MEDIA STATEMENT

12 July 2019

Wangan and Jagalingou People and Adani Indigenous Land Use Agreement

In April 2017, a minority group of W&J people filed an Application in the Federal Court of Australia against the State of Queensland, QSNTS and Adani claiming that the certification of the W&J ILUA was void and of no effect and a declaration that the Registrar of the NNTT lacked jurisdiction to register the W&J ILUA.

Those claims were vigorously defended and in August 2018 the Federal Court handed down a decision in that case in which it dismissed the claims in full. The minority group of W&J people appealed this decision, and the judgement was handed down today in the Federal Court.

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

"We welcome today’s judgement from the Federal Court that has entirely dismissed the Kemppi appeal and awarded costs in Adani’s favour.

“This continuing court action has been pursued by a very small minority of the W&J people. The majority of W&J people support the development of the mine and the vote to accept the ILUA reflected this.

“In August last year we welcomed the decision of the Federal Court in upholding the validity of the certification and registration of the Wangan and Jagalingou People Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

“We will continue to work with the W&J people under the guidance of the ILUA, while respecting the rights, history, future intentions and requests of the Traditional Owners. “

On background:

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.

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).

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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