

Commercial Certainty and Commercial Security for All

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In Australia, Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) facilitate resource development by ensuring productive, ongoing and mutually beneficial relationships between tribal nations and mineral and mining companies. ILUAs deliver commercial certainty and long-term security to both sides of the equation – resource companies and first nation tribal groups.

In South Australia we recognize there is no advantage to be had in protracted negotiations and litigious behaviour on either side. The sooner agreements are successfully negotiated, the sooner much-needed infrastructure and services are put in place and the sooner lives are improved. The sooner resource development projects start, the sooner royalties flow, the sooner Aboriginal people can start earning a living and the sooner communities stop relying on the public purse. The sooner resources are opened up, the sooner we can start to deliver to Aboriginal people and communities the sort of infrastructure and services that the rest of South Australia takes for granted. The sooner investments are made and projects get going, the sooner our Aboriginal kids stop going to bed sick, hungry and uneducated. The sooner we can train our people to get and hold jobs, the sooner we can start to enjoy the fruits of the resources boom in South Australia we are told so much about but haven't seen much of yet.

The Statewide Indigenous Land Use Agreement Negotiation structure in South Australia is demonstrably successful and is built on strong, positive and open lines of communication between all parties to the Statewide ILUA negotiations. These parties comprise the Congress Native Title Management Committees (NTMCs) comprising 23 first nation tribal groups, non-government peak bodies and the South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy. There is a commitment on the part of all parties to create better outcomes for Aboriginal people. Aboriginal people want jobs, education, businesses and improved quality of life. Resource projects are dependent on access to local, skilled and reliable workforces. It's win-win.

This partnership is to be formalized in 2007 via a Working Relationship Framework Agreement. This Framework Agreement will bring together, at state-wide level, the Congress of Native Title Management Committees (NTMCs), the South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME), the South Australian Government, the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Inc (ALRM) and the South Australian ILUA State-wide Maintable.

This Agreement will be the first such agreement between the State Government, the resources sector and Aboriginal communities of South Australia. It will build on existing arrangements and bilateral agreements with regard to the recognition and coexistence of native title and in the access to and use of land by the resources industry. Under the Agreement, and in partnership, the parties will create short and long-term, state-wide

coordinated initiatives and approaches to improve Aboriginal peoples' access to, and participation in, the opportunities and wealth generated by the resources industries.

To ensure cohesion and practical on-going outcomes, these coordinated initiatives will address Aboriginal training, education, employment as well as business and economic enterprise opportunities flowing from the resources sector.

Investment by governments, the resources industry and native title groups in this long-term partnership will lead to real and measurable social, cultural and economic outcomes for all parties at all levels - industry, government, business and community.

Properly resourced and assuming goodwill and political commitment on the part of the SA Government, the South Australian process is empowered by vision, equality, tolerance, sharing, expression, collaboration and understanding.