

EPA's outgoing chief calls development rethink

Alison Middleton, ABC May 17, 2011, 2:33 pm

-
- [tweet0](#)
- [Email](#)
- [Print](#)

The outgoing head of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) says the Northern Territory needs to shake the perception that development comes before environmental concerns.

Andrew Tupper is finishing up as chairman of the EPA and handing over to crocodile expert Grahame Webb.

Mr Tupper says it is important that environmental as well as economic considerations are at the forefront of government minds, whichever party is in power.

He spoke about the planned \$12 billion plan by Japanese gas giant Inpex for an LNG processing plant in Darwin Harbour.

"Inpex might be a fabulous project - the assessment of it might be absolutely rigorous," he said.

"I'm not going to comment on those things. But there is always going to be a community perception that it is going to be developed regardless of its worth because of the economic aspect of the development.

"We have got to get out of those bad habits, I think."