

government support for implementation.

- Design Stream (8 Positions): Detailed design work to restructure 5 welfare payment streams. Detailed work to develop investment requirements in infrastructure, capabilities and enabling structures. Based in Cairns

- Community Engagement Stream (9 Positions): Work with community members and leaders in developing a community vision, including community views in design, educating and informing communities around the project, and assisting community development and governance. These roles are based in remote communities of Hopevale, Aurukun, Coen and Mossman Gorge.

- Admin and Media Support (2 Positions): Admin and media support for the project. Based in Cairns

Formal position descriptions will be available on the CYI website shortly. <http://www.cyi.org.au>

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NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

National

01-Mar-06 **Iron ore mining to resume on Koolan Island** Mark McGowan the West Australian Environment minister has allowed Aztec Resources to resume mining on Koolan Island. However there are "strict conditions" and consultations with the Dambimangari Native Title Claimants to ensure that "Indigenous and other environmental values" are protected. Mining Chronicle, March 2006, pg 14. Claimant Application: Dambimangari - Tribunal File Number: WC99/7; Federal Court File Number: WAD6061/98.

1-Mar-06 Concerns ILUAs over Adjahdura Land are being negotiated by non-traditional owners

Objections have been raised by the traditional owners of Adjahdura land to an ILUA that has been negotiated with non traditional owners. Even though some traditional owners have been on the negotiating committees they were given little control and "used like pawns". The ILUA "offers very little" but has been registered with the NNTT despite protest. The traditional owners have officially stated that they "do not recognise the Narungga local government ILUA as being law on this country". Koori Mail, 1-Mar-


06, pg 23. Narungga Local Government: SI2003/004.

09-Mar-06 **Henry Reynolds defends terra nullius** Historian Henry Reynolds has defended *terra nullius* and "maintains that British settlers never recognised the property rights of Aborigines". He questioned Michael Connors recent book saying that he "was trying to force together history and land and did not understand the High Court had based its Mabo decision on precedent using his book as "background". Australian, 9-Mar-06, pg 8.

15-Mar-06 **Hearings for Goldfields claims replaced with mediation** Hearings in the Federal Court for the North West Cluster of native title claims have been cancelled with litigants opting for out-of-court settlements instead. Brian Wyatt the executive director of the Goldfields Land and Sea Council said that the claimants "should be congratulated on their willingness to cooperate" and showing a preference for negotiations. However he also commented on the resistance of the state to negotiations. He said that "every step of the way the State government appears hell bent on diminishing Goldfields Aboriginal People's rights" which is an "irresponsible drain on taxpayers who fund the State's court actions". Negotiations on consent determinations will start early 2007. Koori Mail, 15-Mar-06, pg 16.

15-Mar-06 **North West Nations Clans Aboriginal Corporation claims proposed Victorian Bill is 'genocidal'** The North West Nations Clans Aboriginal Corporation has claimed that the Victorian government's proposed Victorian Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill as "genocidal in intent and purpose". Spokesman Elder Robert Nicholls said that the bill "'disappeared' all traditional owner groups in name and country". He also said that "all developers and land proponents should deal directly with traditional owners" without "interference of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria's mission managers". Koori Mail, 15-Mar-06, pg 15.

17-Mar-06 **Xstrata places pressure on the NT government to reverse decision** Xstrata has placed pressure on the NT government to reverse its decision to reject the mining conversion plan. The government is "divided" over whether to approve the plan "which is strongly opposed by environmentalists and some Aboriginal groups but backed by local businesses". X-strata has reiterated that "hundreds of jobs would be lost" if the application was rejected. Age, 13-Mar-06, pg 6;



Sydney Morning Herald, 13-Mar-06, pg 5;
Northern Territory News 20-Mar-06, pg 4;
Australian, 17-Mar-06, pg 7.

21-Mar-06 **Development on Aboriginal land will provide opportunities for traditional owners on NSW South Coast** An agreement between LV Living and the Eden Local Aboriginal Lands Council to build a retirement village on Aboriginal owned land will provide "job opportunities and a superannuation fund". David Brown the LV Living chairman said that the "land councils would receive long-term income and the deal was an important step in their economic growth". LV Living will have the right to mortgage the property but the community's title to the land would not be diminished. Australian, 21-Mar-06, pg 3.

29-Mar-06 **Native title negotiations lead to positive results for Western Yalanji people** The Western Yalanji people have succeeded in reaching agreements recognising their rights over pastoral property. The Federal Court's Western (Sunset) Yalanji determination recognised their "non-exclusive native title rights over part of Karma Waters station" and more recently, a further 200 sq km on the same property. The native rights were agreed upon through mediation proceedings with the Queensland Government and other interested parties which lead to four ILUAs. This shows that "it's possible to resolve native title and reach an outcome that everyone is satisfied with and that takes all parties rights and interests into account". Koori Mail, 29-Mar-06, pg 44. **Western Yalanji Peoples** - Tribunal File Number: QC95/10; Federal Court File Number: QUD6002/96.

17-Apr-06 **Hindmarsh Island Bridge Controversy continues with new plans to build homes** The developers involved in the Hindmarsh Island Bridge controversy have brought an area of land at Port Wakefield and plan to build houses and a marina on a culturally sensitive site. Yorke Peninsula Aboriginal leader Quenten Agius of the Adjahdura people said that the area was "significant...for the traditional owners of the Adjahdura land and the Kurna people". He "called on state Aboriginal Affairs Minister Jay Weatherill to 'do the right thing and respect the traditional owners' wishes on the matter". Australian, 17-Apr-06, pg 4. **Kurna Peoples Native Title Claim** - Tribunal File Number: SC00/1, Federal Court File Number: SAD6001/00.

20-Apr-06 **Oxiana still negotiating over Prominent Hill Area** Oxiana is set to make its investment decision on the proposed "development of the Prominent Hill gold and copper mine in South Australia" after negotiations to finalise a native title mining agreement is complete. Australian Financial review, 20-Apr-06, pg 20.


21-Apr-06 **Justice Ron Merkel to leave bench** Justice Ron Merkel will step down from the Federal Court and return to private practice taking "public interest cases for Aboriginal and homeless people". His last judgement will be the Rubibi native title claim over Broome in WA which has been a "vexed and controversial" claim. Australian Financial Review, 21-Apr-06, pg 53. Application: **Rubibi** - Tribunal File Number: WC99/23, Federal Court Number: WAD6006/98 Determination: **Rubibi # 6** - Tribunal File Number: WC95/28; Federal Court File Number: WAD91/98. The Rubibi litigated determination was handed down on the 7th November 2001.

ACT

19-Mar-06 **Aboriginal Corporations oppose government regulation** Aboriginal corporations have resisted the government's Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005 aimed to "bring indigenous corporations in line with others under the...Corporations Act". However, Goldfield's director Brian Wyatt has said that the "Corporations Act was aimed at profit making ventures" while Aboriginal corporations were created to provide services that where the Government has been "'incapable or unwilling' to do so". He said that the proposed legislation was inappropriate and "can only be regarded as punitive and oppressive". Sunday Canberra Times, 19-Mar-06, pg 8.

24-Mar-06 **Tribunal rules native document should be released under FOI regardless of resource constraints** Michael Peedom the president of the ACT Administrative Appeals Tribunal has granted the request of Ngunnawal member Eva Coe to release 143 files relating to native title. However the Community Affairs Subdivision has claimed that to comply with the ruling it "would require 14 senior officers...6 support staff" and "144 days". The tribunal "acknowledged that processing the request would consume much time and resources" but held that those factors were "irrelevant". Canberra Times, 24-Mar-06, pg 5.

25-Mar-06 **Need for a more accountable and representative Indigenous body** Bob



McMullan former Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs has said that ATSIC was "flawed from the start". He suggested an Indigenous elected chairperson, National Indigenous Council, sub committees and a consultative forum which involved native title rep bodies. Labor's spokesman for Indigenous Affairs Chris Evans agreed saying that "we put too much faith in the capacity of the rights agenda to contribute to overcoming entrenched indigenous disadvantage". He also said that "indigenous representation is central to developing approaches that will overcome indigenous disadvantage". Canberra Times, 25-Mar-06. pg 16.

New South Wales

23-Feb-06 **Local residents fear that a pending native title determination is causing violence** Local residents have raised concerns over violence in Bessie Point. One couple noted that they "had been told countless times by aggressive and usually drunk Aboriginal people to 'get off their land'". They believe that the violence is linked to a pending native title determination granting the Giangurra (Bessie Point) Beach area to Mandingalbay Yidinji people. National Indigenous Times, 23-Feb-06, pg 13. Application: Mandingalbay Yidinji People #2 - Tribunal File Number: QC00/8; Federal Court Number: QUD6007/00.

23-Feb-06 **Kimberly Land Council** The Kimberly Land Council is seeking compensation for areas around Broome where native title has been extinguished. Even though the Federal Court had ruled in favour of the Yawuru people "native title may have been extinguished in areas where the rights to land use have been handed over to other parties by the State government". National Indigenous Times, 23-Feb-06, pg 14. Application: Walman Yawuru - Tribunal File Number: WC04/9; Federal Court File Number: WAD285/04. Determination: Rubibi # 6 -Tribunal File Number: WC95/28; Federal Court File Number: WAD91/98. The Rubibi litigated determination was handed down on the 7th November 2001.

23-Feb-06 **NIC's land leasing scheme in breach of human rights** Tom Calma, the Social Justice Commissioner for Human Rights has criticised the National Indigenous Council's recommendations for a land leasing scheme as a "breach of international human rights standards and obligations". The recommendations included an option to "compulsorily acquire Indigenous land where consent to leases is 'unreasonably' withheld".

Mr Calma questioned the relevance and effectiveness of the proposal which was designed by ALP leader Warren Mundine. National Indigenous Times, 23-Feb-06, pg 11; Koori Mail, 15-Mar-06, pg 14. See *article this newsletter, page 4*.


15-Mar-06 **Native Title Claims over County of Finch fall over** Native title claims over the County of Finch have ended after the claimant withdrew the claim. The claim has failed due to disagreement between claimants and a lack of funding. Landholders in County of Finch now operate "as though native title had been extinguished". Black Opal Advocate, 15-Mar-06, pg 5.

29-Mar-06 **ILUAs offer development opportunities** Euahlay-elder Alan Hall has said that ILUAs "offer local Aboriginal people more job opportunities than they would ever get from Native title claims". He was commenting in relation to a withdrawal of claims covering the Western Lands Leases across Finch County. Black Opal, 29-Mar-06, pg 5.

29-Mar-06 **Lack of certainty of custodians delays negotiations of MOU** The Tumbarumba Shire Council has asked to delay negotiations of a MOU saying that it "would be wrong to rush off and negotiate with elders of the Wiradjuri nation". It said that the Aboriginal heritage in the area comes "from far and wide" and that it needed to locate "the appropriate people to talk to". Tumbarumba Times, 29-Mar-06, pg 5.

30-Mar-06 **Mining Industry fails to show up for meeting** Mining industry representatives failed to attend a meeting with Aboriginal Communities. The Yarrawalk and Wanaruah Aboriginal Corporations were meant to discuss draft documents relating to a "Regional Partnership Approach" with major mining groups. Rio Tinto had previously withdrawn from the program sparking "uproar". Scott Franks the Yarrawalk Aboriginal Corporations CEO said the meeting was a "waste of time" and that "Coal and Allied have this week pulled an Aboriginal person off the street and given him a job and they think those actions will be perceived as fulfilling their obligations of enhancing relationships". Muswellbrook Chronicle, 24-Mar-06, pg 5.

01-Apr-06 **Electronic case management of Aboriginal Land Council dispute** Recent changes to procedural rules have allowed electronic case management until the matter requires oral evidence. Justice Ian Gzell will



conduct pre-trial proceedings for a dispute between the Koombahtoo Local Aboriginal Land Council and KLAC Property and Investment. While this can lead to eliminating barrister's fees it is limited to matters that are "fairly straightforward" and can be "held in the absence of the public". Sydney Morning Herald, 1-Apr-06, pg 10.

05-Apr-06 **Barrick Gold continues with development despite claims that they negotiated with the wrong native title group** Barrick Gold, the company behind the Cowal Gold Mine has defended the "controversial development" despite claims that they negotiated with the wrong Aboriginal group. There has been contention over whether the Wiradjuri Condobolin Native Title Claim Group or the Mooka and Kalara United Family Group are the rightful native title holders. Al Oshlack from the Indigenous Justice Advocacy Network said that the organisation would initiate common law action on behalf of the Mooka and Kalara United Family Groups. He noted that "Barrack went ahead with the... proposal before a Federal Court ruling on who holds native title on the land". Daily Advertiser, 5-Apr-06, pg 3; Daily Advertiser, 7-Apr-06, pg 6; West Wyalong Advocate, 7-Apr-06, pg 7; Koori Mail, 12-Apr-06, pg 9. **Mooka and Kalara United Families Claim (Mooka #2)** - Tribunal File Number: NC02/4, Federal Court File Number: NSD6001/02. **Mooka & Kalara United Families Claim (Mooka #3)** - Tribunal File Number: NC02/8, Federal Court Number: NSD6009/02.


06-Apr-06 **Trust deed over Gippsland will be signed between the Gunai/Kurnai people and State Trustees** The Gunai/Kurnai people have been negotiating agreements in relation to land in Gippsland Victoria and will be "closer to safeguarding the future of their people" by signing a trust deed with State Trustees. The deed establishes the Gunai/Kurnai Foundation which will provide financial assistance in order to promote education, art and culture, address disadvantage as well ensure the protection of land. The State Trustee will provide administrative support to the Gunai/Kurnai Instructing committee which will administer funds according to applications made by descendants of the group. National Indigenous Times, 6-Apr-06, pg 8; Bairnsdale Advertiser, 7-Apr-06, pg 7. **Gunai/Kurnai/Boonerwung** - Tribunal File Number: VC97/2, Federal Court File Number: VID6005/98; **Gunai/Kurnai People** - Tribunal File Number: VC97/4, Federal Court File Number: VID6007/98.

10-Apr-06 **Coal & Allied accused of acting like "mission managers"** The Coalition of Wonnarua Traditional Custodians have claimed that C & A was "favouring 'one particular family group' in its dealings" and offering "no rules to ensure [the] money was spent for community benefit". Yarrowalk Enterprises Pty Ltd managing director Scott Franks said that people were told they could apply for "assistance for groceries, electricity bills, tea" which was reminiscent of the "mission management days". A C & A spokeswoman said that the company's primary objective was to "provide opportunities to contribute to a sustainable Aboriginal community". Newcastle Herald, 10-Apr-06, pg15. Wonnarua Tribal Council Inc #1 - Tribunal File Number: NC95/8, Federal Court Number: NSD6017/98.

12-Apr-06 **Gulaga and Biamanga Parks returned to traditional owners** Gulaga and Biamanga National Parks will be handed back to the local Aboriginal Community by NSW Environment Minister Bob Debus in a ceremony at Tilba. The two parks will be "leased by the Government for use as national parks...paving the way" for freehold title to the land to be handed back to the Aboriginal community. Dr Tony Flemming, head of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife service said that "the hand back is a recognition in law that these lands have a deep spiritual and cultural significance for all Aboriginal people." Narooma News, 12-Apr-06, pg 3.

12-Apr-06 **Traditional owners recognised in flag raising ceremony** The Gundungurra have been recognised at *nin garang thuree currobung* (The Place Between the Rocks) in the Gibbergunyah Reserve during a traditional Koori flag raising ceremony. One of the people present noted that the ceremony was a "gathering to remember and commemorate that [the] land is and forever will be the spiritual home of traditional owners". Southern Highlands News, 12-Apr-06, pg 15. Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation #1 - #6 (respectively): #1 - Tribunal File Number: NC96/7, Federal Court Number: NSD6026/98. #2 - Tribunal File Number: NC96/27, Federal Court Number: NSD6044/98. #3 - Tribunal File Number: NC96/30, Federal.

13-Apr-06 **Fishing rights reinstated in the Solitary Islands Marine Park** Fishing rights have been returned to the Garby Elders and members of the Yarrowarra Aboriginal Corporation allowing them to fish in the Solitary Islands Marine Park. They will be allowed to use "traditional traps spears or lines to catch



fish" in the Arrawarra Headland area near Coffs Harbour which was once a "habitat protected zone". The initiative is a part of a "cross cultural project to teach Aborigines and the wider community about traditional fishing methods". Stephen Smith from the National Marine Science Centre welcomed the move and said that "they found it difficult to understand why they were denied traditional rights while scientists could take marine organisms off for research". Daily Telegraph, 13-Apr-06, pg 23.

15-Apr-06 **Coolac road completion confirmed** The RTA has announced that the Coolac road bypass will go ahead after archaeological work "to fully assess the impact of the project on indigenous heritage" is completed. A spokesperson for the RTA said that it is "essential in determining and mitigating the impact of the development on Aboriginal heritage". However it is "unlikely [that] the bypass will be operational until at least midway through 2009". Daily Advertiser, 15-Apr-06, pg 3.

16-Apr-06 **House offered as a part of land claim to be sold in Newcastle** The former Newcastle Headquarters of the Department of Education given to the Awabakal Local Aboriginal Land Council may be sold. The members have said that they "no longer consider the heritage building to be culturally significant". Chairman Sean Gordan noted that the land is significant but "renovating the existing building was financially out of the council's reach". The council is also pursuing claims on former police stations in the area to "provide a permanent home for its various youth programs". Sun Herald, 16-Apr-06, pg 51. 16-Apr-06

Native Title claims cover a quarter of NSW There are currently "35 active applications under the Native Title Act in NSW" covering an area of 214 000sq km in "the state's west as well as a small pocket west of Sydney". They are a part of the 575 active claims nationwide. Graeme Neate National Native Title Tribunal president has said that there are up to 50 claims lodged each year. Sunday Telegraph, 16-Apr-06, pg 11.

Northern Territory

24-Feb-06 **Housing proposal in remote communities** Housing Minister Elliot McAdam has proposed a housing plan that CLP Housing spokesman Richard Lim says can be sourced from mining royalties paid to the Aboriginal Benefits Account. He said that Aboriginal people were "making huge income but not


using it in a way that will further their benefits from the money". Centralian Advocate, 24-Feb-06, pg 12.

01-Mar-06 **Issue whether native title will impede uranium mining** In light of Prime Minister John Howard's decision to allow uranium mining, the NT minerals council has said that clauses in agreements between the CLC and mining companies "prevented new mines from opening" since "provisions are worded such that companies cannot look for uranium". However, CLC director David Ross has said that "the decision to mine uranium rested on traditional owners" and that "the CLC does not have a policy on uranium". Centralian Advocate, 1-Mar-06, pg 2.

02-Mar-06 **Governments should approve mining projects that provide opportunities for long term growth** The government has been accused of ignoring environmental and economic considerations in refusing the McArthur mine. Northern Territory News, 2-Mar-06, pg 13. See also articles National 17-Mar-06: Age, 13-Mar-06, pg 6; Sydney Morning Herald, 13-Mar-06, pg 5; Northern Territory News 20-Mar-06, pg 4; Australian, 17-Mar-06, pg 7.

22-Mar-06 **X strata given second chance for mine conversion** The NT's Mines Minister Kon Vatskalis has given Xstrata a "lifeline" in its attempt to redevelop the Macarthur River Mine". The Minister who has the "final say on the proposal sent the company back to the drawing board" to address environmental concerns even though its plans were rejected by the NT environment minister Marion Scrymgour. North West Star, 22-Mar-06, pg 5; Adelaide Advertiser, 22-Mar-06, pg 63; Sydney Morning Herald, 22-Mar-06, pg 31; Australian 21-Mar-06, pg 2.

01-Apr-06 **Compensation claim for extinguished native title fails** The Yankunytjatjara people have failed their claim for compensation after the extinguishment of their native title rights when the "tourist township" at Yulara was built near Uluru. The case was dismissed by Federal Court Justice Ronald Sackville who said that the "group had not proved continued observance of traditional laws and customs" although he also found that the "rights and interests of the group were not validly extinguished". Justice Sackville also noted that the "outcome might have been different had the case been presented differently". The case is the "first compensation case of its kind". Graham Neate the president of the National Native Title Tribunal was



"hoping that the case would resolve the question of compensation over the extinguishment of native title". He said that it was a "question of how you go about assessing native title and calculating it". Weekend Australian, 1-Apr-06, pg 12; Ballarat Courier, 1-Apr-06, pg 26; Daily Mercury, 1-Apr-06, pg 12; Geelong Advertiser, 1-Apr-06, pg 5; Gladstone Observer, 1-Apr-06, pg 10; Launceston Examiner, 1-Apr-06, pg 22; Morning Bulletin, 1-Apr-06, pg 27; Sunshine Coast Daily, 1-Apr-06, pg 24; Townsville Bulletin, 1-Apr-06, pg 4; Adelaide Advertiser, 1-Apr-06, pg 42; Bendigo Advertiser, 1-Apr-06, pg 12; Burnie Advocate, 1-Apr-06, pg 14; Courier Mail, 1-Apr-06, pg 20; Northern Territory News, 1-Apr-06, pg 3; Queensland Times, 1-Apr-06, pg 22; Sydney Morning Herald, 1-Apr-06, pg 7; West Australian, 1-Apr-06, pg 8; Daily Advertiser, 1-Apr-06, pg 10; National Indigenous Times, 6-Apr-06, pg 11; Centralia Advocate, 4-Apr-06, pg 9. **Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara** - Tribunal File Number: SC95/7, Federal Court Number: SAD6007/98.


06-Apr-06 **Debate over parks handover goes national** Alderman Melanie van Haaren has said that the Senate inquiry looking at the management of national parks "may liberate the NT from its usual fate of being a venue for Aboriginal policy initiatives". Ald van Haaren said that it would be wise to delay the policy until the inquiry reports its findings and supports delaying the decision until "the public has had its say" on the issue. She is confident that the "Australian public would be at one with the Territory in seeking to keep national parks in public hands". Alice Springs News, 6-Apr-06, pg 7.

06-Apr-06 **Alice Springs Mayor accused of delaying submission to senate inquiry** Richard Lim, shadow minister for Central Australia has accused Alice Springs Mayor Fran Kilgariff of delaying in providing a formal submission by the Council to the Senate Inquiry and Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs. He said that she had "lost her focus on her duty...to represent the community of Alice Springs". However the Mayor has responded by saying that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill will not "not have any impact on the ownership of national parks". She said that only the Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976 has "direct relevance" to the NT. Alice Springs News. 6-Apr-06, pg 2.

14-Apr-06 **Larrakia Native Title claim over Darwin fails** The Federal Court has dismissed Larrakia's claim over land including a large part

of Darwin and nearby Palmerston in a landmark judgment making it "impossible" for Aboriginal people to win similar claims. Justice John Mansfield held that "the Larrakia had not maintained a continuous observance of traditional laws and customs since sovereignty". He said that even though the Larrakia Community was "vibrant and dynamic" he found that "a combination of circumstances" including European Settlement, the influx of other claim groups, and government policies "had interrupted the presence of the Larrakia people in the Darwin area". The Northern Land Council (NLC) representing the claimant group has said that it will seek an appeal. NLC chief Norman Fry said that it was "ridiculous" to expect customs and traditions to stay the same over hundreds of years". The claim covers an area of 575 sq km of Crown Land on the outskirts of Darwin including reserves and beaches. A successful claim would have had given the Larrakia people "exclusive possession" of the land. Barrier Daily Truth, 14-Apr-06, pg 9; Adelaide Advertiser, 14-Apr-06, pg 9; Illawarra Mercury, 14-Apr-06, pg 11; Hobart Mercury, 14-Apr-06, pg 4; Northern Territory News, 14-Apr-06, pg 1; Northern Territory News, 14-Apr-06, pg 2; Western Advocate 14-Apr-06, pg 5; Age, 15-Apr-06, pg 9. **Dangalaba 1** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/1, Federal Court Number: NTD6010/98. **Dinah Beach** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/2, Federal Court Number: NTD6011/98. **Dangalaba 3** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/3, Federal Court Number: NTD6012/98. **Hundred of Ayers** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/4, Federal Court Number: NTD6013/98. **Elizabeth River** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/5, Federal Court Number: NTD6014/98. **Binybarra - Totem Rd/Buffalo Creek** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/6, Federal Court File Number: NTD6015/98. **Dangalaba 7** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/8, Federal Court Number: NTD6018/98. **Dangalaba 8** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/9, Federal Court Number: NTD6019/98. **Larrakia - Palmerston** - Tribunal File Number: DC94/1, Federal Court Number: NTD6007/98. **Larrakia - Darwin** - Tribunal File Number: DC96/7, Federal Court Number: NTD6017/98. **Dangalaba 9** - Tribunal File Number: DC97/3, Federal Court Number: NTD6022/98. **Larrakia No. 2** - Tribunal File Number: DC99/1, Federal Court Number: NTD6001/99. The Larrakia matter is comprised of the listed applications.

16-Apr-06 **Native Title claims must be tested for validity before NT Government hands over land** The shadow Minister for Central Australia, Richard Lim has said that the



"government must test 'the validity of native title claims before'" handing over land to Indigenous groups. Dr Lim said that the Territory government's handover of 48 national parks did not follow the Federal Court's ruling against the Larrakia claim. He said that the "Chief Minister proposes to hand over 48 parks across the Territory...without first seeking a court ruling that the claims are legitimate". Sunday Territorian, 16-Apr-06, pg 8.

16-Apr-06 **200 Active Native Title claims in NT** There are currently 200 active native title claims across the Northern Territory with "almost all eligible areas subject to a claim and an increasing number of out of court settlements". The claims cover almost 30 per cent of the NT and make up a third of the 575 claims nationwide. About 1100 native title claims have been lodged with 83 resulting in successful determinations and 13 successfully litigated. However, "more than 6000 individual native title agreements have been reached over the past 12 years". NNTT president Graeme Neate said that the "trend has shifted from costly court battles to native title agreements". He noted that "many myths and horror stories about native title have been dispelled in recent years" and that "Aboriginal aspirations or expectations are lower than they were in the early days". Sunday Territorian, 16-Apr-06, pg 14.

18-Apr-06 **Parks handover will go ahead** Controversy over the handover of parks in the Northern Territory continues even though Indigenous Affairs Minister Mal Brough has said that "the Federal government will not stand in the way where the Northern Territory Government and Land Councils agree to the approach". The NT Government can spend "\$1 million a year for 99 years to lease back the parks", a scheme opposed by Alice Springs Alderman Murray Stewart and businessman Ian Builder. Centralian Advocate, 18-Apr-06, pg 8.

Queensland

01-Mar-06 **Council waiting to resume native title land** The Emerald Shire Council is waiting to resume Crown Land for the Gemfields retirement units. Bryan Ottone the Council's CEO has said that "as soon as this process was completed the land would then be free-hold with part of the process including the Native Title Process." Central Queensland News, 1-Mar-06, pg 12.


01-Mar-06 **Western Yalanji people granted native title** The Western Yalanji people have

been granted native title over two parcels of perpetual lease (pastoral property) land north-west of Cairns. Western Yalanji spokesman Danny O'Shane said that the grant is seen as an "opportunity for business development" in tourism while enabling the Yalanji to "carry out traditional rights". He also said that through the negotiations he hoped to "achieve outcomes that will provide opportunities for [Indigenous] people". The determination also provides a positive outlook for four other pending claims in Northern Queensland. Koori Mail, 1-Mar-06, pg 10. Western Yalanji People #3 - Tribunal File Number: QC98/39; Federal Court File Number: QUD6089/98.

03-Mar-06 **Chinese firm Chalco in the running for Aurukun mine** The Chinese aluminium corporation Chalco seems likely to gain the lease to the bauxite deposit in Cape York. Even though Queensland Premier Peter Beattie has stressed that it is not a "done deal" he noted that Queensland "wanted more than just a mine" and "establish a partnership between the developer and the Aurukun Indigenous community to provide long-term economic and social benefits". West Australian, 3-Mar-06, pg 35; Western Cape Bulletin, 9-Mar-06, pg 3. ILUA: Aurukun Township & Access Road Agreement: QI01/26. Determination: Wik and Wik Way Peoples: QC94/3, QUD6001/98. The Wik and Wik Way Peoples are native title holders to 3 consent determinations. Wik and Wik-Way Peoples; Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 2; Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 3.

04-Mar-06 **Republic Gold proposes mining lease in Northcote and Tregoora** Republic Gold is negotiating mining leases at Northcote and Tregoora within the Karma Waters Station area which is subject to a native title claim by the Western Yalanji people. A spokesman from Republic noted that they had "developed an excellent working relationship" and that "numerous site clearances have been made in the area by elders of the Western Yalanji [so that] no significant sites have been located in the proposed mining leases". Cairns Post, 4-Mar-06, pg 41. Western Yalanji Peoples - Tribunal File Number: QC95/10; Federal Court File Number: QUD6002/96.

04-Mar-06 **Cape York Indigenous community could receive \$112m from mining leases** The Cape York Indigenous community could receive \$112m from mining leases in the Aurukun region from Chalco. However both parties have said that "there is a long way to go" in the negotiations and "mining would only



proceed on the traditional land if the agreement with the company was mutually satisfactory". Courier Mail, 4-Mar-06, pg 9. ILUA: Aurukun Township & Access Road Agreement: QI01/26. Determination: Wik and Wik Way Peoples: QC94/3, QUD6001/98. The Wik and Wik Way Peoples are native title holders to 3 consent determinations. Wik and Wik-Way Peoples; Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 2; Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 3.

07-Mar-06 **Marble miner wins right to mine over native title land** Robert Cameron has been granted a mining lease over traditionally owned land in Greenvale. Cameron distinguished between the preservation of culture and history and the desire to make money. The Native Title Tribunal report notes that the traditional owners did not provide evidence of how the members enjoyed their interests and whether the land contained any culturally significant sites. The tribunal also held that "the granting of a lease would provide social and economic benefits for the local economy". Townsville Bulletin, 7-Mar-06, pg 6.

08-Mar-06 **Torres Strait Islander fisherman want fishing rights to be included under native title** Torres Strait Island fisherman want to increase the current exclusive fishing zone as a "positive step" towards self determination. After previous meetings with the Protected Zone Joint Authority, legislation was enacted to implement a "10 nautical mile closure". The fishermen now hope that this ruling will establish a "precedent to move towards full indigenous control of Torres Strait fishing". They argue that benefits of fishing rights are "immeasurable" in achieving "economic independence" and can be "an industry that can take [them] off welfare". Torres News, 8-Mar-06, pg 11.

15-Mar-06 **Indigenous groups compete for land claims on Sunshine Coast** Groups within the Kabi Kabi community are competing for native title claims in land from Childers to Redcliffe on the Sunshine coast. The Noosa Council report states that the "applications overlap but are not identical, do not seek ownership of all lands within the claim area [but] only lands eligible for native title". Sunshine Coast Daily, 15-Mar-06, pg 9; Fraser Coast Chronicle, 16-Mar-06, pg 7. Kabi Kabi People: QC06/3, QUD12/06 (13/01/06). Kabi Kabi #2: QC06/6, QUD65/06.


16-Mar-06 **Fifth anniversary of Western Cape Communities Co-existence Agreement**

(WCCCA) The WCCCA was signed on 14 March 2001 between Traditional Owners, Comalco, the Cape York Land Council, Aurukun, Napranum, Mapoon and New Mapoon under which money is paid to trusts "to be spent on long term investments, employment and training initiatives". Comalco General Manager Rob Atkinson said that "we rely on Aboriginal land to mine and we want to make sure that local people benefit through a range of opportunities". Western Cape Bulletin, 16-Mar-06, pg 3.

17-Mar-06 **Kabi Kabi native title claim** The Kabi Kabi people have lodged a native title claim with the Federal Court over land "extending between Childers and the Isis River in the north to the Redcliffe and the Pine River in the south". The claim also includes "Bribie Island, coastal areas to low water and inland areas". News Mail, 17-Mar-06, pg 4. News Mail, 17-Mar-06, pg 4.

18-Mar-06 **Kaurareg honour Billy Wasaga** Billy Wasaga has died and will be honoured for leading the Kaurareg people in a "land mark victory" in 2001 when the Federal Court recognised the Kaurareg as traditional owners of islands in the Torres Strait area. Cairns Post, 18-Mar-06, pg 8. Kaurareg People #2 - Tribunal File Number: QC96/7; Federal Court Number: QUD6024/98. Kaurareg People #5 - Tribunal File Number: QC96/10; Federal Court Number: QUD6027/98. Kaurareg People #4 - Tribunal File Number: QC96/9; Federal Court Number: QUD6026/98. Kaurareg People #1 - Federal Court Number: QUD6023/98 Kaurareg People #3 - Tribunal File Number: QC96/8 Federal Court Number: QUD6025/98. All 5 consent determinations were handed down on the 23rd of May 2001.

20-Mar-06 **Tableland Yidinji's claim smaller than feared by property owners** North Queensland Land Council has tried to clarify misunderstandings of the extent of the Tableland Yidinji claim over land around Atherton, Tolga, Kairi and Lake Tinaroo. The council's senior legal officer said that "misunderstandings that 'houses' could be stolen by Aboriginal people" were "unfounded and that the rights of the claim were limited to non-freehold land for traditional access". He also commented on the loss of sacred areas when a dam was built in the 1950s. He hoped that the current claim would ensure this would "never ever reoccur". Cairns Post, 20-Mar-06, pg 7. Tableland Yidinji People #3 - Tribunal



File Number: QC04/10; Federal Court File Number: QUD208/04.

04-Apr-06 **Search for hot-rock resources must resolve native title first** The search for hot-rock resources have progressed but tenderers must address native title and environmental issues "to prove their eligibility". Courier Mail, 4-Apr-06, pg 56; Herald Sun, 4-Apr-06, pg 28.

04-Apr-06 **Overlapping native title claims delay highway upgrade** Upgrades to sections of the Barkly Highway have been delayed due to overlapping native title claims in the Inca Creek section. The upgrades follow heavy floods in the area and will finally go ahead after more than one year. North West Star, 4-Apr-06, pg 3.

11-Apr-06 **Aboriginal Groups participate in workshop for land and water restoration** Aborigines are expected to attend a workshop in remote Mareeba to learn how to "heal their country". The workshop has been coordinated by the Bar-Barrum people who had won native title over land between Almaden, Petford, Irvinebank and Herberton. The aim was to "discuss ways the people could restore the land and waterways, which have been damaged by mining activities so that more can return to country". Cairns Post, 11-Apr-06, pg 9. **Bar-Barrum People** - Tribunal File Number: QC96/105, Federal Court File Number: QUD6222/98. The Bar-Barrum consent determination was determined on the 28/06/2001.

12-Apr-06 **Native title claim lodged over Mornington Island** The Lardil, Yangkaal, Gangalidda and Kaiadilt people have lodged a native title application over Mornington Island with the National Native Title Tribunal to "exclusively use and occupy some land and waters on the island for hunting, fishing and camping purposes". Charlie Wilson-Clark, NNTT public affairs officers said that "it was likely the claim would prove successful". The group has successfully passed the registration test. North West Star, 12-Apr-06, pg 4. **Lardil, Yangkaal, Gangalidda & Kaiadilt Peoples** - Tribunal File Number: QC06/1, Federal Court Number: QUD7/06.

20-Apr-06 **Badulgal and Mualgal succeed in native title claim** The Badulgal and Mualgal people have succeeded in a native title claim over 80 uninhabited islands, islets and rocks in the Torres Strait area. This is the 27th consent determination in the area...The determination

also means that Islanders "now have the legal right to police what they have known was theirs for centuries" and stop "visitors helping themselves" to food stocks. North Queensland Register, 20-Apr-06, pg 3; Cairns Post, 20-Apr-06, pg 8. **Mualgal People #2** - Tribunal File Number: QC02/4, Federal Court File Number: QUD6003/02. This matter was determined on the 13/04/2006.


20-Apr-06 **Wik campaigner dies** Gladys Tybingoompa a senior Wik elder of the Aurukun has died of diabetes complications. She is famous for dancing "barefoot and bare-breasted on the lawns of Parliament House" after the Wik native title ruling which held that native title coexisted with pastoral leases. She is one of Australia's best known Indigenous advocates famous for "challenging authority" and never giving up the fight for Aboriginal justice. Cairns Post, 20-Apr-06, pg 11; Courier Mail, 20-Apr-06, pg 20; Daily Telegraph, 20-Apr-06, pg 19; Sunshine Coast Daily, 20-Apr-06, pg 4; Sydney Morning Herald, 20-Apr-06, pg 4; Townsville Bulletin, 20-Apr-06, pg 4; West Australian, 20-Apr-06, pg 6; Courier Mail, 21-Apr-06, pg 100. Tribunal File Number: QC94/3; Federal Court File Number: QUD6001/98. The Wik and Wik Way Peoples are native title holders to 3 consent determinations with the NNTT. Wik and Wik-Way Peoples (3 October 2000); Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 2 (24 March 2005); Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 3 (24 March 2005).

South Australia

05-Apr-06 **Adnyamathanha community fails to benefit from native title** The Adnyamathanha community has questioned whether "Native Title representatives are being honest" after they have been excluded from consultations and receiving entitlements. D Austin has said "I'm sick of the way that these people are playing God and think they can continue to". Port Augusta Transcontinental, 5-Apr-06, pg 8. **Adnyamathanha No.1** - Tribunal File Number: SC99/1, Federal Court File Number: SAD6001/98. **Adnyamathanha No. 2** - Tribunal File Number: SC95/1, Federal Court Number: SAD6002/98.

Tasmania

17-Mar-06 **Tasmanian Greens promise more land will be returned** The Tasmanian Greens have pledged to return land to the Indigenous community by severing Crown land leases. Even though the specific details of the hand back have not been discussed the Greens have



emphasised that the return of land is a matter of "political will to recognise the interests of Tasmanian Aboriginal community" rather than expense. Launceston Examiner, 17-Mar-06, pg 8.

Victoria

28-Feb-06 **Lack of consultation with Aboriginal people over cultural sites** Alan Carriage, president of the Wadi Wadi Coomaditchie Aboriginal Corporation has raised concerns over the lack of consultation with traditional owners. The proposed long wall mining in the Westcliff Colliery Area 5 threatens writing trees, which are the only written Aboriginal language in Australia. The Northern Illawarra Aboriginal Collective Inc (NIAC) has written a submission to the Federal Department of Environment and Heritage noting that "Aboriginal culture and heritage...has been ignored by a recklessly flawed, grossly inadequate, and cultural inappropriate consultation with tradition owners". Wollondilly Advertiser, 28-Feb-06, pg 3; Campbelltown-Macarthur Advertiser, 1-Mar-06, pg 107.

02-Mar-06 **Prime Minister admits to mistakes made while in office** Prime Minister John Howard has admitted that he took too long to respond to the Wik land rights decision in 1997. Border Mail, 2-Mar-06, pg 12; Townsville Bulletin, 2-Mar-06, pg 5; Illawarra Mercury, 2-Mar-06, pg 9; Newcastle Herald, 2-Mar-06, pg 4; Warrnambool Standard, 2-Mar-06, pg 6; Cairns Post, 2-Mar-06, pg 11; Sunshine Coast Daily, 2-Mar-06, pg 4. Tribunal File Number: QC94/3; Federal Court File Number: QUD6001/98. The Wik and Wik Way Peoples are native title holders to 3 consent determinations with the NNTT. Wik and Wik-Way Peoples (3 October 2000); Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 2 (24 March 2005); Wik and Wik Way Native Title Determination No. 3 (24 March 2005).

07-Mar-06 **Traditional Mirarr people pressured into approving mining in Jabiluka** The Federal government has placed pressure on the Mirarr traditional owners to approve mining operations in Jabiluka the "richest undeveloped uranium deposit". The Mirarr have the right to veto mining at Jabiluka and the federal government has "'implied' over a number of years to Mirarr representatives that "we will give you Jabiru, just give us Jabiluka". With the closing of the nearby Ranger mine the future of Jabiru is threatened with population decline and the loss of essential services. Age, 7-Mar-06, pg 5; Sydney Morning Herald, 7-Mar-

06 pg 7. Jabiru Township: Tribunal File Number: NC97/7. Federal Court Number: NTD6027/98.


07-Mar-06 **Traditional owners boycott Commonwealth Games** Traditional land owners in Victoria have "voted unanimously" to support a protest camp at Kings Domain during the Commonwealth games until "the Federal Government recognised indigenous sovereignty and worked towards a treaty". Protest to be held in King's Domain between March 15 and 26. Northcote Leader, 7-Mar-06, pg 9.

08-Mar-06 **Moyne Shire has granted traditional owners of Framlingham Forest a rate exemption** The Moyne Shire has granted the traditional owners of the Framlingham Forest a rate exemption on the grounds that "the area is of significance to local indigenous people and is recognised as a place of...historical and environmental importance". In exchange the traditional owners must allow restricted public access for recreation and research. Warrnambool Standard. 8-Mar-06, pg 3; Terang Express, 16-Mar-06, pg 1.

13-Mar-06 **Horsham City Council withdraws from land claim** The Horsham Rural city council has been able to withdraw from the Gournditch-Mara Peoples native title claim after the boundaries of the contested area were redrawn. This coincides with the council's view that "it is no longer justifiable or appropriate for the council to be involved in the claim". Wimmera Mail Times, 13-Mar-06, pg 7. Gunditjmara - Tribunal File Number: VC99/7; Federal Court File Number: VID6004/98.

14-Mar-06 **Stolenwealth games protest continues** ANTaR (Australian for Native Title and Reconciliation) continue their protest in Melbourne to coincide with the Commonwealth Games by staging a "visual protest" demanding a treaty over land. Age, 14-Mar-06, pg 7; Daily Mercury, 14-Mar-06, pg 12; Daily News, 14-Mar-06, pg 7; Gladstone Observer, 14-Mar-06, pg 11; Gympie Times, 14-Mar-06 pg 6; Herald Sun, 14-Mar-06, pg 27; Morning Bulletin, 14-Mar-06, pg 14; News Mail, 14-Mar-06, pg 12; Queensland Times, 14-Mar-06, pg 12; Daily Advertiser, 14-Mar-06, pg 17.

31-Mar-06 **Traditional owners of Murray recognised** The traditional owners of the Murray-Darling Basin have been recognised by the Murray-Darling Ministerial Council after the signing of a MOU outlining their role in the management of natural resources. Matthew Rigney the chair of the Murray Lower Darling



Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN) said that the MOU "establishes a working relationship between the Nations and the Commission" and "ensures... a consistent process for engagement and the full informed consent of the Nations". The MOU has a three year pilot period but has laid the foundations for a more permanent process. Koondrook & Barham Bridge, 31-Mar-06, pg 1; Cohuna Farmers Weekly, 5-Apr-06, pg 3.

08-Apr-06 **Long running native title claim trimmed** The Gournditch-Mara people have narrowed their initial claim in the federal court over 20 000sqkm of land, inland waters and ocean stretching from Naracoorte, to Ararat, Yambuk and Nelson. The new claim no longer includes land in Horsham and West Wimmera. Justice Tony North is currently deciding the claim and have given the claimants and opportunity to file an amended application. He said that the "parties have been in mediation and made substantial progress towards an agreed resolution". Warrnambool Standard, 8-Apr-06, pg 7. **Gunditjmarra** - Tribunal File Number: VC99/7; Federal Court File Number: VID6004/98.

10-Apr-06 **Bracks government should do more for Aborigines** Wayne Atkinson a member of the Yorta Yorta group has said that the Victorian Government has a "shameful legacy in regard to indigenous land claims and still lacks the political will to deal with the matter in a fair and just manner". He said that land justice has "been hard and the returns have been miniscule". Mr Atkinson also criticised the Mallee-Wimmera consent agreement which was not a grant of native title since basic rights have been "normalised" and in exercising those rights they would be required to "comply with imported Anglo laws". He questions whether it was "land justice or continues dispossession by stealth". Victoria has also failed to "introduce land claims processes that allow indigenous claimants to achieve some degree of land justice on the basis of traditional and historic connections and ...need for land." Age, 10-Apr-06, pg 13. **Yorta Yorta Clans** - Tribunal File Number: VC94/1, Federal Court Number: VID6001/95. The Yorta Yorta matter was fully determined on the 18/12/1998.

14-Apr-06 **Landowner unconvinced of fairness of Narrawong Coastal Areas Principle Development Plan** Michael Maher said that he will be "financially ruined" after proposals by the state government to preserve land where an alleged Aboriginal massacre occurred in the 1830s. However, Aboriginal

traditional owner Wal Saunders said that the plan was "balanced in considering both black and white community interests". The development plan was proposed after both Indigenous and commercial interests "lobbied the State to buy the land at market price and return it to traditional owners". Portland Observer, 14-Apr-06, pg 1.


Western Australia

24-Feb-06 **Amendments to Mining Act 1978** Reforms to the Mining Act 1978 came into effect in early February aimed to "modernise WA's mining law and encourage long-term mineral exploration". It is designed to cut the back log of mining leases in WA by allowing for exploration where applicants do not want to commence full-scale mining. Applicants are provided with a 12 month window from the date of proclamation to apply for reversion titles. Mining lease legislation. Golden Mail, 24-Feb-06, pg 11.

02-Mar-06 **Dambimangari agree to mining operations on Koolan Island** Aztec Resources has been given approval from environment Minister Mark McGowan to resume iron ore mining on Koolan Island. The company has signed an "in principle agreement" with the Dambimangari people who have a native title claim covering 27 937sq km of land and sea in the Kimberly area. The details of the agreement have not been disclosed but the Dambimangari are expected to receive "training and job opportunities" in exchange for "mining operations and infrastructure". Broome Advertiser, 2-Mar-06, pg 5; Kimberly Times, 2-Mar-06, pg 1; Business News, 2-Mar-06, pg 34. Claimant Application: Dambimangari - Tribunal File Number: WC99/7; Federal Court File Number: WAD6061/98.

04-Mar-06 **Claimants in the North West Cluster agree to negotiate rather than litigate** Hearings in the Federal Court for the North West Cluster of native title claims have been cancelled with litigants opting for out-of-court settlements instead. Their "willingness to cooperate" had cleared the way for negotiations with the state. National Native Title Tribunal member Ruth Wade noted that "the exciting thing about the decision was that the claimants [had sent] a clear signal that they could do business among themselves and were ready to negotiate with others". Kalgoorlie Miner, 4-Mar-06, pg 5.

16-Mar-06 **Radio astronomy park proposed over Wajarri Yamatji land** The Western Australian government has proposed a radio



astronomy park on Mileura Station. The park is a part of Australia's "bid to win the international \$1.7 billion Square Kilometre Array project". The Science and Innovation Minister Francis Logan has said that negotiations were "underway with Wajarri Yamatji native title claimant group". Business News, 16-Mar-06, pg 4. Wajarri Yamatji - Tribunal File Number: WC04/10; Federal Court File Number: WAD6033/98.

18-Mar-06 **CALM management plan attempts to balance mining, tourism and conservation** The Department of Conservation and Land Management has proposed a new management plan for reserve land in northern Yilgarn and has sought comment from relevant stakeholders. Goldfields executive director Brian Wyatt said that the rep body would make a submission but "he expected the plan would be in accordance with their MOU with CALM". Kalgoorlie Miner, 18-Mar-06, pg 7.

21-Mar-06 **Wongatha people issue declaration claiming sovereignty** The Wongatha People have made a declaration claiming sovereignty over land in Laverton, Menzies and Leonora. The declaration is considered to be a "national first" and will be distributed to mining companies and the State and Federal governments. The Federal Court is yet to hand down on a decision on the Wongatha claim. Aubrey Lynch, a spokesman for Wongatha has said that "[they] need to be consulted in the way of the programs and progress of [their] country". He also said that they wanted people to recognise their ownership in the land, "if white men have freehold property they've got the rights to that property but we haven't got rights to the land that we own". Kalgoorie Miner, 21-Mar-06, pg 3. Wongatha - Tribunal File Number: WC99/1; Federal Court Number: WAD6005/98. See also Koori Mail, 29-Mar-06, pg 18.

23-Mar-06 **Walmun excluded from discussions between KLC and State government** The Walmun Yawuru people have fears that important cultural sites will be "negotiated away" in talks between the Kimberly Land Council and the State government. The Walmun and Rubibi belong to the Yawuru community, to which the Federal Court has acknowledged native title. However a Walmun Yawuru woman, Robin Hanigan said that "Walmun Yawuru were faced with the position where the KLC and a select group of Rubibi representatives were approving all developments over Walmun Yawuru lands". They are hoping that the Federal Court will

intervene by only approving PBC and Constitution where everyone is represented. Broome Advertiser, 23-Mar-06, pg 1; Kimberly Times, 23-Mar-06, pg 4. Application: Walman Yawuru - Tribunal File Number: WC04/9; Federal Court File Number: WAD285/04. Determination: Rubibi # 6 - Tribunal File Number: WC95/28; Federal Court File Number: WAD91/98. The Rubibi litigated determination was handed down on the 7th November 2001.

23-Mar-06 **Indigenous anglers seek traditional fishing rights** Local Indigenous fisherman have voiced their concerns to Kimberly MLA Carol Martin over being ignored in new fishing laws. She said that "they're not recreational fisherman and they take their fish for subsistence". Ms Martin as noted that "they refuse to relinquish their right to harvest" which is legally covered under Native Title. Broome Advertiser, 23-Mar-06, pg 3.

23-Mar-06 **Police presence at native title meeting intimidating** A native title meeting in Mount Magnet has attracted police attention that organisers say was "ridiculous". The police claim that they were trying to avoid what happened in Meekatharra but Janice Strickland, organiser for the Budimia Land Corporation says that "it was an annual meeting of business people" that occurred "regularly" without "any trouble before". She also said that the presence was "intimidating and frightened people". Mid-West Times, 23-Mar-06, pg 5.

05-Apr-06 **State government and Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation reach agree on Coral Bay development** An agreement has been announced between the State Government and the Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation which enables development in Coral Bay for workers accommodation. The Corporation will "become leaseholders" for the development which will "provide opportunities" for the local Indigenous people. The agreement has been endorsed by the Gnulli native title working group which is represented by the Yamatji Land and Sea Council. Northern Guardian, 5-Apr-06, pg 3. **Gnulli** - Tribunal File Number: WC97/28, Federal Court File Number: WAD6161/98.

06-Apr-06 **KLC disputes Walmun Yawuru claim** The Kimberly Land Council has said that it is "surprising and disappointing" that the Walmun Yawuru would "choose to use the media to advance their issues". This follows claims that the KLC had acted beyond its statutory responsibilities and had made decisions relating to Yawuru land and those in the Rubibi claim group. Executive director

Wayne Bergmann disputed the claims saying that how they choose to participate in processes and decisions relating to native title was "entirely in their hands". Broome Advertiser, 6-Apr-06, pg 8; for contrasting view see Broome Advertiser, 20-Apr-06, pg 6. Application: **Walman Yawuru** - Tribunal File Number: WC04/9; Federal Court File Number: WAD285/04. Determination: **Rubibi # 6** - Tribunal File Number: WC95/28; Federal Court File Number: WAD91/98. The Rubibi litigated determination was handed down on the 7th November 2001.

07-Apr-06 **Ochre mine deal reached** An agreement has been reached between Wajarri elders and the Midwest Corporation which will protect the Wilgie Mia ochre mine from mining and exploration. The Yamatji Land and Sea Council which acted on behalf of the Wajarri group said that the agreement was "one of the biggest exploration agreements ever negotiated and sets a benchmark in terms of levels of cooperation and cultural sensitivity". The Wajarri will also receive an undisclosed amount of shares in the Midwest Corporation which will be held on trust for the group and "help provide long term economic sustainability". Geraldton Guardian, 7-Apr-06, pg 5. Application: **Wajarri Yamatji** - Tribunal File Number: WC04/10, Federal Court Number: WAD6033/98. Determination: **Nharnuwangga Wajarri & Ngarlawangga** - Tribunal File Number:

WC99/13, Federal Court Number: WAD72/98. The Nharnuwangga Wajarri and Ngarlawangga matter was fully determined on the 05/07/2001.

17-Apr-06 **Traditional land owners miss out on Pilbara boom** Even though mining companies have "gone beyond their legal obligation" and are working on education and long term employment programs many of the "riches...delivered...by the mining boom are not improving conditions for traditional owners". Pilbara Native Title Service executive director Simon Hawkins said that "despite all good intentions...conditions for the Aboriginal people are still Third World". Dr John Taylor from the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research said that the employment status of the Indigenous community "is pretty much unchanged since mining commenced". He said that health problems and low education levels meant that "getting local people job ready for work in mines is a major challenge" and that "because of the legacy of neglect...there is major investment required on the part of business and government if the opportunity is to be realised". North West State, 17-Apr-06, pg 4; Border Mail, 17-Apr-06, pg 44; Canberra Times, 17-Apr-06, pg 15; Launceston Examiner, 17-Apr-06, pg 41; Northern Territory News, 17-Apr-06, pg 29.

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APPLICATIONS LODGED WITH THE NNTT

DATE FILED	APPLICATION NAME	APPLICATION TYPE	STATUS	STATE/TERRITORY	TRIBUNAL FILE NO.	FEDERAL COURT FILE NO.
22/03/2006	KARNAPYRRI	CLAIMANT	ACTIVE	WA	WC06/	WAD77/06
7/04/2006	Kabi Kabi People #3	Claimant application	Active	Queensland	QC06/7	QUD136/06
11/04/2006	Wiradjuri Mooka 2 Clan	Claimant application	Active	New South Wales	NC06/3	NSD690/06
11/04/2006	Cowra Wiradjuri Clan	Claimant application	Active	New South Wales	NC06/4	NSD689/06