

represent all Indigenous people in South Australia including those people in the Maralinga Tjarutja and Anangu Pitjantjatjara regions. (*Koori Mail*, 26 Jan, p9)

Northern Territory

Aboriginal Affairs Minister John Herron returned the freehold title of Eley Station in the Northern Territory to the elders of the Mangarrayi People, the traditional owners. The 5500 sq km cattle station is 450 kilometres south-east of Darwin, near the town of Mataranka. The local Indigenous community purchased Eley Station in 1991 and then lodged a land claim under the Northern Territory's Land Rights Act. (*WA*, 22 Feb, p10)*

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian National University's Faculty of Law offered an intensive one-week unit in Native Title Law in early March 2000. 'The unit is designed for people who, through work or other interests, need to gain an understanding of the complex regime governing common law rights to land held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people' lecturer Jennifer Clarke said. For more information see the ANU website at <http://law.anu.edu.au/graduate>. (*Koori Mail*, 9 Feb, p27)

APPLICATIONS

National

The National Native Title Tribunal posts summaries of registration test decisions on their website at: <http://www.nntt.gov.au>

The following decisions are listed for November and December.

Adelaide River	pass	Ngyabul People	sff
Timber Creek	pass	Molong Tribe	dnp
Western Creek	pass	Muthi Muthi People	dnp
Djabugay	sff	Myilly Point Larrakia	pass
First Peoples of the River		Pine Creek No. 2	pass
Murray & Mallee Region		Bogan River Wiradjuri	pass
(amended 11/01/2000)	pass	Mutthi-Mutthi People	dnp
Ncoorilma Munros	sff	Thudgari People	pass
Ngarrindgerri and Others		Arakwal People #3	sff
(amended 11/01/2000)	pass	Gurang People (amended	
Davenport/Murchison	pass	01/02/2000)	pass
Nukunu	pass	Thalanyji (Combined	
Githabul Nation #2	sff	Application)	pass

Birri People	pass	People of Boigu Island #2	pass
Kudjala People	pass	Tableland Yidinji #1 & #2	
Wongatha (Combined Application)	pass	(Combined Application)	pass
Dharawal People	sff	Wik Peoples	pass
Yuibera People	pass	Santo clan of Kudjala	
Western Yalanji #3	pass	People	pass
Arakwal People	pass	Karajarri (Combined Application)	pass
Bandjalung People	pass	Yaegl, Bundjalung,	
Baryulgil	pass	Gumbaynggirr	sff
Mandandanji #2	pass	Wiri People #2	pass
Nyangumarta People	pass	Widji People	pass
Garingbal and Kara Kara People	sff		

Sff - Short form failure - means that the application was tested against a limited number of conditions.

Dnp - did not pass - does not necessarily mean that native title does not exist. The applicant may still pursue the application for determination of native title. If an application does not pass the registration test the applicant may seek a review of the decision in the Federal Court.

Queensland

Turrbal People [NNTT Ref# QC98/26]

The native title claim by the Turrbal People has passed the registration test. The claim covers a large area of Brisbane and parts of Logan, the Redlands and Pine Rivers Shires. Passing the registration test gives the claimants access to certain statutory benefits including the right to negotiate. It does not mean that they have been determined as native title holders. *(CM, 17 Jan, p1)**

Wiri People [NNTT Ref# QC99/34]

A native title claimant application has been lodged by the Wiri People covering specific lots in Mirani and Nebo Shires in Central Queensland. *(NTN (Qld), Jan 2000, p2)*

Gubbi Gubbi People [NNTT Ref# QC99/35]

A native title application has been lodged over sections of the Isis and Biggenden Shires. The application extends from North Pine River, south of Caboolture to north of Childers, west to Kilkivan and almost to Biggenden and covers an area of almost 15,000 sq km. The claim does not include Fraser Island. *(News Mail (Bundaberg), 3 Feb, p5)**

Gurang People [NNTT Ref# QC99/20]

The native title claim by the Gurang People has passed the registration test. The claim covers areas of Gladstone and Calliope. (*Observer (Gladstone)*, 4 Feb, p5)

Western Australia

Wongatha People [NNTT Ref# WC99/1]

The Wongatha People's native title claim will have to undergo the registration test for the second time following the State Government's successful Federal Court challenge. The passing of the registration test last year has been set aside and referred back to the National Native Title Tribunal registrar. The State Government challenged the registration of the claim on the grounds of denial of natural justice. (*KM*, 14 Jan, p5)

MINING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Western Australia

Conquest Mining reported that exploration areas in the Bow River and Ellendale areas of Western Australia are now free of native title objections following discussions with the Kimberley Land Council and the Aboriginal Legal Service. A heritage survey of the Bow River is still to be completed. Ground exploration is due to start in April 2000. (*Aus*, 17 Jan, p43)

AGREEMENTS

Queensland

Cairns City Council, the Yirrganydji People and the Gimuy Yidinji People have signed an Indigenous Land Use Agreement to allow for the development of the site for the Cairns Esplanade. The agreement has resulted in 3 jobs for Aboriginal people and recognition of the rights of traditional owners in the area, stated a Yirrganydji elder. A spokesman for the Gimuy Yidinji People said a precedent had been set whereby native title legislation could benefit all parties negotiating a land use agreement. (*CM*, 20 Jan, p7)*

An Indigenous Land Use Agreement between Telstra and the Ewamian People in Queensland has been registered. The agreement covers a Telstra radio facility in Etheridge Shire in Far North Queensland and allows the grant of a 20 year lease over the area and the construction of a radio communications tower and ancillary equipment on a fenced site. (*NTN (Qld)*, Jan 2000, p1)