

AGREEMENTS

New South Wales

The NNTT has placed the first Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) under the new federal native title laws on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements. The agreement is between Adelong Consolidated Gold Mines NL, the NSW Aboriginal Land Council and representatives of the Walgalu and Wiradjuri people in the Tumut and Adelong area of NSW. The agreement provides shares in the company, employment opportunities, cultural heritage protection and environmental monitoring for local Aboriginal groups. The agreement is binding on all native title holders in the area whether they are signatories to the agreement or not. (*Media Release, Attorney-General, 22 June*)

Queensland

Public notification for Queensland's first two ILUAs began on 5 May. The two Mackay area agreements are Mackay Harbour Beach Park, QLA99/1 and Mackay Surf Lifesaving Club, QLA99/2. Under the Native Title Act any person claiming to hold native title in the areas subject to the agreement has three months from the date of notification to lodge an application for a determination of native title over any part of the area. (*QNT, June 1999, p1*)

The Queensland Government has announced its intention to negotiate an ILUA for the Togara North coal mine project located 30km south of Comet in the Shire of Bauhinia. (*QNT, June 1999, p1*)

On 19 May 1999 Integrated Pipeline Services on behalf of Boral Energy Asset Management and Envestra Limited announced its intention to begin ILUA processes for the construction, use and maintenance of a gas pipeline between Gladstone and Maryborough. All persons and organisations whose interests may be affected by the proposed pipeline have been invited to write to Integrated Pipeline Services. (*QNT, June 1999, p1*)

Native title negotiations are under way over an area of land near Gladstone, Queensland. United Launch Systems International are proposing to build a spaceport that would be used to launch LEO (low earth orbit) satellites. An environmental impact study is also being conducted. (*FinR, 7 May, p21*)

Western Australia

A group of Aboriginal native title claimants encompassing the Williams and Riley families has signed a historic agreement with a farmer to allow the development of a gypsum mine in the Lake Chinocup nature reserve in WA's south-west. Farmer Paul Shiner made the deal with the Noongar Land Council representing the group and it is believed to be the first agreement of its kind in Australia involving farmers and crown land (*WA, 8 June, p6*)*

AMENDMENTS

Northern Territory

It has been suggested that Senator Brian Harradine may disallow the Northern Territory's proposed native title regime. The regime that seeks to replace certain provisions of the NTA, has been scrutinised by the Senate after the Commonwealth Attorney-General, the Hon. Daryl Williams, tabled a declaration that the legislation complies with the requirements of the NTA. This was the first state-based native title regime to come before the Commonwealth Parliament. (*FinR, 27 May, p1*)

Senator Brian Harradine decided not to give notice at this stage to disallow the Northern Territory alternative negotiations scheme because he did not wish to interfere with or preempt the outcome of current discussions between stakeholders. The Northern Territory Government, the Central Land Council and the Northern Land Council are all involved in the discussions. (*Senator Harradine, Media Release, 27 May*)*

ACT

The ACT Government has tabled the Native Title Amendment Bill 1999 in the ACT Legislative Assembly. Debate on the Bill has been deferred. The Bill seeks to enact the validation and extinguishment provisions of the *Native Title Amendment Act 1998* in the ACT particularly the NSW list of extinguishing tenures in the Commonwealth Act that relate to the ACT. (*ANTar Action Alert, 30 June*)