

MEDIA STATEMENT

29 December 2018

Environmental groups leave Traditional Owner in debt

Adrian Burragubba has taken numerous legal actions against the Adani Carmichael project and the courts have repeatedly said he has no case.

He has been ordered to pay costs of more than \$600,000.

Every claim brought by Mr Burragubba's minority faction has lost at trial and then has also lost on appeal.

The W&J people have strongly supported the indigenous land use agreement with Adani by a vote of 294 to 1 and Mr Burragubba refuses to accept the voice of his own people.

Activists should be held to account, they are not above the law.

It should be noted that Mr Burragubba has been urged on by environmental groups who now seemed to have abandoned him.

One such group is the foreign-backed Sunrise Project that recently made a \$495,000 donation to GetUp!

The Sunrise Project, at one stage offered to pay \$325,000 to the W&J if they opposed the Adani Carmichael project.

If Adani receives the funds from Mr Burragubba they will be passed on to charities.

ENDS

Editors notes:

[Adani and Wangan and Jagalingou People ILUA](#)

- Adani has been working with the Traditional Owners of the Carmichael Project area, including the Wangan and Jagalingou native title claimants (W&J People), since 2010.

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- In 2016 the W&J People voted 294 to 1 in favour of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement for the Carmichael Project (W&J ILUA).
- The W&J ILUA was signed by the Queensland Government, the W&J People and Adani Mining, was certified by QSNTS and on 8 December 2017 it was registered with the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT).
- In April 2017, a minority group of W&J People issued Federal Court proceedings claiming that the Queensland South Native Title Service (QSNTS) did not follow the legislative process properly in the work they did on the W&J ILUA.
- The QSNTS, the Queensland Government and Adani Mining all opposed that claim in the Federal Court.
- The minority group of W&J people lost their case. The judge found that every claim they made had "no merit".
- Adani continues to engage with the Traditional Owners as identified on the National Native Title and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Registers, as we are legally bound to do, under guidance of the Indigenous Land Use Agreements and the Cultural Heritage Management Plans in place since 2014.

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