed, and include:

- expansive public spaces
- public amphitheatre green space
- healing gardens protecting sacred sites
- Kwatye (water) play
- cultural welcoming circle
- an event space and café
- a 4 level atrium.

The gallery is a project of national significance and will position Central Australia as a key destination for cultural tourism. Construction is expected to commence in 2024 and be completed in 2027.

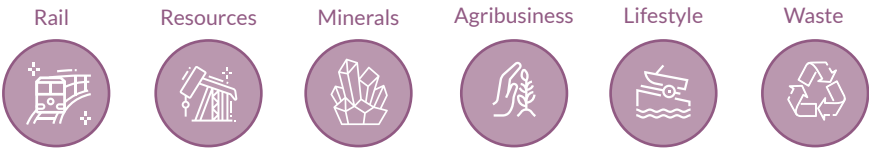
The National Aboriginal Art Gallery will generate economic benefits for the community with up to 260 full time jobs created during construction and once operational, is expected to attract visitors from around Australia and the world.



Above: Concept of National Aboriginal Art Gallery. Credit: BVN Architectural and, Susan Dugdale & Associates.



Northern Territory freight rail and logistics capacity improvements (Regional logistics hubs) 16



Logistics and supply chains are fundamental to supporting the viability of projects key to the Northern Territory's economic growth. They also have significant employment and investment impacts in local communities.

Community resilience and social benefits will result from improved local supply chains for consumer and essential goods. This will support the living standards in remote and regional towns needed to support growth and the delivery of private projects.

Improving rail efficiency and intermodal capacity in supply chains will support the NT Government's objective to achieve a \$40 billion economy by 2030 by developing mining, agriculture and energy projects.

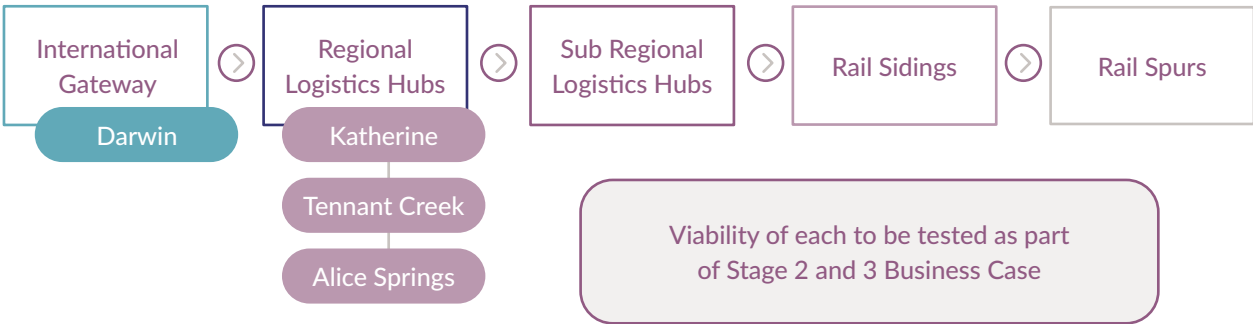
The Northern Territory Government is implementing actions to ensure logistics support rather than constrain industry and economic growth.

The Northern Territory Government has established a solid evidence base of demand for freight and supply chain capacity across agribusiness, minerals and energy, manufacturing, defence, digital and social sectors and is working with the Australian Government and the private sector to meet this demand.

Increases in capacity of port, rail, road, storage and warehousing will be needed to facilitate the growing freight task.

In the Northern Territory's larger communities across the main freight corridor, regional logistics hubs will be developed to consolidate, store and transfer freight between road and rail networks between project and port. These regional logistics hubs will include:

- community distribution facilities to increase resilience in supply chains to distribute food and essential supplies across remote Northern Territory
- skills training facilities to provide real employment opportunities in these communities
- waste recycling facilities, which are essential to enabling a circular economy across the Northern Territory
- strategic staging facilities to enable laydown areas at strategic sites and more capacity and flexibility across the National Land Transport Network
- fuel facilities to enable hub and spoke logistics arrangements to reduce constraints on the road transport industry.



These regional logistics hubs will create the focal points for an increasingly efficient and resilient supply chain to foster a range of benefits.

- **Economy:** every project and development across the Northern Territory relies on transport of goods for construction, production and trade. The time and cost efficiency of this transport flows through to every sector of the economy.
- **Community:** a resilient transport network results in less frequent and less impactful disruption of supply chains. Increasing the proportion of freight that can travel by rail reduces the interface between private road users and heavy freight vehicles.
- **Environment:** reducing the distance freight travels and utilising the optimal freight mode contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The Australian Government committed \$440 million in October 2022 in planned equity to support the delivery of the network of regional logistics hubs. The Northern Territory and Australian governments recognise the

significant opportunity to grow the freight catchment area and increase the proportion of freight transported internationally via Darwin.

The Northern Territory freight rail and logistics capacity improvements Early Stage Proposal (Stage 1) Business Case was provided to and accepted by Infrastructure Australia in 2023 for inclusion on the Australian Infrastructure Priority List. Work is underway to develop the Potential Investment Options (Stage 2) Business Case.

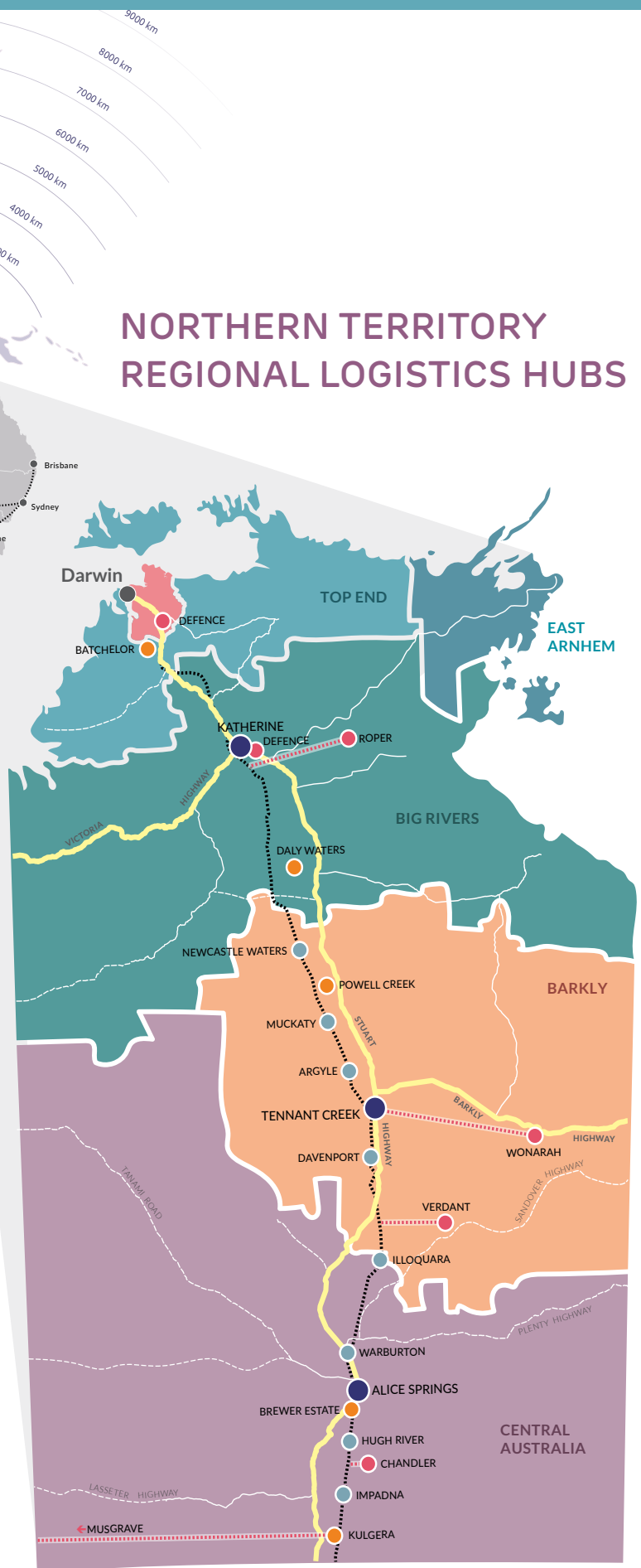
The estimated total investment proposed from projects in mining, minerals and energy industries across the Northern Territory is over \$38 billion. This investment is estimated to support more than 6 000 construction jobs. Much of the investment and employment increase will occur in remote and very remote regions with higher proportions of First Nations people.



Above: Railway crossing. Credit: Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

NORTHERN TERRITORY  
REGIONAL LOGISTICS HUBS

Disclaimer: This map is to be used as a guide only.





## Northern Territory remote community power generation program <sup>17</sup>

Renewables



Solar



Lifestyle



The Northern Territory Government, through the Power and Water Corporation's not-for-profit subsidiary Indigenous Essential Services (IES), provides electricity to 72 remote communities and 66 outstations across the Northern Territory.

Power and Water delivers these services through the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities on behalf of the Northern Territory Government. This network includes 9093 customer connections across 51 power stations.

Diesel engines are the main technology used to generate electricity for regional and remote communities, with about 25 million litres of diesel used each year.

With the operating costs of transporting diesel to remote communities continuing to increase, the Office of Sustainable Energy is working on strategies to deliver 70% renewable energy penetration to all 72 remote communities.

As the largest isolated off-grid solar program in remote communities, the Solar Energy Transformation Program (SETuP) is a world-first.

Delivery of this strategy is also an action under the Territory Government's Climate Change Response and a recommendation of the Territory Economic Reconstruction Commission to transition Indigenous Essential Service communities to renewable-based systems by 2030.

The strategy builds on the success of the Solar Energy Transformation Program (SETuP). The \$60 million program is co-funded by the Territory Government and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and delivered 10 megawatts of solar generation to 25 remote communities.

Planning activities are underway to facilitate external investment in renewable remote power systems in communities to maximise opportunities for local industries, create jobs for Territorians and strengthen local skills and expertise.

The Northern Territory Government is progressing detailed analysis of each community to map the optimal renewables development pathway, considering existing energy assets, community aspirations, electricity demand profiles and forecast growth.

In addition to the community focused detailed analysis, the project will identify available land for solar development in each community. It will also include pilot projects and studies to facilitate greater levels of distributed energy supplies and emerging technologies, such as hydrogen and microgrids.

Tanami Road upgrade 19

Resources

Agribusiness

Lifestyle

Tourism

Defence



Reliable road connections support the movement of freight for existing and emerging economic activities such as mining, agriculture, tourism and defence. For remote parts of the Northern Territory, reliable road connections also improve a range of social indicators such as employment, health and education outcomes.

The Tanami Road is a 1014 kilometre direct link from Halls Creek, Western Australia to the north of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. The road condition along the 703 kilometre Northern Territory section of Tanami Road, from the Stuart Highway turn off 19 kilometres north of Alice Springs to the Western Australia border, comprises 330 kilometres of sealed and 373 kilometres of unsealed road.

Under the current conditions, the Tanami Road is closed or restricted to all traffic for long periods during the wet season – up to 60 days per year in some sections. This limits mobility and access to communities along the Tanami Road and prevents inter-regional tourist and freight traffic from using the Tanami Road all year round.

Sections of the road are closed to heavy vehicle traffic for longer periods. During these seasonal events, there are safety issues for road users due to poor road geometry, excessive corrugations and poor visibility as a result of dust.









Although not included on the National Infrastructure Priority List, the Australian Government committed to upgrade the Tanami Road as it is strategically important to the Northern Territory and Western Australia. It is also recognised as being nationally significant, due to its importance to developing northern Australia. The Australian and Northern Territory governments have committed \$262.5 million on an 80:20 co-funding basis to upgrade the Tanami Road within the Northern Territory under the current Roads of Strategic Importance (Alice Springs to Halls Creek) program. The Western Australian Government has also received funding for its portion of the road.

The October 2022 Federal Budget committed \$350 million of additional Australian Government funding on the same 80:20 basis, to continue upgrading the Tanami Road and the Central Arnhem Road. The funding split allocates \$250 million to the Tanami Road and \$100 million to the Central Arnhem Road.



## Implementation pathway

The suggested implementation pathway are actions that can be taken to respond to anticipated economic and population growth challenges and opportunities.

Implementation pathway	Prioritisation action	Progress
<b>Nationally significant projects, programs and proposals</b>		
Submit Stage 1 submission (Early Stage Proposal) to Infrastructure Australia for Northern Territory freight rail and logistics capacity improvements	 Reform	 Achieved
Progress Stage 2 submission (Potential Investment Options) and Stage 3 submission (Investment Ready Proposal) to Infrastructure Australia for Northern Territory freight rail and logistics capacity improvements	 Reform	 In progress
Accelerate planning for and delivery of residential, commercial and industrial land	 Reform	 In progress
Support job creation and business growth across the economy through developing waste recycling facilities in the network of regional logistics hubs, reducing the reliance on interstate waste processing and waste going to landfill	 New	 New 2023 in progress



## Territory-wide

The following projects and proposals identify and articulate the infrastructure investment that will have a Territory-wide impact including an impact on the Central Australia region.

Transport and  
Logistics

Rail

### Aurizon – Railway service expansion 20



Aurizon, an Australian company with more than 150 years of rail experience, is the nation's largest rail freight business and transports about 250 million tonnes for customers each year. Aurizon brings its scale and capability to the Northern Territory and looks forward to contributing to the NT Government's goal of building a \$40 billion economy by 2030.

In mid-2022, Aurizon invested \$1.4 billion to acquire the One Rail business in the Northern Territory and South Australia, including the Tarcoola to Darwin rail corridor. This investment recognises the strategic value and potential of the business in serving rapidly growing markets for resources, agribusiness, renewable energy and general freight.

The 2240-kilometre Tarcoola to Darwin railway is a nationally significant corridor with direct connection to the Port of Darwin, the closest port to Australia's largest trading partners in Asia. Aurizon is committed to improving the efficiency and capacity of this corridor, with targeted

investment to benefit existing customers and to boost the viability of adjacent agricultural, mineral and energy projects under development.

In the first 12 months of operation, Aurizon has committed investment of more than \$50 million in new assets for the region, as well as preparing plans to increase the number of services along the railway as we respond to increasing customer demand. This also includes the potential opportunity to construct additional passing loops on the rail corridor and to build additional capacity in the Darwin/Berrimah rail terminal at the port.

As well as supporting customer growth and development of regional projects, these investments have the flow-on benefits of increasing local employment and supporting local communities and business. More than 80% of Aurizon's nationwide workforce of 5800 employees live and work in regional communities.



Above: NT railway near Alice Springs. Credit: Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

## Enabling infrastructure plan

The enabling infrastructure plan for across the Territory lists the infrastructure proposals that are not yet funded, are in the planning phase and have been identified as enabling an outcome.

Proposals listed respond to economic and/or population growth or address the cross cutting objectives in the NT Infrastructure Strategy 2022 – 2030.

Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Access road upgrades to barge landings and all-weather aerodromes	50	Improve all weather air and sea access to support accessibility, visitor growth and community safety	0-15
Across the Territory upgrade and new bores	•	Support improved water management	0-10
Aerodrome and airstrip upgrades	30	Support connectivity and improve all weather access to improve community safety, accessibility and support future growth	0-15
AFLNT facilities upgrade to support growth in girls and womens football	1	Strengthen a healthy, active lifestyle by improving recreation opportunities and enhance visitor experience	0-5
Football ovals install lighting	4	Strengthen a healthy, active lifestyle by improving recreation opportunities and enhance visitor experience	0-5
Logistics Network continued expansion	•	Enable economic development by improving supply chains and transport	0-10
Mobile and/or broadband services	33	Enable connectivity and create digital opportunities	0-10
National highways bridge upgrades	40	Improve flood resilience and support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-10
Network of fast charging points for electric vehicles at key tourist and rural locations	5	Enable economic development and population growth through tourism led economy	0-10
Park facilities to enhance experience and access for visitors with limited mobility	•	Support accessibility, connectivity and amenity for all visitors	0-10
Public Transport upgrade bus stops	20	Support accessibility, connectivity and amenity for public transport passengers	0-15

Timeframe					
0-5	0-5 Years	0-10	0-10 Years	0-15	0-15 Years
5-10	5-10 Years	10-15	10-15 Years	15+	15+ Years

• indicates value is either commercial in confidence or to be confirmed.

Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Rail passing loops	•	Enable economic development by improving supply chains, processing and transport	0-10
Remote Infrastructure Fund upgrade 40+ community facilities to support AFL	200	Strengthen a healthy, active lifestyle by improving recreation opportunities and enhance visitor experience	0-10
Territory Parks develop new visitor hubs in the Top End, Savannah Gulf, Barkly and Central Australia regions	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-15
Territory Parks two-wheel drive access improvements	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-15
Territory Parks water security projects	•	Ensure water security to enable commercial opportunities	0-10
Territory Schools air-conditioning mechanical and electrical upgrades	50	Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-15
Upgrade roads to communities	•	Improve all weather access to support accessibility, growth and community safety	0-15

## Implementation pathway

The suggested implementation pathways outline actions that can be taken to respond to anticipated economic and population growth challenges and opportunities.

Implementation pathway	Prioritisation action	Progress
<b>Territory-wide</b>		
Plan for regional waste facilities	 Reform	 In progress
Develop options to ensure that entry level and affordable housing are in the market, including options to accelerate market participation by community housing providers	 Reform	 In progress
Complete Infrastructure Audit	 Reform	 Achieved



## Infrastructure pipeline

The following is a list of committed Territory-wide projects, funded by either government or the private sector.

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Across all regions upgrade critical water tanks	15.2	1.5	6.0	•	Support population growth by improving access to quality water
Across all regions water main replacement	14.4	2.9	4.5	•	Support population growth by improving access to quality water
Across all regions water services minor works	33.0	13.0	15.0	•	Support population growth by improving access to quality water
Alice Springs to Darwin corridor (Stuart Highway) road safety improvements	62.3		50.0	•	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity
Community Housing Provider housing projects	7.0	•			Provide safe, secure and affordable housing for people on low incomes
Community Housing Provider redevelopment projects	4.4	4.4			Provide safe, secure and affordable housing for people on low incomes
Digital Connectivity Program	7.5	•	•	•	Enabling connectivity and creating digital equality
Government Employee Housing Build Program	186.0	48.0	30.0	•	Provide Government employees with safe, secure and appropriate housing while performing duties in remote locations
Government managed Remote Women's Safe House upgrades and remote play equipment	1.4	1.0			Support vulnerable people by improving community service facilities
Homeland housing and infrastructure upgrade program	77.0	•	•	•	Capital grant to upgrade ageing infrastructure to support communities
Homeland Learning Centres infrastructure upgrades	1.0		1.0		Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education
Indigenous Essential Services asset replacement	84.0	21.0	21.0	•	Support remote communities by improving essential services efficiency
Indigenous Essential Services capital improvements	21.0	7.0	7.0		Support remote communities by improving essential services efficiency
Indigenous Essential Services headworks to support development	70.0			•	Support population growth by increasing land availability
Information communications technology (ICT) cabling upgrades in schools	8.0	1.0			Enable connectivity and create digital opportunity

A lesser figure in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 columns than in the Total column indicates either previous year expenditure or expenditure in outer years.

• indicates value is either commercial in confidence or to be confirmed.

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Infrastructure to support Territory Families, Housing and Communities remote services expansion	11.3	11.2			Improve outcomes for children and families
Mobile oral health dental unit replacement	0.7	0.7			Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support oral health services
Planning works to support the development of land infrastructure planning, concept development and detailed design	41.0	4.0	4.0	•	Enable economic development and population growth by increasing land availability
Power Networks augmentation and capital projects	164.0	43.0	36.0	•	Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency
Public Housing new builds	8.5	•			Provide safe, secure and affordable housing for people on low incomes
Rail upgrades to support growth	•	25.0	25.0	•	Maintenance to maximise existing supply chain and transport infrastructure
Regional Logistics Hubs	440.0	10.0	50.0	•	Enable economic development by improving supply chains and transport
Remote Women's Safe House upgrades managed by Non-Government Organisation (NGO)	1.6	•			Capital grants to support vulnerable people by improving community service facilities
Replace critical asset elements in various hospitals, remote health clinics, schools and police stations	20.0	•	•	•	Ensure a safe and healthy work environment and best practice in the delivery of government services
Road Safety Program, including intersection upgrades, improvements for pedestrian safety, street lighting, truck parking bays, rest areas	267.0	15.0	80.0	•	Support connectivity, regional development and safety by improving key arterial and secondary roads
Roads to Recovery Program targeted local road upgrades	24.7	•	•		Enhance road infrastructure to support accessibility, connectivity, safety and amenity
Security enhancements to police facilities	9.0	2.0	2.0	•	Support the continued delivery of quality police services
Targeted road safety projects, local roads and community infrastructure shovel ready projects	67.5	20.0	7.6		Australian and Northern Territory governments supporting infrastructure construction jobs across the Territory
Territory Schools air-conditioning mechanical and electrical upgrades	4.0	2.0			Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education

## Regionally significant

The following projects, proposals and programs identify and articulate the infrastructure investment that will have an impact on the Central Australia region.

### A better, safer future for Central Australia 38

Health



Lifestyle



Digital



In January 2023, the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and the Northern Territory Chief Minister Natasha Fyles announced the appointment of a Central Australian Regional Controller to develop and implement a medium to long term plan for the region, which will include information on how to progress economic development and improve liveability.

The Regional Controller regularly travels to remote communities, listening to people and giving them the opportunity to be heard and have their say on solutions to local issues. Some common themes to date related to infrastructure include investment in remote communities and remote housing.

The Australian Government will invest \$250 million in a plan for A Better, Safer Future for Central Australia.

Better outcomes for children and young people will be a core focus of this investment.

The Plan will focus on:

- ① Improved community safety and cohesion – through more youth engagement and diversion programs.
- ② Job creation – particularly in the communities that surround Alice Springs – including urgent changes as part of replacing the Community Development Program (CDP).
- ③ Better services – by improving health services in surrounding communities, there will be less pressure on Alice Springs.

- ④ Preventing and addressing the issues caused by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders – including better responding through the health and justice systems.
- ⑤ Investing in families – including by better supporting elders and parents, boosting domestic violence services.
- ⑥ On country learning – improving school attendance and completion through caring for culture and country.

This is in addition to the \$48 million investment in community safety announced by the Australian Government on 24 January 2023, which included:

- \$14.2 million in additional funding for high visibility police and law enforcement operations targeting grog running, increasing liquor licensing compliance inspectors and boosting security guards in public places
- a \$2.8 million investment to improve CCTV, lighting and safety measures throughout Alice Springs
- \$5.6 million for additional emergency accommodation and safe spaces to give young people a place to go to at night and boost the effectiveness of the night patrol program to help get young people off the streets
- \$2 million for the Tangentyere Women's Council to boost domestic violence services
- \$25 million to extend funding for safety and community services to provide certainty to providers and their employees and ensure this work continues.

Office of the Central Australian Regional Controller

Working together for

**A better, safer future for Central Australia**

The Office of the Central Australian Regional Controller has heard from:

<b>20</b>	Communities
<b>1000+</b>	Community Members
<b>80</b>	Community Sector Representatives

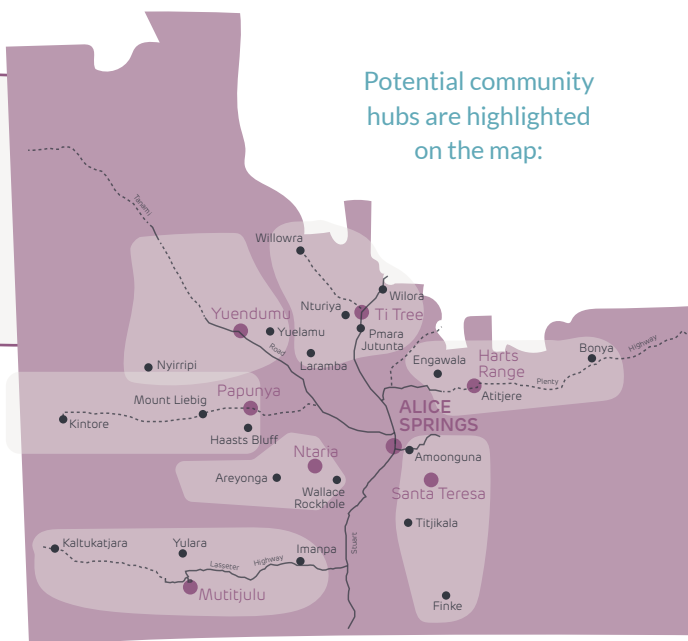
who told them...

Tourism  
 Real jobs, real wages  
 Local employment  
 Food security  
 Outstations  
 On country learning  
**More houses**  
 Culturally appropriate homes  
 Better roads  
 Renal beds  
 Dialysis in community  
 More health care workers  
 Culturally trained health care providers  
**Connected Services**  
 Better power

**Water**

To support Central Australian communities, key communities could be expanded to provide greater service delivery and infrastructure for neighbouring communities. Community catchments are based on seven localised regions across Central Australia which represent language and kinship groups.

Potential community hubs are highlighted on the map:



## Community and Regional Infrastructure 39

Lifestyle



The Australian Government has allocated \$50 million for community and regional infrastructure projects in Central Australia.

Central Australian communities have been consulted on their priorities and feedback has been delivered through the Office of the Regional Controller and the Aboriginal Leadership Group (ALG). The ALG has been asked to provide advice on prioritising

community infrastructure projects for funding and how best this investment can be delivered to provide large economic and social benefits by improving community amenity and liveability in Central Australia.

There is also a remaining \$94.5 million in Australian Government investment that the ALG will provide input and identify where it could be best used.



## Lasseters Casino and Resort Development 40

Tourism



Housing



One of Australia's fastest growing hospitality outfits, Iris Capital, has a masterplan to significantly upgrade the existing facilities at Lasseters Hotel Casino to create a world class entertainment and function precinct in the heart of Alice Springs.

The works include major hospitality and casino refurbishments, a new apartment style

residential development, a new child care facility, expansion of the existing gymnasium and health/wellbeing centre, new entry statements, landscape, signage and upgrades to the Convention Centre.

Approximately \$70 – \$100 million of investment is proposed for the initial stages which could become 'potentially upward of \$150 million'.

## Molyhil Tungsten-Molybdenum-Copper Project – Thor Energy 41

Minerals



Major Project



The Molyhil Tungsten-Molybdenum Project was historically mined as a small open cut mine and produced a combined tungsten and molybdenum concentrate. Tungsten is included on Australia's Critical Minerals List as a mineral that is considered essential to our modern technologies, economies and national security, and whose supply chains are vulnerable to disruption. The Molyhil Project is located approximately 320 kilometres by road (or 220 kilometres as the crow flies) north-east of Alice Springs and is accessible from the Plenty Highway.

Thor Energy PLC (Thor), through their 100% owned subsidiary Molyhil Mining Pty Ltd, owns the tenure containing the deposit. In 2018 Thor prepared an updated definitive feasibility study that supported the technical and economic feasibility of developing a modern facility to process ore mined from a single open pit and produce concentrate for sale. Mineralisation

occurs in 2 adjacent skarn hosted bodies that includes outcropping molybdenite, chalcopyrite and scheelite mineralisation.

Thor also has a 40% joint venture interest in the Bonya project, which is located approximately 30 kilometres north-east of Molyhil. The Bonya project comprises several prospects that have the potential to add resource inventory and extend the operational life of Molyhil.

In November 2022, ASX listed Investigator Resources Ltd, through its wholly owned subsidiary Fram Resources Pty Ltd (Fram), entered into a phased earn-in agreement over the Molyhil Project where Fram will undertake work to revalidate the mineral resource and revalidate the definitive feasibility study with a view to rapidly moving the project through to a decision to commence construction and production.

**Newmont – Granites Gold Mine expansion** 42

Located 540 kilometres north-west of Alice Springs in the Tanami Desert, the Newmont gold mine operates in one of Australia's most remote locations. The mine is located on Aboriginal freehold land that is owned by the Warlpiri people and managed on their behalf by the Central Desert Aboriginal Lands Trust.

In October 2019, Newmont announced approval of the Tanami Expansion 2 project, which in early 2022 was about 35% complete with construction scheduled to continue in 2024.

The project involves constructing a headframe and a 5.5 metre diameter concrete lined vertical hoisting shaft to a depth of 1,460 metres below surface. The shaft will be used to transport ore and personnel and accommodate support

services and cooled ventilation air to develop the mine to about 2 140 metres below surface.

The Granites Gold Mine has been in production since 1986 and has produced over 10 million ounces of gold. On completion, the Tanami Expansion 2 project has potential to extend the mine life beyond 2040 and provide a platform for further exploration and development in the very prospective Tanami district.

In 2019 the underground mine produced 500 000 attributable ounces (500 Koz) and supported over \$174.1 million in economic value-add to the Territory economy. The Newmont mine supported 1 162 jobs in the Territory in 2019 with 632 people directly employed. The expansion project will increase production by an additional 150 to 200Koz per annum.

**Nolans NdPr Project – Arafura** 43

Arafura Rare Earths Ltd (Arafura) is developing the Nolans Project approximately 135 kilometres north of Alice Springs. Nolans will consist of a new open cut rare earths mine and advanced downstream manufacturing facility, producing 4914 tonnes per annum (tpa) of total rare earth oxides comprising 4440 tpa neodymium-praseodymium (NdPr) oxide and 474 tpa middle and heavy rare earth (SEG-HRE) oxide. The project will also produce 144 000 tpa of merchant grade phosphoric acid (54%) P2O5.

NdPr oxide is essential for electrifying transport and other renewable energy initiatives, which is central to the future of the world's major and emerging economies. With demand forecast to

grow 6 to 15 times over the next 2 decades, there is a looming supply imbalance that Nolans is perfectly placed to feed into.

Nolans offers international customers rare earth supply chain diversification and security by producing separated oxides at a single site that will meet sustainability expectations. The company also has plans to maximise involvement of local businesses and workforce, and provide sponsorship in education and to the community.

The Nolans Project has an initial operational life of 38 years and will deliver opportunities for Central Australia, including jobs, economic development and an enhanced logistics capacity in Alice Springs.

**Verdant Minerals Limited and Parkway Corporate Limited Joint Venture – Karinga Lakes Potash Project** 44

The Karinga Lakes Potash project is located approximately 230 kilometres south-west of Alice Springs where an extensive brine lake system covers approximately 1109 square kilometres of pastoral land.

The system consists of a chain of dry salt lakes located within the Central Australian Groundwater

Discharge Zone. The potential resource is ideally located with major road and rail infrastructure located close to the project, with regional gas options also available.

Verdant Minerals, one of the joint venture partners, has undertaken extensive resource appraisal since 2010.

## Enabling infrastructure plan

The enabling infrastructure plan for the Central Australia region lists the infrastructure proposals that are not yet funded, are in the planning phase and have been identified as enabling an outcome.

Proposals listed respond to economic and/or population growth or address the cross cutting objectives in the NT Infrastructure Strategy 2022 – 2030.

Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Across the region improved storm water infrastructure	2	Support liveability and resilience	0-10
Across the region new or refurbished health clinics	•	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services	0-15
Across the region Remote School Renewal program	•	Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-15
Across the region toilets in 9 larger communities	2	Support liveability	0-5
Alcoota School replace preschool transportable	1	Replace ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-10
Alice Springs aged care facilities	•	Provide a variety of contemporary, affordable and sustainable housing options for older Territorians	0-5
Alice Springs Airport 2020 Master Plan Seven-Mile Precinct Business Park	•	Improve airport services to support accessibility, visitor growth and tourism	0-10
Alice Springs Airport Regular Public Transport (RPT) apron overlay	•	Improve airport infrastructure to support aviation safety and growth	0-5
Alice Springs Airport residential, worker and tourist accommodation precinct	•	Improve airport services to support accessibility, visitor growth and tourism	0-5
Alice Springs alcohol and other drugs rehabilitation facilities	8	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support mental health services	0-15
Alice Springs community learning and sports hub	18	Strengthen a healthy, active lifestyle by improving recreation opportunities	0-5
Alice Springs Desert Park visitor experience development	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-10
Alice Springs Hospital upgrades	•	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services	0-15

Timeframe					
0-5	0-5 Years	0-10	0-10 Years	0-15	0-15 Years
5-10	5-10 Years	10-15	10-15 Years	15+	15+ Years

• indicates value is either commercial in confidence or to be confirmed.

Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Alice Springs Northern Territory Government cultural infrastructure upgrades (Strehlow Research Centre, Araluen Cultural Centre)	•	Preserve Aboriginal art and cultures	0-10
Alice Springs School of the Air new school with tourist facility	15	Support students and increase tourism opportunities	0-15
Alice Springs Telegraph Station reflective garden	•	Value, preserve and expand historic, cultural meeting places, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	5-10
Alice Springs whole-of-government Emergency Operations Centre	15	Increase service delivery and improve community safety by providing emergency management facilities	0-10
Arid Zone Research Institute upgrade office accommodation, depot sheds and laboratory facilities	•	Improve staff facilities	0-10
Bradshaw Primary School 4 classroom block	3	Contemporary educational infrastructure to support growth in population and student enrolments	0-10
Braitling Primary School refurbish internal areas	4	Master planned infrastructure to provide contemporary educational facilities to support growth in population and student enrolments	0-10
Bullen Road upgrade and widen between Larapinta Drive and Ilparpa Road	5	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-10
Central Australia Community Football upgrades	•	Enhance community engagement by improving facilities	0-5
Central Desert region expand visitor accommodation	•	Support construction works within the community	0-10
Centralian Middle School upgrade to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)	4	Contemporary educational infrastructure to support growth in population and student enrolments	0-10
Centralian Senior College replace air-conditioning	4	Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-5
Centralian Senior College upgrade entry and reception	1	Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-10
Desert Knowledge Precinct accommodation	30	Provide culturally sensitive accommodation to support education outcomes for Aboriginal students of Batchelor Institute and Centre for Appropriate Technology, while also providing Aboriginal people employment in construction and facilities management	0-5
Docker River construct new police post including visiting officer quarters	7	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-15
Ellery Creek Big Hole upgrade and seal carpark and paths	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-10



Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Engawala improve access road to airstrips	1	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-5
Finke Gorge National Park upgrade Kunanan Creek day use area to camping	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-15
Finke new dental clinic within health centre	1	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support oral health services	0-10
Former Mt Ebenezer Road House site rectification works	•	Environmental remediation of the area in consultation with stakeholders	0-10
Gap Road Clinic renovations	2	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services	0-5
Harts Range new NT Emergency Services (NTES) volunteer and storage facilities	2	Strengthen emergency support services in remote communities	0-15
Hermannsburg Historical Precinct carpark	•	Improve facilities and visitor experience on an iconic arts trail destination	0-10
Hermannsburg new NT Emergency Services (NTES) volunteer and storage facilities	2	Strengthen emergency support services in remote communities	0-15
Hermannsburg to Finke Gorge National Park walking track	•	Improve facilities and visitor experience on an iconic hiking track	0-10
Jim McConville Oval lights installation	•	Enhance community engagement by improving facilities	0-5
Kilgariff new preschool and primary school for 500 enrolments	50	Contemporary educational infrastructure to support growth in population and student enrolments	10-15
Kings Canyon Power Station microgrid battery energy storage system and controls	1	Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency	0-5
Kings Canyon Power Station solar farm refurbishment	1	Improve liveability and improve energy efficiency by increasing renewable energy	0-5
Kintore new NT Emergency Services (NTES) volunteer and storage facilities	2	Strengthen emergency support services in remote communities	0-15
Kintore Road upgrade selected sections	10	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-15
Kulgera police housing	2	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-5
Kulgera police visiting officer quarters	3	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-15
Larapinta Drive duplication Milner Road to Bradshaw Terrace	25	Enhance road infrastructure to support accessibility, connectivity, safety and amenity	0-15

Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Larapinta Drive traffic management improvements Bradshaw Terrace to Albrecht Drive	10	Enhance road infrastructure to support accessibility, connectivity, safety and amenity	15+
Larapinta Primary School extend and upgrade administration building	1	Contemporary educational infrastructure to support growth in population and student enrolments	0-10
Lasseter Drive Strategy signage, vehicle turning points, vehicle parking, rest stops, waste services	•	Enable economic development and population growth through tourism led economy	0-10
Lasseter Highway improve the road standard	50	Support economic development of the tourism, cattle and resource industries	5-10
Luritja Road improve flood immunity construct new crossings over Kings and Kathleen Creeks	20	Support tourism and local cattle industry	0-10
Maryvale Road upgrade and seal to Titjikala	110	Support community access and the cattle industry	0-10
Mutitjulu Clinic rebuild	6	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services	0-5
Mutitjulu School add early years general learning area	1	Contemporary educational infrastructure to support growth in population and student enrolments	0-5
Namatjira Drive seal access into Redbank Gorge	8	Improve accessibility, supporting the tourism industry	5-10
Ntaria new police complex with housing	20	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-15
Nyirripi improve access road to airstrips	1	Support accessibility and connectivity	0-5
Nyirripi to Kintore Road upgrade	10	Enhanced liveability through improved roads	0-10
Old Alice Springs police station refurbish/replace for multi-purpose government centre	10	Support the community with improved services	0-10
Outback Way upgrade Tjukururu Road and Plenty Highway to two-lane sealed standard	500	Enable mining, pastoral, cattle and tourism growth by connecting Queensland through the Northern Territory to Western Australia	5-10
Owen Springs Power Station fuel farm back-up power supply	1	Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency	0-10
Owen Springs Power Station solar and battery energy storage system	•	Improve liveability and improve energy efficiency by increasing renewable energy	0-5
Papunya new police station and visiting officer quarters including structure to house trailers	10	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-15







Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Papunya police housing	3	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-10
Papunya School new preschool	3	Master planned infrastructure to provide contemporary early years educational facilities to support growth in population and student enrolments	0-15
Roger Vale Drive upgrade	10	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-10
Ross Highway to Trepina Gorge extend the seal on access road	2	Improve access to support the tourism industry	5-10
Ross Park Primary School refurbish upper primary 4 classroom block	2	Replace ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	5-10
Sadadeen Road connector	27	Improve flood immunity in the Mount Johns Valley and Desert Springs areas	15+
Santa Teresa Clinic renovations	2	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services	0-5
Santa Teresa new police complex	15	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	5-10
Santa Teresa road complete upgrade and seal	65	Progressive seal and upgrade to support accessibility, growth and community safety	0-10
Simpsons Gap improve disability access 400 metre path and amenities	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-10
Stuart Highway duplication Bradshaw Drive to Commonage Road	200	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-10
Stuart Highway duplication Commonage Road to Roger Vale Drive	70	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-10
Stuart Highway Roger Vale Drive Intersection upgrade	15	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity	0-5
Ti Tree multi-purpose sports facility/emergency displacement facility	1	Support community engagement through sport and recreational facilities	0-5
Ti Tree police housing	2	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-10
Ti Tree regional town development residential and commercial/industrial land release	15	Enable economic development and population growth by increasing land availability	0-5

Proposals	Estimated Total \$m	Challenges/opportunities	Timeframe (Years)
Ti Tree School upgrades	•	New infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-10
Tivan Limited Sandover Project	•	Exploration and potential drilling program for copper and lithium	0-5
Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park – Ormiston Gorge redevelopment – Redbank Gorge upgrade day use to gorge track	•	Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience	0-10
Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park enhance the cultural centre facilities including contemporary interpretations	1	Increase visitor numbers and length of stay in the Territory and enhance experiences with improved cultural facilities	0-10
Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park walking trail and accommodation project	1	Increase visitor numbers and length of stay in the Territory and enhance experiences with improved cultural facilities	0-10
Willowra new police shopfront	2	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-15
Willowra School replace classroom block	3	Replace ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	5-10
Yuelamu improve access road to airstrip	1	Support accessibility and connectivity	0-5
Yuelamu new dental clinic within health centre	1	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support oral health services	0-10
Yuelamu School replace senior classroom	1	Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-5
Yuendumu Cultural Centre	•	Community led response to improving economic viability and liveability of the community	0-10
Yuendumu new NT Emergency Services (NTES) volunteer and storage facilities	2	Strengthen emergency support services in remote communities	0-15
Yuendumu police housing	1	Support the continued delivery of quality police services in remote communities	0-10
Yuendumu School upgrades	•	New infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education	0-5
Yulara essential services upgrade and new visitor accommodation	25	Increase visitor numbers and length of stay in the Territory and enhance experiences with improved cultural facilities	0-10
Yulara water supply project	23	New infrastructure to support the access to water	0-5



## Implementation pathway

The suggested implementation pathways outline actions that can be taken to respond to anticipated economic and population growth challenges and opportunities.

Implementation pathway	Prioritisation action	Progress
<b>Central Australia</b>		
Identify and take immediate action to alleviate accommodation pressures	 Reform	 In progress
Identify infill opportunities for accommodation, including consolidating existing government footprints by co-locating government services to free up land for development in Alice Springs	 Reform	 In progress
Accelerate design and delivery of further Kilgariff stages	 New	 Achieved

## Infrastructure pipeline

The following is a list of committed projects, funded by either government or the private sector, for the Central Australia region.

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Across the region expand housing for council staff	4.7		4.7	•	Support council operations by providing housing for local government employees in remote communities
Across the region HomeBuild new homes	•	•	•	•	Reduce overcrowding and improve health outcomes while providing employment and training opportunities for local Aboriginal people
Across the region land servicing headworks scoping, design and construction	0.3	0.2			Enable economic development and population growth through expanded utilities networks for new land development
Across the region residential infill lots, design and construct power and water infrastructure, upgrades and network extensions to service nominated infill lots	21.7	0.2	•		Enable economic development and population growth through expanded utilities networks for new land development
Across the region Room to Breathe home extensions	25.8	4.2	3.0	•	Reduce overcrowding and improve health outcomes while providing employment and training opportunities for local Aboriginal people

A lesser figure in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 columns than in the Total column indicates either previous year expenditure or expenditure in outer years.

• indicates value is either commercial in confidence or to be confirmed.

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Alice Plaza office refurbishment	10.0	•			Support contemporary work practices and environments to attract and retain people
Alice Springs Airport major expansion of the solar array	•			•	Increase renewable energy to meet Northern Territory renewables target of 50% by 2030, supported by Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)
Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre adventure park	2.0		2.0		Enhanced liveability by improving community facilities
Alice Springs Correctional Centre expand modular accommodation	16.2	15.8	•	•	Meet community expectation through additional correctional infrastructure
Alice Springs Hospital Ambulatory Care Centre	25.7	24.7	•		Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services
Alice Springs Hospital Central Sterilising Department relocation	5.8	4.0	1.7		Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services
Alice Springs Hospital hybrid operating theatre	5.6	4.0	1.6		Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services
Alice Springs infrastructure to support commercial and light industrial development	7.0		7.0	•	Enable economic development and population growth by increasing land availability
Alice Springs new and upgraded infrastructure to mitigate flooding	10.0	10.0	•	•	Improve community safety and reduce the damage, disruption and costs associated with major flood events
Alice Springs outdoor netball court	1.7		1.7		Enhanced liveability by improving community facilities
Alice Springs Power Network replace corroded poles	12.0	4.0	2.0	•	Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency
Alice Springs Power Network upgrade Lovegrove power transformers	4.4		4.4	•	Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency
Alice Springs public housing accessibility and electrical upgrades	0.9	•			Provide safe, secure and accessible housing for people on low incomes
Alice Springs reconfigure 22kV power network	4.8		4.8		Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency
Alice Springs regional skate park	4.8		4.8		Enhanced liveability by improving community facilities
Alice Springs revitalise infrastructure in town centre	20.0	9.5			Unlock business and industry development opportunities and create a safe and vibrant place for people to enjoy

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Alice Springs Town Council granulator for regional waste management facility	0.1	•			Support improved waste management and recycling processes
Alice Springs upgrade bus stops and <i>Disability Discrimination Act</i> (DDA) compliance upgrades	0.8	0.8			Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity
Aputula Finke – ranger hub including office, shed, visiting staff accommodation, staff accommodation, meeting space, ablutions block	2.1	2.1			Enhanced liveability through improved Central Land Council services to remote Indigenous communities
Araluen Park upgrade	1.0		•		Enhanced liveability by improving community facilities
Areyonga Access Road upgrade and concrete floodways	1.1	1.1			Improve safety, access and flood immunity
Atitjere single basketball court cover and resurface	0.6	0.6			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities
Brewer Estate headworks to support general industry development	26.0	1.0	10.0	•	Enable economic development and population growth by increasing land availability
Central Australia improve digital connectivity for First Nations communities	10.0	•	•	•	Enabling connectivity and creating digital equality through the Australian Government funding commitment
Central Desert remote community recycling bays	0.2	0.2			Support improved waste management and recycling processes
Centralian Senior College upgrade study and open learning areas	0.4			•	Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education
Ciccone – Central Land Council internal office renovation	0.9	0.9			Enhanced liveability through improved Central Land Council services to remote Indigenous communities
Community and Regional Infrastructure package	50.0		•	•	Community led response to improving safety, amenity and liveability of the community
Defence housing construct new houses	•		•	•	Provide supportive housing for defence personnel and their families
Disaster Recovery Central Australia Floods, February 2023	3.0		3.0	•	Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity
Disaster Recovery Central Australia Floods, November 2021	1.7	•			Increase road capacity, safety, support accessibility, connectivity and amenity
Engawala youth space new canteen and toilets	0.3	0.3			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Gemtree, Anmatjere Regional Connectivity Program Round 2 – deploy a new Telstra macro mobile site	1.0	•	•	•	Enabling connectivity and creating digital equality
Kilgariff Area Plan new estates stage 2 with community land	23.2			•	Enable economic development and population growth by increasing land availability
Kilgariff headworks to support residential and community sporting facility development	30.0	11.0	10.0	•	Enable economic development and population growth by increasing land availability
Kings Canyon replace and augment water tanks	4.5	3.7			Support visitor growth by improving access to quality water
Lajamanu oval upgrades	1.0	1.0			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities
Laramba basketball court shade	0.5	0.5			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities
Lasseters Casino and Resort upgrade and expansion	70.0		•	•	Support growth in luxury tourism, visitor and corporate travel markets
M'Bunghara School upgrades	0.5	•			Upgrade ageing infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education
Mparntwe Health Hub, 127 Todd Street – Central Australian Aboriginal Congress office, medical clinic and child care centre	22.0	22.0	•	•	Strengthen liveability by improving infrastructure to support health services
Mutitjulu – new office, shed, visiting staff accommodation, meeting space and ablutions block	2.1	2.1			Enhanced liveability through improved Central Land Council services to remote Indigenous communities
Mutitjulu and Yulara Futures community upgrade	51.0		51.0	•	Redevelop the remote community of Mutitjulu
National Aboriginal Art Gallery	150.0		64.5	•	Value, preserve, exhibit and celebrate Aboriginal art and culture, improving sense of place and tourism opportunities
Newmont Tanami stage 2 gold mine expansion and underground facilities	1 000.0	500.0	500.0	•	Meet global demand for minerals
Ntaria lighting at community oval	2.0	•			Strengthen a healthy, active lifestyle by improving recreation opportunities and enhance visitor experience
Nturiya basketball court cover	0.5	0.5			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities
Nyirripi basketball court, cover and resurface	0.6	0.6			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities

Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Outback Way upgrade Tjukururu Road and Plenty Highway to two-lane sealed standard	243.6	30.0	65.0	•	Enable mining, pastoral, cattle and tourism growth by connecting Queensland through the Northern Territory to Western Australia
Owen Springs Power Station solar and battery energy storage system	15.0		3.0	•	Improve liveability and improve energy efficiency by increasing renewable energy
Papunya child and family centre (Starting Early for a Better Future)	0.5	0.5			Strengthen early years learning and engagement of students and parents
Red Centre Way/Mereenie Loop Road seal outer loop to better connect Watarrka and West MacDonnell National Parks	165.0		5.0	•	Increase visitor numbers and length of stay in the Territory and enhance experiences with improved cultural facilities
Santos Amadeus Basin Dukas exploration well	15.0	•			Enable economic development
Schwarz Crescent intersection upgrade	11.9		11.9		Economic enabler and key national freight route between the Territory and the rest of Australia
Stirling (Wilora) School universal access ablutions	0.5	•			Infrastructure to support Students With Additional Needs (SWAN)
Tanami Road complete the upgrade and seal	400.0	115.6	40.0	•	Economic enabler for the mining industry and key national freight route between the Territory and the rest of Australia
The Gap South Terrace construct 30 multiple dwellings (in four stages)	12.0	12.0			Provide a variety of contemporary residential options
Ti Tree child care centre	1.0	1.0			Support delivery of children services
Ti Tree commercial laundromat	2.0	2.0			Enhanced liveability through improved services to remote Indigenous communities
Ti Tree water supply upgrade equip one bore	0.6		0.6		Support population growth by improving access to quality water
Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park adventure cycling track	11.9		•	•	Expand tourism product to develop the economy and increase liveability
Tourism Central Australia new information centre	4.9	4.9			Increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience
Walungurru Kintore – ranger hub including office, shed/ workshop, meeting space, ablutions block, staff accommodation	2.1	2.1			Enhanced liveability through improved Central Land Council services to remote Indigenous communities



Project	Estimated \$m				Challenges/opportunities
	Total	2023-24	2024-25	Outer Years	
Watarrka National Park iconic multi-day walking track	5.6		5.6		Value, preserve and expand access to parks, increase visitation opportunities and visitor experience
Yuelamu youth centre	0.3	0.3			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities
Yuendumu critical water infrastructure	15.3	15.3	•		Closing the Gap on access to safe and reliable water for First Nations communities
Yuendumu learning hub	1.0	1.0			Support community engagement through education
Yuendumu oval upgrades	1.0	1.0			Support youth engagement through sport and recreational facilities
Yuendumu School new play equipment, outdoor eating area and amphitheatre	4.4		4.4		New infrastructure to support the continued delivery of quality education
Yulara Power Station capacity replacement	9.9	4.9	•		Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency
Yulara Power Station refurbish fire system	1.4		0.6	•	Asset renewal to support growth, compliance and improve service efficiency
Yulara recycling centre	0.6		0.6		Support improved waste management and recycling processes



Above: Laramba Water Treatment Plant. Credit: Territory Families, Housing and Communities.

## NT Infrastructure Audit

Reliable infrastructure is a vital part of maintaining and improving our quality of life. It provides us with essential services we rely on like transport, energy, water and telecommunications, as well as social infrastructure such as hospitals and health centres, schools, policing and parks and access to goods and services.

In 2022 and 2023, Infrastructure NT conducted a strategic audit of Territory infrastructure to provide an evidence base to guide future infrastructure investment decision making. The outcomes of the audit focus attention on the investments and reforms that will improve our living standards and local and national productivity.



### Transport and Logistics

- Improve access roads to airstrips
- Shaded road stops



### Utilities

- Across the region improved digital connectivity
- Alice Springs Hospital sustainable power generation solution

The audit revealed a number of potential infrastructure needs for the Central Australia region. Where these needs were already in the planning phase, they have been included in the Enabling Infrastructure Plan or Infrastructure Pipeline tables in this document. The remaining Central Australia region audit items are listed below. These potential infrastructure needs are for projects that could be considered for possible inclusion in the Plan and Pipeline over time as scoping, feasibility analysis and business case development determines viability. Industry, business and community stakeholders are encouraged to let Infrastructure NT know if they progress with planning and delivery of their ideas and proposals.



### Social Infrastructure

- Across the region cultural heritage tourist route
- Across the region improved sport and youth facilities
- Across the region retail and cultural precincts
- Alice Springs baseball complex
- Alice Springs new and improved sports facilities and change rooms
- Alice Springs refurbish community halls at 4 town camps
- Alice Springs upgrades to Red Centre BMX facility
- Cultural camps
- Desert Knowledge Precinct expansion
- Purple House renal headquarters
- Road Transport Hall of Fame upgrades
- West MacDonnell Ranges iconic, sustainable and in landscape accommodation facility



The Central Australia region is one of 6 regions in the Northern Territory.

To download the full NT Infrastructure Plan and Pipeline or the NT Infrastructure Audit visit

<https://infrastructure.nt.gov.au>

## About Infrastructure NT

Infrastructure NT is the Northern Territory's infrastructure body. Infrastructure NT undertakes strategic infrastructure planning and development that co-ordinates and aligns infrastructure needs with economic and population growth.

## Connect with us

If you would like to connect with Infrastructure NT on the NT Infrastructure Plan and Pipeline 2023 or any other infrastructure matters, you can contact us via:

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