

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Strong Support for Statehood

#### Sue Bradley AM Committee Co-Chair

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) has advised the Statehood Steering Committee of the results of the 2007 Mock Referendum on Statehood where 76% of voters said YES to the question: *Do you agree the Northern Territory should become a State under the Australian Constitution?* Committee Co-Chair Sue Bradley announced today.

Questions were devised by the Statehood Steering Committee and polling was undertaken by the independent AEC during the 2007 Northern Territory Show circuit from May to August 2007. A total of 809 voters participated in the exercise.

Polling places were at: Freds Pass Show, Barunga Festival, Alice Springs Show, Tennant Creek Show, Katherine Show, Royal Darwin Show and the Borroloola Show.

#### Question 1

*Do you agree the Northern Territory should become a State under the Australian Constitution?*

Overall Results      Yes = 76% (614)      No = 22% (181)      Informal = 2% (14)

#### Regional Results

Top End (Darwin & Freds Pass)      Yes = 78%

Regional/Remote (Katherine, Barunga & Borroloola)      Yes = 81%

Central Australia (Alice Springs & Tennant Creek)      Yes = 70%

#### Question 2

*Do you agree the Northern Territory as a new State should have the same powers as the existing States of Australia?*

Overall Results      Yes = 87% (703)      No = 11% (86)      Informal = 2% (20)

#### Regional Results

Top End (Darwin & Freds Pass)      Yes = 88%

Regional/Remote (Katherine, Barunga & Borroloola)      Yes = 90%

Central Australia (Alice Springs & Tennant Creek)      Yes = 82%

#### Question 3

*Do you agree the Northern Territory as a new State should have the same number of Senators as the existing States of Australia?*

Overall Results      Yes = 68% (553)      No = 28% (224)      Informal = 4% (32)

#### Regional Results

Top End (Darwin & Freds Pass)      Yes = 65%

Regional/Remote (Katherine, Barunga & Borroloola)      Yes = 75%

Central Australia (Alice Springs & Tennant Creek)      Yes = 68%

"The Mock Referendum was devised to take a sample of views on the level of support for Statehood and also the support for whether we should be admitted to the Federation as a State with the same powers as the existing States. It appears that Territorians are very clear that if we are a State they do not want to be an unequal State". Sue Bradley said.

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