



Yamatji Marlpa ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Naaguja sign native title agreement over mid-west pipelines

Media Release: 5 May 2009

The Naaguja native title claim group today announced the finalisation of a native title commercial agreement with MGM Pipelines Pty Ltd (MGMP)

Naaguja country covers approximately 5,581 square kilometres of land and water in the Gascoyne/Murchison region and includes the town site of Geraldton.



Greg Young (YMAC) Bill MacKenzie, Peter Jones (MGMP) with Naaguja representatives Ross Councillor & Lindsay Councillor, (seated) Keith Councillor & Yvonne Radcliffe.

MGM Pipelines Pty Ltd (MGMP) is a member of the Asia Iron Group, seeking to develop mining operations at Extension Hill.

The proposed mine would require MGMP to own & operate underground pipelines through Naaguja Country to transport ore from the mine to Geraldton and for the transport of gas, water and any other materials to the mine.

MGMP & the Naaguja working group negotiated the agreement in relation to the development of the pipelines which was signed at a Naaguja community meeting last Friday, followed by a ceremony and BBQ lunch on Joldarnoo Farm.

Compensation and Benefits to the Naaguja people under the agreement include financial benefits, employment and contracting opportunities and Aboriginal cultural awareness training for MGMP employees.

Yvonne Radcliffe, Naaguja Elder said, "Naaguja people are of the land that meets the sea. Our agreement signing with MGMP not only signified economic benefits, it also brought families back to our traditional lands, Joldarnoo Farm in Chapman Valley.

We thank MGMP for their good spirit and respect for Naaguja peoples and our ancestral lands. It was a pleasure to see the goodwill and patience taken by our guests to walk with us and see the Naaguja people's vision for our future generations."

Peter Jeffries, acting CEO, Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation said, “We have been proud to represent the Naaguja people in these negotiations and extend our congratulations to both parties on reaching a successful agreement.”

Bill Mackenzie, Managing Director, MGM Pipelines Pty Ltd said, “The signing was a very significant event and though it has taken time to finalise the process, it has been conducted in good spirit with a great amount of respect and understanding.

The vision of the Naaguja peoples is to be commended and the guiding principles and corporate business plans are great road maps to achieving the success of their goals. The signing of this agreement is the commencement of what is hoped to be a long and fruitful journey for both Naaguja and MGM Pipelines Limited.”

Notes for Editors

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the native title representative body for native title claims in the resource-rich Pilbara, Murchison and Gascoyne representative areas of Western Australia.

The organisation has a representative area of almost one million square kilometres and represents over 25 native title claims, all with their own language, culture and traditions.

YMAC is run by an Aboriginal Board and provides a range of services to its members including claim and future-act representation, heritage protection services, community and economic development and natural resource management.

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