

Date	State	Subject	Summary	Outcome	Source	Tribunal # & Fed Court #	Case Manager	Comment	
28-Jan-06	WA	Protection of Wilgie Mia mine in the Murchison Region	Mr Colin Hamlett, an elder in the Wajarri Yamatji native title claim which covers 100,700 sq km in the Murchison region of Western Australia, hopes that he and other elders can protect Wilgie Mia, possibly the world's oldest mine. The cave walls of Wilgie Mia are flecked with iron ore and junior companies are poised to exploit the Weld Range with massive projects Yamatji Land and Sea Council acting chief executive, Helen Lawrence, said no mining interests so far posed a direct threat to Wilgie Mia. "But it does not have definitive protection - anyone can apply to damage or destroy a site ...in most cases permission is granted".	Mining	Weekend Australian, pg 10	Tribunal File Number: WC04/10, Federal Court Number WAD6033/98	Trish Sinclair-Jones	The Wajarri Yamatji native title claim was registered on the 5/12/05	
27-Jan-06	NT	Northern Land Council considering offering to locate uranium waste facility on lands	The Northern Land Council is considering offering its land as a site for the controversial \$30 million uranium waste facility the Government is proposing to establish in the Northern Territory. Norman Fry, chief executive officer of the land council said that a waste facility could provide employment, business opportunities and sealed roads for Aborigines. The NLC's favourable view of low-to-intermediate level nuclear waste management is in stark contrast to the continuing opposition of both the Martin NT Labor government and the Central Land Council.	Land use	Australian Financial Review, pg 10	NA			
26-Jan-06	QLD	Land and Resources Tribunal hearing in relation to Cultural Heritage Management Plan for Tugun Bypass	Tweed and Gold Coast Aborigines are critical of a Queensland Government decision to lodge papers with the Land and Resources Tribunal against 177 Aborigines who oppose its Cultural Heritage Management Plan in relation to the Tugun Bypass. Wesley Aird, Eastern Yugambah managing director, said Main Roads did nothing about an EYL proposal last July to assess cultural heritage before construction began.	Land use	Tweed Sun, pg 3	NA			
26-Jan-06	WA	Rubibi people grant land to enable building of aged care facility	The Rubibi people have agreed to lease five hectares of land in Broome to Southern Cross Care for a 50 year period to enable the building of an aged care facility on a site for which they have traditional custodianship. They have agreed to forgo rent from SCC in order to make the aged care facility viable as a not -for-profit organisation.	Land use	Broome Advertiser, pg 6	Tribunal Number: WC95/28; Federal Court Number: WAD91/98	Sandra Barkla	We do not have further details on the agreement mentioned, but I have listed the details for the Rubibi determination made on the 7/11/01	
25-Jan-06	VIC	Indigenous Land Use Agreements between the Minerals Council of Australia and the Dja Dja Warrung, Wamba Wamba, Barapa Barapa and Wadi Wadi peoples	The Minerals Council of Australia and the Dja Dja Warrung, Wamba Wamba, Barapa Barapa and Wadi Wadi peoples have negotiated two Indigenous Land Use Agreements over approximately 16,820 sq km of land in Central Victoria. The Loddon Shire Council is cooperating with the National Native Title Tribunal in relation to the agreements. Native Title Tribunal State manager, Ian Campbell-Fraser said the agreements would make the process simpler for mining companies as they will know who their agreements are with.	Land use	Loddon Times, pg 10, Bendigo Advertiser, pg 13	Tribunal File Number: V12004/005 (Dja Dja Wurrung); and V12004/010 (Wamba Wamba, Barapa Barapa, & Wadi Wadi Peoples)	Nadja Mack	These two ILUAs are due to go into notification this week. V12004/005 on the 31/01/06 and V12004/010 on the 01/02/06.	Please note spelling 'Wurrung'

25-Jan-06	NATIONAL	Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination shifts to Department of Family and Community Services	The Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination is to be moved to the newly established Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Department because of 'potential synergies'. The Prime Minister's decision to shift the Indigenous Affairs portfolio for the fourth time under his leadership has been cautiously welcomed by Labor and Indigenous leaders. Mal Brough will become Minister for the Department.	Location of Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination	The Age, pg 2, Australian Financial Review, pg 5	NA			
24-Jan-06	QLD	Agreement between native title claimants about boundaries	Members of the National Native Title Tribunal will meet with members of the Kudjala1 and Kudjala 2 Native Title claim groups in Charters Towers to sign an agreement ending a long running dispute about overlapping claims. A spokeswoman for the claimants said there were two different versions of where land boundaries were located and both groups resolved to solve the dispute by mediation. She said mining companies would welcome the news because they would no longer have to negotiate with two groups of traditional owners.	Native title claim	Northern Miner (24-Jan-06), pg 3, Northern Miner (27-Jan-06), pg 5	Kudjala #1: QC00/1; FCN: QUD6001/00; Kudjala #2. Tribunal Number: QC01/1; FCN: QUD6001/01	Jodhi Rutherford		
21-Jan-06	WA	Indigenous Land Use Agreement between Airservices Australian and the Ngaanyatjarra people	Airservices Australian, the Yarnangu Ngaanyatjarraku Parna Aboriginal Corporation and the Ngaanyatjarra Land Council have signed an Indigenous Land Use Agreement regarding air traffic control facilities in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. The ILUA was registered with the National Native Title Tribunal and is the first of many expected to flow from the native title determination in June 2005. Tribunal deputy president, Fred Chaney, said the agreement gave Airservices Australian certainty over access to locations in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands to enable them to confidently maintain and upgrade meteorological and navigational equipment and gave the Ngaanyatjarra people an established relationship and firm processes to ensure the protection of their cultural concerns.	ILUA	Kalgoorlie Miner, pg 18	WI2005/002	Steve Edwards	This ILUA was registered on the 18/01/06. The Ngaanyatjarra native title determination number is WC04/3 and was determined on 29/06/2005	
20-Jan-06	VIC	Processes for consultation re land use established between local council and land council	Processes have been introduced for the Murray Shire Council to consult with the Aboriginal Land Council about large developments and developments along the river. In future, the Land Council will be forwarded any development applications for areas within a 500m straight line distance from the Murray River, as well as developments which involve large-scale excavation or are located on sand dunes. Land Councils will also be referred applications on areas which have been deemed environmentally sensitive because of Indigenous significance under the National Parks and Wildlife Act or by the Department of Environment and Conservation.	Consultation between local government and Aboriginal Land Council	Riverine Herald, pg 1	NA			
19-Jan-06	NSW	NSW Land and Environment Court invalidates permission for destruction of Aboriginal heritage site by developer	Tim Robertson, SC, the lawyer for the Anderson family, native title claimants from the Numbahging Clan, has claimed as a victory, the decision by the NSW Land and Environment Court to invalidate permission for a developer to destroy Aboriginal middens on a proposed development site at North Angels Beach. A supplementary report that was not considered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service showed heritage significance of the land's association with a 19th century Aboriginal massacre. The developer, Chris Condon, plans to appeal the decision.	Litigation by native title claimants against destruction of Aboriginal heritage site	Northern Star, pg 6	We do not have any Active claims by the Numbahging people listed with the Tribunal at this time. Also, please note spelling: Numbahging			

19-Jan-06	WA	Property developer and native title claimants working together in Broome	The property development company, LandCorp, has been central to the period of strong growth in regional centre property development in WA. "In the Kimberley for example, LandCorp has been working with native title claimants to clear the way for the development of greatly needed new residential subdivisions in the growth hotspots of Broome" said LandCorp Chief Executive, Ross Holt.	Property developers working with native title claimants	Farm Weekly, pg 16	NA			
18-Jan-06	VIC	First native title determination in Victoria	Native title has been recognised officially for the first time in Victoria. The Federal Court at a special hearing in the Little Desert National Park near Dimboola, settled 3 claims totalling more than 9500 square km, lodged between 1995 and 1999. The decision recognised the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk people's non-exclusive rights to hunt, fish, gather and camp in Crown land covering 269 sq km of land along the banks of the Wimmera River. The determination found native title did not exist in the rest of the claim area, but in a broader agreement package the Victorian government has recognised the claimant's 'close cultural ties' to a larger area. Tribunal member, Professor Doug Williamson, said "through the experience and outcomes gained as a result of these determinations and other agreements, we hope native title claims in other parts of Victoria will now be able to proceed more smoothly and be resolved more quickly."	Native title determination	Koori Mail, pg6	Tribunal File Number: VC95/2 (#1), VC99/5 (#2), VC99/8 (#3); Federal Court Number: VID6002/1998 (#1), VID6005/1999 (#2), VID6009/1998 (#3)	Chris Loorham	Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk Peoples No. 1; Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk Peoples No. 2; Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk Peoples No. 3	
18-Jan-06	National	Historians debate the origins of the concept of terra nullius	Dr Michael Connor, a historian and honorary research fellow at the University of Tasmania, in his book "The Invention of Terra Nullius", has challenged the commonly held view that British settlement of Australia was built on the concept of terra nullius. Dr Connor argues that the phrase 'terra nullius' was hardly known and rarely used before the 20th century. In addition, the meaning of the term in international law was 'land or territory under no recognised sovereign' and has been extended in recent years to include 'uninhabited territory', 'land of no-one' and 'territory with no system of private tenure'.	The origins of the term "terra nullius"	Australian, pg22, pg 24	NA			
18-Jan-06	SA	Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands Council Election	People on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands have formally elected their new 10-member executive board to control the lands in South Australia's far north and west. State Democrats MLC, Kate Reynolds, was critical of the South Australian government for failing to ensure representation of women on the Council. "The Rann Government is so focussed on opening the APY lands up for mining that it has failed to take any steps at all to ensure Anangu women are formally recognised as important agents for change."	Lands Council election	Koori Mail, pg 16	NA			
18-Jan-06	QLD	Cape York Aboriginal Land Council grants licence to Vietnam veterans	The Cape York Aboriginal Land Council has granted Vietnam veterans a 15 year licence allowing unrestricted access to Pandanus Park at Kalpowar Station, 150 km north-west of Cooktown. The veterans had refused to leave the area which they use as a recreational retreat. Queensland Premier, Peter Beattie, said "I'm delighted they have reached an agreement with the Aboriginal people which the State Government helped to facilitate."	Land Council licence grant	Koori Mail, pg 19	Kalpowar Holdings: Tribunal File Number: QC97/48. Federal Court File Number: QUD6155/98	Karrell Ross	This application was registered with the NNTT on the 27/10/1997 and is currently in mediation (please also note: Kalpowar, not Kalpower)	

18-Jan-06	QLD	Agreement between the Wangkumarra people and Beach Petroleum	The Wangkumarra people, Beach Petroleum and the Queensland Government have signed an agreement over a 1960sqkm area in the Cooper Basin in South-west Queensland. The agreement clears the way for petroleum exploration and mining and could pave the way for further agreements and provides the Wangkumarra people with cultural heritage protection, employment and training and certain financial benefits. Hope Ebsworth, representative of the Wangkumarra people, said "the attitude of Beach Petroleum means that we have a fair deal that can serve as a benchmark for other deals."	Exploration and mining agreement	Koori Mail, pg 72	Tribunal File Number: QC99/29 Federal Court Number: QUD6026/99	Ann Stokes	This agreement was negotiated outside the NNTT, but the details given relate to the native title determination of the Wangkumarra	
18-Jan-06	QLD	Successful Western Sub-region Land Summit a precedent for future summits	The QSNTS has facilitated a summit aimed at resolving overlapping boundaries among Indigenous claim groups. The Western Sub-region Land Summit was held at the West Queensland town of Mitchell. Over 4 days representatives from applicants from the Boonthamurra, Bunthamura, Budjiti, Kunja, Kullilli, Mardigan and Mithaka claim groups were briefed on relevant information regarding their claims as well as the service provision functions of QSNTS. Organisers said that such a broad and successful range of outcomes could not have been possible without the claim group facilitators, members of the NNTT, Federal Court and most importantly, the traditional owners' cooperation and assistance. The summit has set a precedent for future summits, with the Central and Eastern Sub-region Land summits to be held this year.	Indigenous claim group summit	Koorie Mail, pg 76	Boonthamurra People: Tribunal Number: QC01/30. Federal Court No: QUD6028/01. Bunthamura People: Tribunal Number: QC98/14. Federal Court Number: QUD6184/98. Budjiti People: Tribunal Number: QC04/7. Federal Court Number: QUD112/04. Kunja People: Tribunal File Number: QC96/17. Federal Court Number: QUD6032/98. Kullilli People #2: Tribunal File Number: QC02/28. Federal Court File Number: QUD6025/02. Kullilli People #3: Tribunal File Number: QC02/29. Federal Court File Number: QUD6026/02. Mardigan People: Tribunal File Number: QC99/15. Federal Court File Number: QUD6034/98. Mithaka People: Tribunal File Number: QC02/35. Federal Court File Number: QUD6033/02.	Ann Stokes is the case manager for all listed claim applications	Please note I have only listed the Active claim applications groups.	Please note spelling 'Bunthamurra'
16-Jan-06	NSW	Establishment of natural resources advisory committee for Aboriginals in Namoi catchment	The first meeting of the Namoi Aboriginal Advisory Committee was recently held in Narrabri. The aim of the committee is to ensure that Aboriginal communities within the Namoi catchment are informed and consulted on natural resource issues. The committee is made up of representatives from local Aboriginal land councils, traditional owner groups and Aboriginal corporations. It is intended that the NAAC will meet four times a year.	Establishment of Aboriginal Advisory Committee	North West Magazine, pg 12, Narrabri Courier, pg 8	NA			

14-Jan-06	TAS	Protection of Aboriginal Rock Carvings in Arthur River area	A recent incident in which 2000 year old rock carvings were damaged by vandals has prompted a range of responses from local Aboriginal people. Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council manager, Colin Hughes, said the Council wanted the Arthur River area closed to the public to "prevent ongoing and further damage to ...Aboriginal Heritage sites." Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation member, Alan Wolf, took an opposing position suggesting the area should remain open. Tudy Maluga, secretary of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, called on the Circular Head Council to take action and on the government to improve the Aboriginal Relics Act of 1975 " to allow us to protect our heritage, or we will do it without government support". The Parks and Wildlife Service is investigating the vandalism.	Care of native title land	Burnie Advocate, pg 2, Launceston Examiner, pg 69, Circular Head Chronicle, pg 2, Hobart Mercury, pg 14	NA			
14-Jan-06	NT	The Mirarr people and ERA agree to place Jabiluka site on long-term care and maintenance	The Federal Government declared the Northern Territory "open for business" for uranium mining last year but uranium mining industry veteran, Tony Grey, warns "the most prospective area for uranium, perhaps in the world, is in the Northern Territory" however, it's "bedevilled with Aboriginal issues". The Mirarr people, native title holders to the Jabiluka ground, argue that mining's social and economic impacts would change their way of life. ERA and the Mirarr people agreed last February to place the Jabiluka site on long-term care and maintenance. ERA will not develop it without consent from the Indigenous people.	Uranium mining on native title land	The Age, Business News, pg1, Sydney Morning Herald, pg 35	Jabiru Township: Tribunal File Number: NC97/7. Federal Court Number: NTD6027/98	Anne Marie Cowley	The native title claim group for this application is the Mirrar	Please note spelling: Mirrar
12-Jan-06	SA	Tatiara Indigenous Land Use Agreement Committee involvement with local Councils	The Indigenous Land Use Agreement Committee in Tatiara is interested in engaging with SE Councils to look at issues across the region. CEO, Mr Harkness said "Mostly of the Councils were happy to be involved ...but it depends on funds if this is to proceed"	Indigenous Land Use Agreement Committee	Border Chronicle, pg 7	NA			
11-Jan-06	VIC	The Gunditjmara Native Title Claim Group consider native title offer by Victorian Government	The Gunditjmara Native Title Claim group is considering an offer by the Victorian Government to reach a settlement on their nine year Federal Court campaign for native title over areas in South-West Victoria. The State's offer would recognise the existence of native title but over less territory than the more than 20,000 sq km of land and sea sought. A directions hearing will be held on February 15. An agreement between all parties would be only the second decision endorsing native title rights for Aboriginal people in Victoria following last month's recognition of indigenous people in Wimmera.	Native title claim	Portland Observer, pg3	Port Campbell to Adelaide Pipeline#1: VI2003/002. Port Campbell to Adelaide Pipeline#2: VI2003/003	Hamish MacLeod	The Gunditjmara people are currently involved in two ILUAs which covers area subejct to claim by the Gunditjmara people	
11-Jan-06	WA	Leisure development awaits approval from Aboriginal owners	A developer hopes to have approval in the next couple of months to create a leisure development in South Hedland. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure's acting Manager for Land Asset Management in the Pilbara, Ross Coppin, said "the final stages of preparing the land for leasing involves addressing any native title or other ownership issues".	Development on Aboriginal-owned land	North West Telegraph, pg 3	NA			

