

NTSV is looking for a suitably experienced Senior Legal Officer. Applications close Friday 11 November 2005. View the [Senior Legal Officer vacancy](#) document for full details.

NTSV is looking for a suitably experienced Future Acts Legal Officer. Applications close Friday 11 November 2005. View the [Future Acts Legal Officer vacancy](#) document for full details.

[Back to contents](#)

NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

ACT

Canberra to allow Indigenous land sale: Canberra's Indigenous community will be able to sell their land to individuals and businesses as part of a transformation of land rights to be unveiled, as early as next week, by the Howard Government. Under the latest reforms the 1976 Land Rights Act will be changed to allow Indigenous communities to exploit their traditional lands for financial purposes. The plans back a proposal made by ALP President and Howard appointee Warren Mundine who has mooted private ownership through an expanded lease system. Northern Land Council CEO Norman Fry and Indigenous leader Mick Dodson have pointed out that the current laws already allow for land to be leased for a wide range of purposes. Australian, pg 1 (04-Oct-05); Age pg 9 (06-Oct-05)

Federal

Minerals Council of Australia & Federal Govt sign MOU re. Indigenous communities: A memorandum of understanding has been reached between the Minerals Council of Australia and three Federal Government departments based on the industry's commitment to work co-operatively with, and "support the needs and aspirations of Indigenous communities". Results are intended to include improved employment opportunities and enterprise facilitation and will in the first instance be targeted at five pilot locations across the country. Mining Chronicle, pg 47, October 2005


Pearson: Land profits a solution to black poverty. Noel Pearson has called for a "reconciliation" between Indigenous communal land and an "urgent need" for private home ownership in a speech to the Centre for Independent Studies, 25 Oct 05. "There is no question that communal title is integral to Indigenous culture" said Pearson "It is equally true that transferable property rights are integral to development". Prof Mick Dodson said that "The suggestion that Indigenous people need to abandon

their traditions (of communal ownership) in order to engage with the modern world is nothing more than assimilation". Australian, pg 6 & pg 16 & pg 17 (26-Oct-05)

Indigenous housing-One size does not fit all: "Practical reconciliation" policies have failed to deliver the most basic of human needs-adequate housing, says Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Sen Chris Evans. "Rather than focus on private land ownership on remote Aboriginal communal land the Howard Government must address the need for basic public housing" said Evans. Media Release, Labor Party, pg 59 (25-Oct-05)

Review of native title process: Senior lawyers, Graham Hiley, QC and Ken Levy have been appointed to review the process for resolving native title claims and will report to the Federal Government by April 2006. "The review will consider how the (Federal) Court and the (National Native Title) Tribunal can work more effectively in managing and resolving native title claims", said Attorney-General Phillip Ruddock. Northern Star, pg 9 (18-Oct-05); Daily Examiner, pg 10 (18-Oct-05); Cairns Post, pg 11 (18-Oct-05); Cairns Post, pg 11 (18-Oct-05); Daily News, pg 7 (18-Oct-05); Launceston Examiner, pg 28 (18-Oct-05); Morning Bulletin, pg 14 (18-Oct-05); Queensland Times, pg 12 (18-Oct-05); Media Release, Liberal Party, pg 15 (17 Oct 05); Maitland Mercury, pg 7; Daily Advertiser, pg 9; Queensland Country Life, pg 7 (20 Oct 05)

Shadow ministers express concern about native title process review: Shadow Attorney-General Nicola Roxon and Shadow Indigenous Affairs Minister Chris Evans have expressed concern that no Indigenous representatives have been appointed to consult on or oversee the review of the native title system. Goldfields Land & Sea Council executive director Brian Wyatt has also claimed that the Review process is fundamentally compromised by the absence of any Aboriginal representation on the steering committee. "Without a representative the review is unlikely to be fair and balanced but will merely be an erosion of the hard-fought gains of



Aboriginal people" said Mr Wyatt. "It's time for Aboriginal people to be given a real say on where Native Title is to go to from here by including them on the steering committee of this important review". Media Release, Labor Party, pg 11(17-Oct-05); Kalgoorlie Miner, pg 4 (21 Oct 05)

ALP rift over land rights: NSW State Labor MP and senior left-wing Indigenous figure Linda Burney is outraged by her party's support for the privatisation of Aboriginal land in the Northern Territory and believes that Indigenous people will lose their land if they sign 99-year leases. The Federal government wants to see these changes adopted nationally and will begin negotiations with state governments to encourage them to change their laws. "The agenda is not about providing more houses; it's about making sure that Aboriginal people don't have different land tenure. That's what this is all about" said Ms Burney "...I am perturbed that there seems to have been an embracing of the approach without discussion with Indigenous Labor members". Weekend Australian, pg 15 (15-Oct-05); Northern Territory News, pg 2 (24 Oct 05)

Vanstone responds to Oxfam: Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs Minister Amanda Vanstone wrote in response to Andrew Hewitt (Oxfam Australia) that she does not see amendments to the Land Rights Act as the solution to severe economic disadvantage in remote Australian Indigenous communities. "The Government remains committed to tackling the issues identified by Mr Hewitt, namely investing in education, health, housing and infrastructure. But this does not mean that we cannot move on land tenure issues at the same time" said Vanstone. North West Star, pg 6 (14-Oct-05)

200th ILUA signed: The National Native Title Tribunal has registered the 200th Indigenous Land Use Agreement. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma said that these ILUAs have allowed (various stakeholders) to proceed with developments while at the same time ensuring the rights and interests of traditional owners were recognised. Broome Advertiser, pg 3 (13-Oct-05); Koori Mail, pg 8 (5 Oct 05)
http://www.nntt.gov.au/ilua/1128065466_2148.html and
http://www.nntt.gov.au/media/1128302683_3736.html

Indigenous groups cautiously welcome land reform: Various Indigenous groups have cautiously welcomed reform to allow individual leases on communal lands but say it should not lead to a cut in spending. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commissioner Tom Calma says that the new access to equity must not be seen by governments as a way to substitute investment and service provision in


remote areas. Cairns Post, pg 14 (07-Oct-05); Daily Liberal pg 6 (07-Oct-05)

Indigenous housing loans 'unaffordable': NT Labor MP Warren Snowden says home ownership alone would not address Indigenous poverty. "Even under the most generous concessional rates available from Indigenous Business Australia I can't see many people getting their own houses through this scheme". IBA chairman Joseph Elu said that a family with a combined income of \$30000/year would "struggle" to finance a loan. Australian, pg 2 (07-Oct-05)

Oxfam criticise Indigenous land reform: Plans to allow traditional owners to lease out entire towns on Aboriginal land have been criticised by major aid organisation Oxfam. "(T)hese new changes will only benefit the few and not the many, which makes one wonder why they are looking at the issue as a priority. The real issues that need to be tackled to boost economic and social development and address housing needs include greater investment in education, health, housing and infrastructure and developing innovative public-private partnerships" said Executive Director Andrew Hewett. North West Star, pg 8 (07-Oct-05)

Traditional owners to lease towns: Traditional owners would be able to lease whole towns under changes to the Land Rights Act. Indigenous Affairs Minister Amanda Vanstone said that the move would encourage more private sector investment, while traditional owners would retain communal title. A fund of \$7.3 has been established for low-interest home loans to potential Indigenous home-owners. Canberra Times, pg 5 (06-Oct-05); Cairns Post pg 18 (06-Oct-05); Geelong Advertiser, pg 9 (06-Oct-05); Herald Sun, pg 34 (06-Oct-05); News Mail, pg 11 (06-Oct-05); Sunshine Coast Daily, pg 14 (06-Oct-05); Bendigo Advertiser, pg 14 (06-Oct-05); Queensland Times, pg 12 (06-Oct-05); Australian Financial Review, pg 5 (06-Oct-05); Daily Times pg 7 (06-Oct-05); Frazer Coast Chronicle, pg 11 (06-Oct-05); Launceston Examiner pg 63 (06-Oct-05); North West Star pg 5 (06-Oct-05); Shepparton News pg 19 (06-Oct-05); Warrnambool Standard, pg 5 (06-Oct-05); Joint Media Release-Amanda Vanstone, Kay Patterson & Kevin Andrews, (5 Oct 05); Media Release-Amanda Vanstone (5 Oct 05); Daily Advertiser, pg 20 (6 Oct 05); Barrier Daily Truth, pg 8 (6 Oct 05); Katherine Times, pg 5 (12 Oct 05); Koori Mail, pg 8 (19 Oct 05)

Reform bill 'too complex, unworkable': Proposed legislation aimed at improving corporate governance of Indigenous bodies is too complex and unworkable a parliamentary enquiry has heard. If passed, the legislation will take effect from July 2006 and replace the Councils and Associations Act 1976. North Queensland Land Council PLO Martin Dore said "We seem to have gone from a piece of legislation which is quite simple to something which is in excess of 500 pages and quite complex" and pointed out that the bill lacks transitional provisions for moving to a new corporate government structure" while Central Land Council senior lawyer Michael Prowse said that "Many Aboriginal corporations that operate in Central



Australia will be unable to comply with the provisions of the bill...it's quite possible that things will be more problematic than they were under the previous act". Age, pg 9 (06-Oct-05)

Palm say no to land sales: Palm Island Council chairwoman Erykah Kyle said that new policies allowing the sale of communally owned Indigenous land sounded ridiculous and amounted to the Government wanting to steal their birthrights. "Aboriginal people don't sell land...stop stealing Aboriginal land" she said. Townsville Bulletin, pg 2 (06-Oct-05)

PM will honour assurances on land rights: Reconciliation Australia co-chairs: Co-chairs of Reconciliation Australia Jackie Huggins and Mark Leibler say that, while the proof of proposed amendments to land rights legislation will be in their implementation, an announcement made by the Prime Minister at the National Reconciliation Planning Workshop appears to honour the guarantee that land rights would not be undermined. Mr Leibler cautioned that "Changes can and only will work if they are made in genuine partnership with Indigenous communities and if Indigenous people are given real decision-making power". Reconciliation Australia Media Release, pg 7 (06-Oct-05)

Indigenous land-owners shut out of 'secret land talks': The Federal Opposition says that Indigenous land-owners are being shut out of secret talks about plans to give new local councils the power to sell Indigenous land through 99-year leases. It is believed that Indigeneity may not be a prerequisite for eligibility to sit on the councils which will either be developed from existing land councils or created. Opposition Indigenous spokesperson Chris Evans attacked the Government saying it is leaving Indigenous people out of discussions. Changes include: removing the right of traditional owners to veto development projects on their land and giving territory and federal governments the right to compulsorily acquire land if traditional owners unreasonably refuse an application for a private lease. Adelaide Advertiser, pg 35; Senator Chris Evans (Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs) Media Release 4 Oct 05

Changes to Land Rights Act will 'encourage' Indigenous home ownership: Under sweeping changes to communal land ownership the Land Rights Act reforms will be designed to encourage private ownership in Indigenous communities and allow businesses and non-Indigenous interests to lease land belonging to traditional owners. Age, pg 9 (05-Oct-05); Northern Territory News, pg 3 (05-Oct-05); Northern Star, pg 16 (6 Oct 05); Daily Examiner pg 12 (6 Oct 05); Morning Bulletin, pg 20 (05-Oct-05); Australian pg 1 (05-Oct-05); pg 2; pg 13; Burnie Advocate pg 13 (6 Oct 05); Toowoomba Chronicle pg 18 (6 Oct 05); Courier Mail pg 11 (6 Oct 05); Daily Telegraph pg 23 (6 Oct 05); Gympie Times pg 6 (6 Oct 05); Canberra Times pg 16 (editorial 6 Oct 05)


O'Shane slams land plan: Opportunistic real estate agents will be lining up to sell Aboriginal land to whites if the Howard government legislates to allow communally held land to be sold. North Queensland Land Council chairman, Terry O'Shane said that the Federal Government would start with the Northern Territory and then 'attack' the rest of the nation. Land will be bought by developers and then 'people will move out into the cities and be hanging around and living in abject squalor' said O'Shane. Australian, pg 3 (05-Oct-05)

Govt endorses Indigenous Fishing Principles: Support from the Federal Government represents an important step in the adoption of national benchmarks for practical policies addressing customary fishing interests and Indigenous participation in fisheries-related business and fisheries management. Governments and business made strong commitments to encourage Indigenous participation in fisheries-related businesses. Koori Mail, pg 82 (21-Sep-05) [Not solely NNTT related, refer to website for useful link](http://www.nntt.gov.au/media/Projects.html)

Ruddock hosts meeting to discuss Native Title system review: State and Territory representatives met to discuss native title reform in Canberra on the 18 September 2005. "This is the first time that native title ministers across Australia have met to discuss common challenges facing the native title system" Mr Ruddock said. Warrnambool Standard, pg 13 (16-Sep-05); Northern Territory News, pg 2 (16-Sep-05); AG Dept media release (15-Sep-05); Daily Liberal, pg 4 (19-Sep-05); Illawarra Mercury, pg 10 (17-Sep-05); Adelaide Advertiser, pg 30 (17-Sep-05); Border Mail, pg 16 (17-Sep-05); Daily Telegraph, pg 9 (17-Sep-05); Northern Territory News, pg 12 (17-9-05); Townsville Bulletin, pg 10 (17-Sep-05); Esperance Express, pg 11 (20-Sep-05); Countryman, pg 11 (22-Sep-05); Barrier Daily Truth, pg 11 (17-Sep-05); Koori Mail, pg 3 (21-Sep-05)

Native Title changes on the agenda: Ruddock: Proposed changes to the Native Title Act focus on making agreements rather than litigation. The Attorney-General has said that "this is not about challenging the fundamental principles of native title, or seeking to wind back native title rights". However, Opposition legal affairs spokeswoman Nicola Roxon claims that the proposals are too vague to allow for input from stakeholders and asks "Is it a coincidence that as soon as this government gains control of the Senate, it wants to revisit native title?" National Indigenous Times, pg 5 (15-Sep-05)

Support for Native Title review: There is broad support from the Goldfield's region for a review into Australia's native title process. Goldfield's Land and Sea Council executive director, Brian Wyatt welcomed the prospect of a faster, fairer and less costly process, while Mineral's Council Chief



Executive Mitchell Hook said that the Government's approach supported their own wish-list. National Farmers Federation Native Title Taskforce chair John Stewart said that rural industry welcomed the recognition by the Attorney-General that there is room for improvement. *Kalgoorlie Miner*, pg 10 (10-Sep-05); *Queensland Country Life* (15-9-05)

<http://www.ag.gov.au/nativetitlesystemreform>

Farmers back moves to improve the native title process: The plan to reform the native title system was welcomed by the Native Title Taskforce established by the National Farmer's Federation. "NFF agrees with the fundamental principles of native title but the current process is too slow, too time-consuming and too costly" said NFF Native Title Taskforce chair Mr John Stewart. "Importantly, NFF seeks to ensure that any amendments...are not detrimental to respondents being able to litigate an outcome if this is seen as essential". NFF News Release 08-Sep-05

NSW

Cowarra dam opening acknowledges native title: The Cowarra Dam has opened in the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area. At the opening ceremony recognition was given to the Bunyah Land Council of the native title rights of its members on the land. A number of land council members were employed on construction contracts associated with the dam. *Port Macquarie News*, pg 5 (17-Oct-05) Unable to find agreement in Tribunal framework - suggest contacting NSW-ACT Registry directly (Freecall 1800 640 501)

State move to have extinguishment proceedings dismissed: Lake Victoria: The NSW Crown Solicitor has placed an Order of Motion before the Supreme Court seeking a dismissal of proceedings taken by Ms Dorothy Lawson, who has claimed loss of rights over the extinguishment of native title rights at Lake Victoria, on the grounds that the matter is already before the Federal Court. Advancement of Ms Lawson's claim has occurred at the same time as the native title claim for south western NSW. *Mildura Independent Star*, pg 3 (16-Oct-05) NPA97/2 NSD6165 Barkandji (Paakantyi) People # 9 Case Manager: Frank Russo

Mildura marina to go ahead after negotiation of ILUA with 2 groups: The Latji Latji and Wergaia native title groups have reached an agreement with Mildura Rural City Council over the use of a Murray River site for a marina. As part of the deal the council agreed to offer employment and training opportunities to claimants during development. *Australian Financial Review*, pg 55 (12-Oct-05); *Sunraysia Daily*, pg 21 (15 Oct 05); *Mildura Independent Star*, pg 3 (16 Oct 05) ILUA not lodged - in negotiation stage

Custodians seek right to negotiate over cycleway:


The Anderson family of Cabbage Tree island have defended their right to be involved in negotiations over the delayed cycleway in the Ballina Shire. "We have no objection to the cycleway as such-only put it on the Western side of the Coast Road as our ancestors are buried in dunes on the Eastern side" say Susan and Douglas Anderson. : In a hearing before the Land and Environment Court on 23 Sep 2005 Ballina Shire Council agreed to stop work on a cycleway between Ballina and Lennox Head while an appeal from native title claimants Susan and Douglas Anderson is heard. The Andersons say that the proposed route traverses a massacre site, that they were not adequately consulted by the Shire and that they were excluded from archaeological surveys of the site. The Land and Environment Court will consider the matter in a three-day hearing 9-11 November. *Northern Star*, pg 3 (26-Sep-05); *Coffs Coast Advocate*, pg 6 (27-Sep-05), *Northern Star*, pg 10 (05-Oct-05) GeoSpatial search over the Ballina LGA results = 2. However the Applicant / Claimant names do not include those listed. Further information may need to be sought from the NSW Registry Freecall 1800 640 501

Wiradjuri people make native title claim: The Native Title Tribunal has received an application for 2860h of land 13km SE of Ulan northwest of Mudgee. The primary purpose of the application is to establish negotiation rights in relation to the Ulan coal mine owned by Enex Resources Ltd and Mitsubishi Development Pty Ltd. *Wellington Times* (05-Oct-05)

Council oppose Fiveborough swamp land claim: Leeton Shire will respond to a NSW Land Rights claim over the Fiveborough Swamp area "because it is used substantially, you have the management trust, council using it for sewerage and stormwater and you have leases in there". This is the first time that the Council has opposed a claim in its boundaries. *Irrigator*, pg 1 (04-Oct-05); *Daily Advertiser* pg 6 (7 Oct 05)

Claim on Wanaruah pond, Mussellbrook: Muswellbrook based Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Land Council have claimed Wollobi millpond under the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act. The 2.85ha site is a water reserve under the Rural Lands Protection Board. The claim will be assessed by the NSW Lands Department. *Newcastle Herald*, pg 26 (01-Oct-05)

How a 150 year old blanket can help settle a native title claim: State Library Indigenous Service librarian, Ronald Briggs says that records of blanket distributions, which usually recorded the English name, 'native' name, children and place of settlement of recipients, can be used by people researching native title claims to help establish residency in a particular area. *Sydney Morning Herald*, pg 14 (19-Sep-05)



Elder lodges claim to halt Worimi sale: A Worimi elder has lodged a native title claim over land at Worimi to prevent its sale by the Worimi Land Council. "It is a traditional place where women used to go and give birth and do women's business, where men could not go" said Elder, Mr Worimi Dates. Worimi administrator, Peter Hillig defended the voting process saying the meetings were well attended, the ALRA had been complied with and that there was no evidence of impropriety. Port Steven's Examiner, pg 3 (08-Sep-05) There has been a recent Non-claimant NTDA filed relating to the Worimi name (NN05/7). But no recent claim, suggest contacting the NSW Registry on Freecall 1800 640 501 for clarification

Claim call is close: The Department of Lands has completed an investigation into an ALRA claim lodged over 43 lots of the Collina Stage 10 development. "The outcome will be made public once the Minister has made his determination said Department spokesperson John McClymont. Area News, Griffith, pg 10 (07-Sep-05)

Native title claim filed for Wilpinjong site: An application for native title over the Wilpinjong Mine area has been lodged by three people representing the North Eastern area of the Wiradjuri people: William Garry Allen, Martin de Laurney and Lynette Syme. The claim covers approximately 28.5 sq km. Mudgee Guardian & Gulong Advertiser, pg 2 (06-Sep-05); Mudgee Guardian & Gulong Advertiser pg 3 (13-Sep-05) Application made for registration of native title claim NC05/1 NSD1089/05 Case Manager: Nicole Maher In notification from 21/09 - 20/12/05

Northern Territory

Ord development delayed pending NT/WA negotiations: Now that the WA State Government have entered into a development agreement with Miriwung-Gajerrong claimants for the Ord River they must present an analysis of the development before the NT government can commit to the scheme said NT Primary Industry and Fisheries Minister Kon Vatskalis. If they do support the scheme it is likely that a new town will need to be built, capital investment must be sought and a compensation package would need to be negotiated to extinguish any claims for native title. Northern Territory News, (31-Oct-05) Miriwung Gajerrong WC94/2, WAD6001/96 Case Manager: Sandra Barkla

Vanstone responds to Woodward: Changes to the Northern Territory Land Rights Act will apply only to townships on Aboriginal land and not to the vast bulk of the land that makes up almost half of the Northern Territory, said Indigenous Affairs Minister Amanda Vanstone. "The reforms will provide the opportunity for secure tenure for those people who have lived their whole lives without the legal security that the rest of Australians take for granted, while respecting


the rights of Traditional Owners" said Minister Vanstone. Northern Territory News, pg 12 (18-Oct-05)

Doctor urges caution before accepting NT Land Rights Act amendments: Ex-public health and flying doctor Colin Hughes warns that the privatisation of Indigenous lands will lead to patterns seen elsewhere in the world i.e. create debt, ignore negative determinants (such as poor infrastructure), raise interest rates, make service delivery dependant on interest debt repayments, impose economic management and introduce fees for basic services, repatriate any valuable property to sell to multinationals, and force families to leave their land. "I warn (Indigenous communities) to consider very carefully before accepting dreams of "wealth creation" from private ownership" said Dr Hughes. Echo, pg 4 (15-Oct-05)

CLC slam land rights amendments: The CLC has labelled amendments to the NT Land Rights Act expensive and unnecessary. "Aboriginal people are being forced to pay for these new arrangements from the Aboriginal Benefits Account which is for community development purposes. Furthermore they are being asked to forfeit any benefits from commercial development on their communities in future...It is a waste to introduce a whole new land tenure system merely because successive NT governments have refused to acknowledge or use the Act" said CLC director David Ross. Tennant & District Times, pg 8 (14-Oct-05)

Yolngu get land and sea rights-Blue Mud Bay: A native title determination at Yirrkala has recognised Yolngu land and sea rights and exclusive rights over areas of Aboriginal Land Trust land within the claim area. The non-exclusive nature of the sea rights recognised by Justice Mansfield represents a further clarification of the nature of these rights according to Native Title Tribunal president Graeme Neate. Rights of the 501km area of sea include the rights to hunt, fish, gather and use resources, including the right to take turtle and dugong for personal, domestic or non-commercial exchange or communal consumption. Territory News, pg 3 (14-Oct-05); Koori Mail, pg 11 (19 Oct 05) Ballarat Courier, (12-Oct-05); Australian, pg 6 (12 Oct 05); Northern Territory News pg 3 (12 Oct 05); sPress, pg 9 (18 Oct 05) Blue Mud Bay #2 DC02/34 NTD6035/02 Case Manager: Tony Shelley

Whites could own Aboriginal land: Sir Edward Woodward, who headed a royal commission into Aboriginal land rights in the 1970s does not see how 99 year leases and communal ownership can be intermingled and has warned that Aboriginal land could end up being owned by non-Aborigines. "I am...worried that it might be a backdoor method of getting a lot of Aboriginal land into a situation where it can be purchased by non-Aborigines". Woodward is



also concerned that the opportunities to exploit those who are not adept at managing negotiations may see those people "left behind. So that you'll find a big gap opening up between the very rich and the very poor, such as we have in our own society". Northern Territory News, pg 5 (12-Oct-05)

John Reeves QC believes that individual leasing of communal land is not enough: Darwin QC and author of the 1998 Reeve Review into the NT Land Rights Act believes that the administration of 99 year leases over lands currently communal held should be undertaken by a new authority and taken out of the hands of lands councils. "If (the Federal government) continue to allow land councils to issue permits to control access to Aboriginal communities...they won't address the sorts of problems we are talking about" said Reeves. Central Land Council director David Ross however said that Aboriginal people support the permit system as a way of "controlling people who come and go on their land". Weekend Australian, pg 8 (08-Oct-05); Sunday Territorian, pg 20 (23 Oct 05)

Yeperenye shopping centre transferred to Aboriginal trusts: Native title body Lhere Artepe and Aboriginal investment company Centrecorp now hold all shares in the Yeperenye shopping centre, in Alice Springs. The shopping centre had previously been owned by ATSIC. Centralian Advocate (07-Oct-05)

Traditional owners blast N-dump plan
Traditional owners and environmentalists have hit out at Federal legislation intended to force a nuclear waste dump on the Northern Territory. Science minister Brendan Nelson has introduced a bill intended to overturn a Northern Territory law specifically designed to prevent the dump from going ahead. The legislation will also bar any challenges under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act and the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and includes a section to allow the acquisition or over-riding of remaining interests in the chosen site and another section to overcome state or territory objections to the transportation of waste to the site. The Central Land Council has said of the Bill that it "shows an outrageous disregard for the views of Territorians". Koori Mail, pg 7 & pg 20 (19-Oct-05)

Queensland
New sewerage system as part of ILUA in Cape York: A modern sewerage system is to be installed in remote Pormpuraaw on the west coast of Cape York to replace septic tanks which flood in the wet season as part of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement negotiated by the Mihn Boro people, the Pormpuraaw Shire Council and the State Government. The ILUA also includes job opportunities and protection of cultural heritage sites. Cairns Post, pg 11 (22-Oct-05); Koori Mail, pg 11 (19 Oct 05) QI2002/48 Minh Way Warr

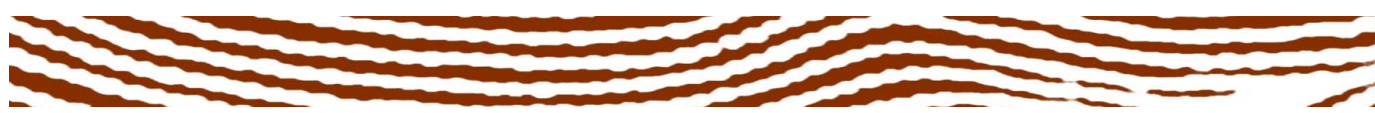
Sewerage Works ILUA [National Native Title Tribunal: Media Release: Native title agreement delivers community sewerage system, http://www.nntt.gov.au/ilua/1128480247_3452.html](http://www.nntt.gov.au/ilua/1128480247_3452.html)

Pandanus Park arguments continue: Plans to hand back part of the Pandanus Park pastoral lease, currently occupied by Vietnam Veterans, to traditional owners as part of a native title agreement have been described by Opposition Leader Lawrence Springborg as "the dirtiest, dodgiest deal Beattie has done yet". Vietnam Veterans spokesman Les Hiddins ("the bush tucker man") said the Government "had best remind the Aboriginal people who are receiving the land that it comes complete with a couple of hundred war veterans". Kalpowar Station Elder Gerhardt Powar said that the Indigenous owners had agreed to give up half their claim to the Kalpowar aggregate so a national park could be developed for conservation, in exchange for a granting of freehold land on other parts. "We have got no intentions whatsoever of trying to lock the veterans out of this arrangement" he said. However, Les Hiddins said the veterans did not want to negotiate and sought a state government commitment that they will not be kicked off the land. Cairns Post, pg 9 (20-Oct-05); Courier Mail, pg 4 (20-Oct-05); Sunday Mail, pg 30 (23 Oct 05); Cairns Post, pg 29 (29 Oct 05) Kalpowar Holdings QC97/48 QUD6155/98 Case Manager: Karrell Ross

Land at Peranga, Qld may be affected by native title: Rosalie Shire Council have offered support to the Peranga Community Association for the leasing of vacant Crown land by the Department of Natural Resources as a park and recreation area. However, DNR has told Council that it has not been able to determine that native title has been extinguished on Lots 604-618 on Plan P6122 and therefore any issue of native title would need to be addressed by Council. Oakey Champion, pg 5 (12-Oct-05) QC99/4 QUD6004/99 Western Wakka Wakka People QC99/33 QUD6032/99 Wakka Wakka People 2

Land at Boyne Island and Tannum Sands under claim: The release of unallocated lands at Boyne Island and Tannum Sands cannot take place until the Qld State Government negotiates native title agreements. Gladstone Observer, pg 3 (08-Oct-05) QC97/21 QUD6131/98, Darumbal People, QC00/7, QUD6006/00, Wulli Wulli People, Case Manager: Clare Stehbens

Palm Island Community Council breaks ranks over individual leasing of communal land: Palm Island Community Councillor Magdalena Blackley has backed plans for private land ownership on the island, breaking ranks with Council leader Erykah Kyle. "Many of us realise the potential for leasing land but it has to be dealt with in a clear and transparent way" said Cr Blackley, while Cr Kyle believes the plans are



"ridiculous". Federal Liberal MP Peter Lindsay spoke at Palm Island saying "Palm Island is a hopeless community and it's got to change and the community leaders on Palm Island have to be the agents of that change, not me". Lindsay has written to Sen Amanda Vanstone to ask that she do everything in her power to extend the Northern Territory initiatives to communities such as Palm Island. *Townsville Bulletin*, pg 6 (07-Oct-05) ; *Australian*, pg 2 (07-Oct-05)

Native title issues affecting the Trekelano deposit resolved: Osbourne Mine general manager Noel Foley said that native title issues affecting the Trekelano copper ore deposit near Duchess in NW Queensland have been resolved. *North West Star*, pg 1 (07-Oct-05) Basic Geospatial analysis - results are nil for the Place Name recommend contacting Q'ld Registry

Maiawali Karuwali people and Zinaback mining enter into ILUA: An agreement negotiated between Maiawali and Karuwali native title claimants and gypsum mining company Zinaback allows mining to proceed in a 104h area SW of Winton in central-west Queensland and provides compensation to claimants. *Longreach Leader*, pg 3 (07-Oct-05) ; *Gold and Minerals Gazette*, pg 2 (October 2005)

Dam construction a step closer: SunWater and three traditional owner groups have announced a proposal to enter into an Indigenous Land Use Agreement to allow the construction of a pipeline from the Burdekin Falls Dam water reserves to Moranbah. Advertisements call for people who claim to have native title interests in the area to register their interest by October 5 2005. *Northern Miner*, pg 3 (27-Sep-05)

Kullili Traditional Owner Group and Santos sign ILUA: The Kullili Traditional Owners Group and Santos Oil and Gas have signed an ILUA over two parcels of land located between Eromanga and Thargomindah in far SW Qld. The ILUA includes employment opportunities for Kullili people in addition to the permanent and casual cultural heritage monitors employed for the duration of the project. *Toowoomba Chronicle*, pg 6 (24-Sep-05) Agreement only - no lodged ILUA. For further information please call Cairns Registry Freecall 1800 640 501

Queensland: Torres Strait Islands

Torres Strait negotiating team seek recognition of sea rights as private rights: The TSI Negotiating Team made up of representatives of each of the 14 Torres Strait Islands has been assembled and has instructed their legal representatives to argue for the highest level of native title rights that can be recognised under Australian law. "We believe that we would be doing our people an injustice by not continuing to fight for our rights in the sea...(although) we are aware that the Australian legal system may

not give us the 'full loaf of bread'" says Bully Hayes Saylor, Darnley Island Chairman. *Torres News*, pg 15 (21 Sep 05)

South Australia


Negotiations lead to 5 year exploration license in the Cooper Basin: Extensive negotiations for land access between the SA Government, native title claimants and Eagle Bay Resources have led to a new 5 year \$21.55m oil and gas exploration license being granted to Eagle Bay resources in the Cooper Basin. *Mining Chronicle*, pg 24 October 2005 Currently not the subject of a ILUA, Future Act - agreement may have ben negotiated outside Tribunal framework

ANTaR, Australian Peace Committee and Human Rights Coalition deplore APY amendment process: "We deplore the way in which the amendments to the Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Bill were passed" say senior figures in Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation, the Australian Peace Commission and the South Australian Peace Coalition in a letter to the Editor. "The State Government has been intent on barrelling through with this legislation, despite widespread opposition from the majority of the traditional owners, who are concerned over the loss of their rights". *Independent Weekly*, pg 6 (30-Oct-05); *Sunday Mail*, pg 95 (30 Oct 05)

Pitjantjatjara amendment bill passed: In a marathon sitting the Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Bill, which affects governance of the communities in the State's far north was passed by the SA Parliament at 4.15am on the 20th Oct 05. Greens MP Kris Hanna debated every clause and so, as the Government demanded that the Bill be passed overnight, it took all night. *Independent Weekly*, pg 2 (23-Oct-05); *Adelaide Advertiser*, pg 4 (21 Oct 05)

Film of historic land deal: A video documenting a native title agreement between the Narungga people; SA State Government; and the Yorke Peninsula, Burunga West, Copper Coast and Wakefield Regional Councils has been launched. The video follows the Narungga Indigenous Land Use Agreement from its preliminary stages through to its signing in Dec 2004. *Adelaide Advertiser*, pg 31 (06-Oct-05) ; *Yorke Peninsula Country Times-Kadina*, pg 14 (5 Oct 05) SI2003/004 Case Manager: Greg Jervi, http://www.nntt.gov.au/ilua/1128643309_3868.html

ALRM hold meeting to discuss Ngarrindjeri & other native title claims: The Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement have called a meeting to discuss Ngarrindjeri and other native title claims 8-9 Oct 05. The subject of the claim is land from Cape Jervis to just north of Cape Jaffa and includes the entire Coorong, inland to Tintinara and Murray Bridge. All people with native title interests in this area are invited to attend, authorisation matters and the state-



wide ILUA strategy will be discussed and representatives chosen to negotiate an ILUA. Times, pg 9 (06-Oct-05) SC98/4 SAD6027/98 Ngarrindjeri and Others Native Title Claim, Case Manager: Monica Khouri

APY want SA Govt to withdraw legislation: A group of traditional owners from the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands have vowed to maintain their pressure on the SA government who they believe want to water down their rights on APY lands. They believe that the proposed legislation will threaten governance and control of their lands, places considerable new power in the hands of the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation and will undermine the influence and decision-making power of traditional owners. Koori Mail, pg 15 (05-Oct-05) SC95/7 SAD6007/98 Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara SC97/9 SAD6022/98 Yankunytjatjara/Antakirinja Native Title Claim Case Manager: Monica Khouri

South Australian government considering ILUA: The first SA ILUA with the support of local governments is being considered by the State Government. The Narungga Indigenous Land Use Agreement is being negotiated by councils on the Yorke Peninsula and is to be part of a state-wide template. The negotiations aim to promote the co-operation of government in fishing, mining and agricultural areas affected by the native title agreement. Adelaide Advertiser, pg 29 (28-Sep-05)

Reconciliation agreement launched: A groundbreaking reconciliation agreement was launched on the 9 Sep 2005. The centrepiece of the agreement is the Kurna Business and Heritage Centre at Noarlunga which provides a range of business services. The agreement acknowledges that the land was taken over by European settlers without consent or agreement and recognises the Kurna people as the traditional owners of the region, evidenced by their native title claim. It includes the statement "We regret the suffering this dispossession has created for Aboriginal people and pledge to work together to counter this". Times, pg 8 (08-Sep-05); Guardian Messenger, pg 4 (14-Sep-05); Southern Times Messenger, pg 11 (14-Sep-05) Kurna Peoples NT Claim SC00/1; SAD6001/00 CASE MANAGER: Monica Khouri. This agreement may have been made outside the NNTT process. Advise contacting the CM for clarification

Disputes have arisen over the boundaries of 2 native title claims in the Ayre Peninsula: The proposed Barnjarla claim extends over much of the lower Ayre Peninsula while other neighbouring claims include the Nauo-Barnjarla claim to the west and the Kokotha claim to the north. The matter has been referred to the National Native Title Tribunal for mediation. If the tribunal fails to resolve the dispute,

the Federal Court would hear the Kokotha-Barnjarla overlap case in late 2006 or early 2007 according to Local Government Association barrister Rosemary Craddock. Port Lincoln Times, pg 6 (06-Sep-05) SC96/4; SAD6011/98 CASE MANAGER: Greg Jervis Nauo-Barnjarla NT Claim; SC97/8; SAD6021/98 CASE MANAGER: Greg Jervis; Kokotha NT Claim SC99/2; SAD6013/98 CASE MANAGER: Monica Khouri

First ILUA for South Australia:

Chamber of Mines & Energy has hailed the signing of the state's first ILUA between Stellar Resources and the Antakarinja people as a "triumph of cooperation and goodwill". Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement CEO Parry Agius said that the ILUA system had instilled Indigenous people from SA with a confidence that explorers would abide by the conditions on which they operated on their land. Australia's Mining Monthly, pg. 9 (September 2005) CASE MANAGER: Monica Khori Registered 14/06/05

Victoria

Dja Dja Wurrung and Diamond Hill Mining reach agreement: Dja Dja Wurrung native title claimants and Diamond Hill Mining have reached an agreement for the use of Crown land in central Victoria to explore for gold. Bendigo Advertiser, pg 2 (20-Oct-05) VI2005/003 Case Manager: Hamish McLeod

Sacred sites laws to toughen: All developments will be checked for sensitive Aboriginal links before approval under Victoria's new proposed planning laws. Victoria's peak funding body said that the checks will add \$2000 on average to the cost of building a new home Herald Sun, pg 2 (19-Oct-05); Herald Sun pg 13 (20 Oct 05); sPress pg 9 (25 Oct 05)

Point Nepean native title claim prepared for filing: A claim by the Bunurong Land Council to Point Nepean is being finalised in preparation for filing with the Federal Court. The claimed land includes areas of Port Phillip, including Mud Island. Stephen Compton, Land Council spokesman said "We think we can succeed, even though essentially the Native Title Act was created by the government to bypass our rights". The Bunurong people have lawyers drawing up a submission to the National Native Title Tribunal claiming native title over a large part of Port Phillip Bay and its coastline. Bunurong Land Council Corporation spokesman Stephen Compton said "For people like us to have a say about what is happening on the land the only avenue is native title. We are concerned about dredging...and the subdividing of land at Point Nepean". Mornington-Southern Peninsula Mail, pg 5 (13-Oct-05); Frankston Hastings Independent, pg 23 (18 Oct 05); Herald Sun, pg 11 (27-Sep-05) NTDA does not appear to have been filed as yet - for more information please contact the Vic-Tas Registry on Freecall 1800 640 501



Western Australia

Native title linked to Indigenous employment:

Employment and training opportunities have emerged as important objectives in future act negotiations with traditional owners across Australia according to Yamatji Marlpa Barna Bama Maaja executive director Simon Hawkins. The organisation has taken part in discussions with mining companies to adopt collaborative and mutually-beneficial outcomes, including employment and training initiatives, however "Many concerns held by traditional owners about the impact of industrial development in the region-such as its effect on existing education, transport, housing and health services-are the responsibility of government...Government investment in supportive infrastructure can significantly increase the benefits that employment initiatives bring to Indigenous communities". Mining Chronicle, pg 48, October 2005

Claim over Bunbury land, WA: The Single Noongar claim has had a hearing in Ellensbrook with evidence taken in relation to the Bunbury area. The claim covers most of the south-west area of WA and if it is successful, traditional owners are likely to seek millions of dollars in compensation. Single Noongar claim solicitor Christine Cooper said "It is one of the largest claims in the country and it's also a claim that includes a capital city...We're very confident of a successful outcome". Bunbury Mail, pg 22 (26-Oct-05)
Associated NTDA's, WC03/6 WAD6006/03
Single Noongar Claim, WC96/18 WAD137/98
Corrie Bodney WC95/46 WAD6010/98
Swanbourne WC95/86 WAD149/98
Ballaruke People WC96/46 WAD139/98
Burswood Island WC96/45 WAD138/98
Waneroo Road Case Manager: Steve Edwards & Kristina Nilsson

Gascoyne native title claim seeking respondents:

People with an interest in an area of land in the upper Gascoyne region are being urged to respond to a native title application lodged for registration by the Budina people. The land is 150km south east of Exmouth, between the North West Coastal Highway and the Mullewa Stock Route. National Native Title Tribunal case manager Chris Scroggin said becoming a party to a native title claim meant everyone with an interest in the claim area could put forward their views about how native title might affect them. Closing date for respondents is the 1st Feb 2006. Geraldton Guardian, pg 5 (21-Oct-05) Further information is available from the Tribunal on 1800 640 501. WC04/5 WAD131/04
CM: Paul Willaway

KLC say WA State cannot be trusted to deliver on native title: The Kimberley Land Council has said that the WA State government's withdrawal from the Rubibi negotiations is proof that they cannot be relied

upon to deliver on native title rights and interests. "This is a sad outcome" said KLC executive director Wayne Bergman "...Under the current system the State and Rubibi were within sight of settling the long-running Rubibi case by consent. The good faith delivered by the Rubibi people during mediation has been completely dishonoured by the State. How can we rely on them to act in our interests? We are worried about the State's intention in supporting changes to the Native Title Act. Will it really mean a weakening of Aboriginal people's position, and an easier ride for everyone else?" Koori Mail, pg 8 (19-Oct-05)
WC99/23 WAD6006/98, Rubibi
WC04/6 WAD223/04, Rubibi #17 Case Manager: Sandra Barkla

Noongar claim could expose WA govt to massive compensation claim: The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council led Noongar Native Title Claim could open the way for a multimillion dollar compensation bill. Koori Mail, pg 11 (19-Oct-05)

Fears for ochre site: Wajarri Elders are negotiating with fledgling iron ore producers Midwest Corporation over the resources company's plans to mine in the Weld Ranges, which contain numerous culturally significant sites, including the ancient ochre mine, Wilgie Mia. A heritage agreement must be reached to allow the granting of previously ungranted tenements before exploration work can proceed. Geraldton Guardian, pg 5 (17-Oct-05)

Swanbourne native title hearing begins: Corrie Bodney, on behalf of the Ballaruk and Didjerak people, lodged a claim over an area stretching from Swanbourne to City Beach, north of Fremantle ten years ago. Mr Bodney is representing himself and said that people of the Ballaruk community were donating their time and money "They give a couple of dollars here, a couple of dollars there" he said. The Bodney claim is separate from the Noongar claim which is also being heard in Perth. Subiaco Post, pg 5 (15-Oct-05)

Argyle Diamonds make deal with traditional owners: Traditional owners, the Mirriwung, Gidja, Wularr and Malignin peoples have entered into a binding agreement with owners of Argyle Diamond, Rio Tinto. The Indigenous Land Use Agreement guarantees development approval for the extension of the underground mine in exchange for: a framework of mutual respect between TOs and miners; defining cultural heritage management issues; activating provisions of the Native Title Act to restore native title rights that have been lost through mining and pastoral tenures; substantial investment in training, employment and financial investments to benefit future generations; and encourages business development. The Argyle Participation Agreement is the third ILUA to be registered in WA. Golden Mail, pg 7



(14-Oct-05) WI2003/003 Argyle Diamond Mines Case Manager: Christine Scoggin

Fortescue reach agreement with claimants: After months of stormy negotiations with three claimant groups Fortescue Metals have signed access agreements for its \$2.3b iron ore project in the Pilbara. "Making sure our culture and heritage is looked after is very important to us as traditional owners" Raymond Drage of the Nyaiyaparli people said. "This deal includes a number of provisions that should help us protect our country and our culture now and for coming generations". Border Mail, pg 21 (13-Oct-05); Business News pg 5 (13-Oct-05); Morning Bulletin, pg34 (13-Oct-05); Australian, pg 24 (13-Oct-05); Daily Telegraph, pg 45 (13-Oct-05); Sydney Morning Herald, pg 24 (13-Oct-05); Australian Financial Review, pg 20 (13-Oct-05); Warrnambool Standard, pg 15 (13-Oct-05); West Australian, pg 43 (13-Oct-05); North West Telegraph, pg 3 (19 Oct 05); Pilbara News, pg 2 (19 Oct 05); Business News, pg 32 (20 Oct 05)

Noongar native title claim begins hearing in Federal Court: A claim prepared by the South West Land and Sea Council, representing 27,000 Noongar claimants began in the Federal Court on 11 Oct 2005 after the parties were unable to reach a mediated outcome. If the claim is upheld SWALSC will seek compensation for it's members for all unallocated crown land sold as freehold by the Government since the introduction of the Anti-discrimination Act of 1975. "It's a shame after 200 year we have nothing and are still not recognised" said Mogumber local member William Warrell "We don't want to take anything away from white people, we don't want to take anyone's backyard. All we want is a fair go". West Australian, pg 6 (11-Oct-05); and pg 16 (12 Oct 05); Central Midlands & Coastal Advocate, pg 7 (27 Oct 05)

Proposal to tap Fitzroy aquifer needs support from native title holders: After the Kimberley Land Council has prevented drilling into the Fitzroy River aquifer the WA state appointed panel intend to appoint a consultant who will attempt to negotiate a native title agreement with traditional owners that would allow the transport of Kimberley water to Perth. Two engineering firms have been appointed to assess cost, reliability and feasibility of sending the water 2300kms. Australian, pg 6 (10-Oct-05), Australian, pg 5 (7 Oct 05)

GLSC secure guarantee that WA will not grant individual titles without consultation: The Goldfields Land and Sea Council have received a guarantee from the WA State Premier that the State Government will consult Aboriginal Land Councils before considering granting individual land titles on communal lands. "Used in conjunction with its Shared Responsibility Agreements policy its easy to see how the Federal Government might force the hand of the State governments or individual Aboriginal communities to adopt the individual ownership doctrine regardless" said GLSC CEO Brian Wyatt.

"An irreversible decline in the area of land in possession of Aboriginal people is a real possibility. This was certainly the experience of Indian Americans when their land estates were transferred to fee simple freehold in the early part of last century". Kalgoorlie Miner, pg 14 (10-Oct-05); Goldfields Express, pg 23 7 Oct 05

Goldfields claim overlaps to be negotiated by claimants: Native title claims in the Goldfields may have to be re-drawn and re-lodged to resolve overlaps. Claimants met on 7 Oct to discuss the issues and the Native Title Tribunal will meet on 12 & 13 Oct with claimants from seven groups to explain the ramifications of overlaps and other issues that may delay the native title process. Kalgoorlie Miner, pg 10 (08-Oct-05) WC99/10 WAD6064/98 Wutha, WC995/WAD6008/98 Koara People, WC95/58 WAD6050/98 Sir Samuel, WC95/82 WAD6059/98 Sir Samuel #2, WC95/47 WAD6040/98 Tjupan, WC03/1 WAD6001/03 Tjupan #2, WC00/14 WAD6011/00 Ngalia Kutjungkatja, WC02/2 WAD6001/02 Ngalia KutjungKatja #2, Senior Case Manager: Kristina Nilsson

Gary Hamley WA ONT, wins State West Achievement Award: Gary Hamley has introduced a raft of changes, including increasing staff and resources and ensuring WA Office of Native Title representation at all Native Title mediation meetings, regional case management conferences and Federal Court direction hearings. Business News, pg 14 (06-Oct-05)

Miriuwung-Gajerrong strike \$50m native title deal: Australia's longest running native title claim will end this week with the go-ahead for Australia's biggest single irrigation scheme delivering benefits of over \$50m to claimants. In exchange for development approval over 65000 ha of farmland and national parks north and east of Kununurra and large scale cropping of about 33000ha of irrigated land claimants will receive a complex package of community benefits including funds for joint management of national parks, Indigenous input into future development and the hand back of culturally significant areas under freehold title. The deal will "pave the way for significant economic development in the region. It shows what can be achieved through negotiation" said West Australian Treasurer Eric Ripper. Kimberley Land Council CEO Wayne Bergman said "The history of Ord 1 is such that a huge healing process had to be gone through. Miriuwung Gajerrong people had a memory as kids of being carted away on trucks from Argyle station as it flooded, and being dumped in Kununurra. You had burial sites, sacred sites, all under water. Traditional owners would not move until they got assurances that what happened in Ord stage one would not happen a second time". Australian, pg 5 (03-Oct-05); Broome Advertiser pg 1 (6 Oct 05); Australian Financial Review, pg 69 (6 Oct 05); Kalgoorlie Miner pg 9 (6 Oct 05); Sunday Times pg 52 (9 Oct 05);



Daily Liberal pg 6 (7 Oct 05); Northern Territory News, pg 14 (7 Oct 05); Courier Mail pg 13 (7 Oct 05); Herald Sun pg 73 (7 Oct 05); West Australian pg 35 (7 Oct 05); Centralian Advocate pg 20 (7 Oct 05); Kimberley Echo pg 1 & 4(6 Oct 05); Business News pg 3 (13 Oct 05); Broome Advertiser, pg 5 (13 Oct 05); Farm Weekly pg 236 (13 Oct 05); Kimberley Times, pg 4 (13 Oct 05); Kimberley Echo, pg 3 (13 Oct 05); Australian, pg 5 (03-Oct-05); Koori Mail, pg 3 (19 Oct 05); National Indigenous Times, pg 15 (13 Oct 05)

Negotiations over future development in Broome collapse:

In an effective veto against expansion Broome's native title claimants have walked out of negotiations over future development, claiming that the State government has reneged on the centrepiece of the proposed agreement: exclusive possession of two pastoral leases north and south of Broome. Indigenous Labour MP Carol Martin has spoken out against her own government and accused them of betrayal. Kimberley Land Council executive director Wayne Bergman said: It is a failure of the Gallop Government to engage in good faith" while State Treasurer Eric Ripper said that the KLC were forcing the matter to court. Weekend Australian, pgs 6 & 31 (01-Oct-05); Australian, pg 6 (27-Sep-05)

GLSC call for funding for successful native title claimants:

GLSC have called for the Federal Government to examine support for successful native title claimants, concerned that there is not enough backup to manage land once native title has been recognised. "Once native title is settled there needs to be support for the body corporates which are set up to run them" said GLSC CEO Brian Wyatt. Kalgoorlie Miner, pg 7 (24-Sep-05)

Native title negotiations in Broome break down:

A year of negotiations between the KLC on behalf of Rubibi claimants and the State Government of WA has been 'wasted' because the State Government officials had no authority to enter into agreements and have resubmitted a settlement rejected by the TOs last year. The KLC said that it had wasted a year of time and money for all parties involved with none of the last years' negotiations feeding into any sort of agreement. Kimberley MLA Carol Martin said that she feels betrayed by her own government "Whenever a spanner goes in the works with native title people assume that it's the Aboriginal people making it difficult, but in the majority of cases it's the government...I'm really angry about this, the whole situation has arisen from a belligerent government not acting in goodwill". With negotiations back to square one, last September's agreement re. the release of land for a housing subdivision and aged care facility may be under threat as well. Broome Advertiser, pg 1 (22-Sep-05) Rubibi WC99/23; WAD223/02; Rubibi #17 WC04/6; WAD223/04 Case Manager: Sandra Barkla Possible Future Act. May also refer to activity outside NNTT negotiations

Minara hit by second title claim: Another Aboriginal group have mounted a WA Supreme Court action

over an alleged agreement relating to its Murrin Murrin nickel mine. The legal action by the Wutha people comes on top of a similar \$20million legal claim lodged in April by the NEIB Aboriginal Corporation in Kalgoorlie. The Wutha people claim that Minara has engaged in a series of breaches of the agreement deed signed in Sep 1996 and that Minara has breached the fiduciary duty owed to consult the Wutha people about mining operations and to consult in good faith about activities on native title land. West Australian, pg 32 (12-Sep-05) NNTT ref: WC99/10; FC ref: WAD6064 of 1998; Case Manager: Paul Willaway [NEIB Corporation incorporated under Native Title Act \(NTA\) for details refer to ORAC http://www.orac.gov.au/Search.aspx?Search=NEIB&Type=Name](http://www.orac.gov.au/Search.aspx?Search=NEIB&Type=Name)


Ballardong claim in notification: The Ballardong native title claim, which combines a large claim with five smaller claims, takes in an area of approximately 115,000 square kilometres in the Great Southern and Central Wheatbelt regions, underlies part of the Single Noongar Claim. After failing the registration test, the claim has been amended and is back in notification. Any person or organisation with an interest in the claim area has until Nov 23 to respond by applying to the district registrar of the Federal Court. Koori Mail, pg 68 (07-Sep-05) WC00/7; WAD6181/98 CASE MANAGER: Steve Edwards

Ngarlawangga claim in notification:

The Ngarlawangga claim covers about 6900 kilometres in the Pilbara region of WA and falls within three pastoral leases and two local government areas. Any person or organisation with an interest in the claim area has until Nov 23 to respond by applying to the district registrar of the Federal Court. Koori Mail, pg 68 (07-Sep-05) WC05/3; WAD78/05 CASE MANAGER: Gerry Putland

Ngarla 2 claim in notification: The Ngarla 2 claim abuts the Ngarla claim which has been registered since 1999 and covers approximately 10,100 square kilometres of land. During negotiations over this claim it became clear that the boundaries of the claim did not adequately describe the claimants' understanding of their traditional connection to the area and so the Ngarla 2 claim, which covers approximately 525 square kilometres was lodged. Any person or organisation with an interest in the claim area has until November 9 to respond by applying to the district registrar of the Federal Court. Koori Mail, pg 69 (07-Sep-05) WC05/2; WAD77/05; CASE MANAGER: Sharon Reynolds

Pilki claim in notification: The Pilki claim covers an area of approximately 24,400 square kilometres of land in the Great Victoria Desert. It is close to other



claim areas where native title has been found to exist. The claimants are represented by Ngaanyatjarra Council. Any person or organisation with an interest in the claim area has until November 9 to respond by applying to the district registrar of the Federal Court. Koori Mail, pg 69 (07-Sep-05) WC02/3; WAD6002/02; CASE MANAGER: Steve Edwards

Murchison Metals sign native title agreement: A native title agreement reached by Murchison Metals with the Wajarri Elders and the Ngoonooru Wajari People means that the company has no native title

restrictions to prevent it from meeting its aim to begin mining at the end of 2005. The TOs were represented by Yamatji Land and Sea Council. The deal provides a range of outcomes for the TOs including compensation, employment and new business opportunities. It includes the establishment of a monitoring committee that will review and support employment and training opportunities. Koori Mail, pg 71 (07-Sep-05)

[Back to contents](#)

WHAT'S NEW AT AIATSIS

New feature of AIATSIS Library catalogue

AIATSIS staff recognise the need for Libraries, archives and keeping places to use more appropriate terms to catalogue / index their collections. With this in mind, the AIATSIS language thesaurus and the AIATSIS place name thesaurus are now available for use on-line. A subject thesaurus will be available in the next few months. The URL is <http://www1.aiatsis.gov.au/thesaurus/>

The language thesaurus has been in use for many years, but as an in-house document only. It displays more than 250 distinct Indigenous languages in Australia. The place name thesaurus was created by importing the authority files used on the Mura catalogue (<http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>) into the Multites software. This thesaurus uses the Indigenous place name wherever possible and its non-Indigenous place name.

Both thesauri include the 250,000 map series grid reference, thus giving AIATSIS the great opportunity (one day) to enable clients to browse the collections via a map interface. They can be downloaded as pdf files (and delimited text and xml shortly) for non-commercial use. The thesauri will be updated every 1-2 months.

Once a term is selected the user can choose the item type (Books, manuscripts, Pictorial etc), and a search of the catalogue will be done automatically.

[Back to contents](#)

APPLICATIONS LODGED

Application date	Application name	Application type	Decision Date	State/Terr	Tribunal File #	Federal Court File #
9/11/2005	Pilki People	Claimant application	12/08/2002	Western Australia	WC02/3 WC02/3	WAD6002/02
9/11/2005	Ngarla #2	Claimant application	7/04/2005	Western Australia	WC05/2 WC05/2	WAD77/05
23/11/2005	The Council of the City of Shoalhaven	Non-claimant application	23/06/2005	New South Wales	NN05/10 NN05/10	NSD1037/05
23/11/2005	Ngarlawangga People	Claimant application	8/04/2005	Western Australia	WC05/3	WAD78/05