

MEDIA STATEMENT

30 August 2019

Adani response to Mr Burragubba's statement on freeholding of land

The following statement is made in response to Mr Adrian Burragubba's statement on freeholding of land.

The following statement can be attributed to an Adani Mining spokesperson:

"Adani Mining has worked closely with Traditional Owners since 2011 to ensure the customs and wishes of indigenous people are respected and supported through the delivery of the Carmichael Project.

"Adani Mining has followed the established federal and state legislative processes when applying for necessary land tenure to deliver the Carmichael Project.

"This involved the delivery of four Indigenous Land Use Agreements with four Traditional Owner groups, one of which is the Wangan and Jagalingou People.

"In order for an Indigenous Land Use Agreement to proceed, a vote must be undertaken amongst the Traditional Owner group. The ILUA vote for the Wangan and Jagalingou People held in 2016 saw 294 people vote in favour of the Carmichael Project proceeding, and 1 vote against.

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

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

"Mr Burragubba most recently lost his final appeal in August.

"The Queensland Government is complying with standard process relevant to all mining landholders in relation to the freeholding of areas of pastoral lease owned by Adani, respecting the decision of the courts, and the Indigenous Land Use Agreement with the Wangan and Jagalingou People.

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"Like all other responsible landholders, Adani Mining has processes in place to ensure the ceremonial customs and beliefs of Traditional Owners continue to be respected, even after land is freeholded.

"The normal process for accessing any landholders' property, sees a request made to the landholder to access the country in order to visit or undertake cultural ceremonies, which ensures the safety of all people, especially considering there are farming and construction activities currently occurring on our site.

"We are very supportive of our Traditional Owners undertaking cultural practices and ceremonies on their traditional lands and on our site, and as a responsible landholder we will continue to ensure that when people do wish to access our site, they are able to do so in a planned, safe, and respectful manner, that ensures both Adani and anyone on the property are compliant with the law."

ENDS

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