NORTHERN TERRITORY LIQUOR COMMISSION

DECISION NOTICE AND REASONS FOR DECISION

CITATION:	Application for liquor licence with a restaurant bar authority [2026] NTLiqComm 16
FILE NUMBER:	LC2026-018
LICENSEE:	The Stone House NT Pty Ltd
PREMISES:	33 Cavenagh Street Darwin City 0800
LEGISLATION:	Part 3 Division 4 of the Liquor Act 2019
DECISION OF:	Sally Gearin (Commissioner)
	Stephen Gelding (Health Member)
	Benjamin Giesecke (Community Member)
DATE OF HEARING:	14 October 2026
DATE OF DECISION:	9 November 2026

DECISION

1. For the reasons set out below the Applicant, The Stone House NT Pty Ltd (ACN 698 286 243) is granted a liquor licence with a restaurant bar authority and a late night authority at the premises known and operating as Stone House Wine Bar and Kitchen located at 33 Cavenagh Street, Darwin City 0800.
2. This licence is subject to a signed copy of the lease of the premises in the same terms as the unsigned copy of the lease, being lodged with the Liquor Commission on or before 4 pm on Friday 21 November 2026.

   The Applicant is granted liberty to apply if needed regarding provision of a signed copy of the lease.

REASONS

1. On 28 September 2026 an application was lodged by Mr Stewart Forrest, who is the sole director and secretary of The Stone House NT Pty Ltd, the Applicant in these proceedings.

2. Ms Siobhan O'Connor is a (part) shareholder of the Applicant and is the proposed nominee and general manager of the licensed premises.

3. The Stone House NT Pty Ltd is seeking a liquor licence with a restaurant bar authority and late night authority being a substitution for the licence at the premises already known and operating as Stone House Wine Bar and Kitchen, located at 33 Cavenagh Street, Darwin City 0800.

4. These premises have in the past been operating under a licence held by Northern Wines Pty Ltd no 80318998. That licence permitted both trading, a late night authority and a takeaway authority.

5. The history is that Ms Rebecca Bullen had leased the premises from the owner Mulga Venture Pty Ltd with that lease having expired and not renewed by the parties. Ms Bullen still occupies the premises under a periodic tenancy agreement pending the outcome of this application.

6. As a result of the circumstances set out in paragraph 5, hearing licence 80318998 has been surrendered and replaced with two new licence applications. The takeaway authority (which is sought to be substituted by a takeaway authority to Coolalinga Tavern) and the trading licence at Stone House Wine Bar and Kitchen which is sought in this application to be transferred to the Applicant.

7. This application relates to the substitution of the trading licence with late night authority to the Applicant to enable Ms O'Connor to continue the current liquor licence with the restaurant bar authority trading as specified in Paragraph 3 herein. It is a licence substitution on the same terms and conditions which already existed at the Stone House premises in without the takeaway authority.

8. Ms O'Connor, the proposed nominee for this licence, has managed the Stone House premises at 33 Cavenagh Street, Darwin City 0800 (Licence No. 80318998) for several years under Ms Bullen, the former licensee

9. Investigations by Licensing NT and contained in the brief provided by Mark Wood to the Commission dated 29 September 2026 have not identified any issues of concern regarding the issue of the licence. It is of note that the previous licence had a takeaway authority that is not part of the current licence.

10. There are no objections to the issue of this licence which was advertised.

11. For the above reasons the licence is granted.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Section 31(1) read with section 60(3) of the Act provide that the decision set out in this decision notice is reviewable by the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal (**NTCAT**). Section 94(3) of the *NTCAT Act 2014* provides that an application for review of a reviewable decision must be lodged within 28 days of the date of the decision.

In accordance with section 31(2) of the Act, the persons who may apply to NTCAT for a review of the decision are the Applicant and Director.

Sally Gearin
Sally Gearin
COMMISSIONER
NORTHERN TERRITORY LIQUOR COMMISSION
9 November 2026

On behalf of Commissioners Gearin, Gelding, and Giesecke