

<u>Date</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Subject</u>
01-Mar-06	NT	Newcastle Waters claim test case
01-Mar-06	NT	Subdivision a first for Aboriginal land
30-May-06	QLD	Native Title respected in Roma
01-Jun-06	NATIONAL	Native title challenges are not 'unbeatable'
01-Jun-06	NT	Canadian alliance funds exploration in the NT

01-Jun-06	WA	NT project closer to reality
01-Jun-06	NATIONAL	New deal for land councils under changes to the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act
01-Jun-06	NATIONAL	Indigenous lease plan criticised
01-Jun-06	NATIONAL	Anniversary of National Reconciliation Week
01-Jun-06	WA	New mine creates opportunities

01-Jun-06	NT	Opportunity to buy leases on communally owned land
02-Jun-06	NT	Mining deal creates more jobs
02-Jun-06	NATIONAL	State Government will challenge native title win over Broome

02-Jun-06	NSW	Land to be returned to traditional owners
03-Jun-06	VIC	Judge warns that native title case needs to make progress
03-Jun-06	QLD	Wild Rivers contested by Indigenous groups and graziers

03-Jun-06	NT	Prospect of nuclear waste facility on Aboriginal land firmed
03-Jun-06	NATIONAL	Customary law a part of native title claims
03-Jun-06	VIC	Indigenous groups oppose development over sacred site
03-Jun-06	VIC	Indigenous land issues raised

04-Jun-06	ACT	Future of tent embassy uncertain
06-Jun-06	VIC	Traditional owners invited to join Council
07-Jun-06	QLD	Academic explains why native title polarises
07-Jun-06	QLD	Dam will put cultural heritage at risk
07-Jun-06	NT	Respected leader dies in red centre

07-Jun-06	QLD	Traditional owner board established
07-Jun-06	NSW	Court ruling in Darkinjung claim welcomed
07-Jun-06	NT	Northern Land Council worried about Act changes
08-Jun-06	QLD	Aborigines claim airport is destroying midden

09-Jun-06	VIC	Feedback sought on Budj Bim tourism plan
09-Jun-06	WA	BHP to invest in Swan Northwest Joint Venture Project
09-Jun-06	QLD	Newmont joins in on reconciliation
09-Jun-06	NT	Permit ban is not a quick fix

10-Jun-06	NT	Listing of Risdon Cove rejected for not including Aboriginal community
11-Jun-06	TAS	Campaign to rename Tasmania
12-Jun-06	NT	Order of Australia for Uluru's Barbara Tjikata

13-Jun-06	NT	Labor will reject land rights plan
13-Jun-06	NT	ALP wishy washy on land ownership for Indigenous people
14-Jun-06	QLD	Cape York sites to be protected

14-Jun-06	QLD	Riversleigh Station put on international map for environmental work
14-Jun-06	NSW	Residents demand to limit mines
14-Jun-06	SA	Mining council calls for reforms

14-Jun-06	WA	Njama mining agreements make history
15-Jun-06	NSW	Riding ban on Muswellbrook Common
15-Jun-06	NSW	Report on land council shows money squandering
15-Jun-06	WA	Native title claim stalls project

15-Jun-06	WA	Industry and indigenous groups meet at the Burrup Peninsula
16-Jun-06	NT	Land Rights Act Amendments criticised
19-Jun-06	NT	Land Rights Act needs to be scrutinised
19-Jun-06	NT	Government pushes for land leases

21-Jun-06	NT	Mining handbook launched
21-Jun-06	QLD	Agreement signed with Kalkadoon people
21-Jun-06	NSW	Land council to sell land
21-Jun-06	NT	Nuclear waste site revealed
21-Jun-06	VIC	Residents back development proposal threatening Indigenous cultural site

21-Jun-06	WA	Cable beach owners fear home loss
21-Jun-06	VIC	Convincing Ground saga leads to more claims and police raid
21-Jun-06	NSW	State Government's handling of sensitive Indigenous issues criticised

21-Jun-06	NATIONAL	Agreement making is the best way forward
21-Jun-06	WA	Pilbara groups closer to sealing land access agreements

21-Jun-06	NATIONAL	MCA and Government join in major initiative to address Indigenous employment
22-Jun-06	QLD	Wild Rivers moratorium should be extended
22-Jun-06	SA	Native Title negotiations to start

24-Jun-06	SA	Whale tourism creates opportunities
25-Jun-06	NT	Government denies nuclear waste site deal
25-Jun-06	WA	Strong indigenous involvement in Koolan Island 'rebirth'

26-Jun-06	VIC	Dja Dja Wurrung people negotiate ILUA
26-Jun-06	NATIONAL	Greens call on ministers to visit proposed waste dump sites
26-Jun-06	VIC	Templates for ILUAs fast track native title agreements

28-Jun-06	WA	Juluwarlu moves to acquire Roebourne Land
29-Jun-06	WA	Western Desert communities say uranium mining is an answer to poverty
29-Jun-06	QLD	Pipeline cost and timing blowout
29-Jun-06	QLD	Chalco will make bid for bauxite mine

29-Jun-06	WA	Djugan people denied rights
29-Jun-06	QLD	Woppaburra people negotiating handover of traditional land

<u>Summary</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Source</u>
The native title claim over a pastoral lease in the Northern Territory has been described as a "test case". The case is currently being heard by the Federal Court which has received evidence from traditional owners such as Pompey Raymond.	Case ongoing	Land Rights News, 1-Mar-06, pg 8.
The land within the Nhulunbuy, the mining town north east of Arnhem Land will be subdivided to build the Malpi village in Nhulunbuy which will include 29 houses and unites that are financed from mining royalties from the Alcan bauxite mine.	NA	Land Rights News, 1-Mar-06, pg 18.
In the area around Roma "companies must negotiate with one the native title applicants for the Mandandanji as well as all individual landowners" before laying down pipe lines. It is "within the industry's responsibility to negotiate with both groups and provide adequate compensation and cultural protection measures for any of the routes on which the plan to lay pipes".	NA	Western Star, 30-May-06, pg 24.
Victoria Petroleum's exploration manager, Chas Lane has argued that "where native title can be an impediment to exploration, it needn't be one that brings it to a grinding halt". He sais that "each state and territory has it own rules and attitudes and claimant groups have differing range of experience and expectations". This means that " negotiations on exploration activities and their timing could be unpredictable, and for the explorer it was important to assess potential claims over the permit, and the level of importance and prospectivity". However he found that there were alternatives even though the "more innovative ways are frowned on by the state".	NA	Oil & Gas Gazette, Jun-06, pg 44.
Energy Metals Ltd has received a cash injection from Denison Mines Inc which will "fast track exploration of the high-grade Bigrlyi deposits and the recently acquired Ngalia tenements". Three of the tenements are on aboriginal freehold land. Energy Metals and Strike Resources hold contiguous tenements in the area and were invited to give presentations to the Warlpiri Aboriginal community on "land access matters in an effort to advance the grant of various tenements in the area".	Mining deal affects tenements on Warlpiri land	Paydirt, Jun-06, pg 66.

<p>Olympia Resources Ltd is "on the verge of bringing its Harts Range abrasive project on stream". An indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) has been negotiated with traditional owners and the Central Land Council (CLC). Heritage clearances have also been conducted on the mining site.</p>	<p>ILUA signed</p>	<p>Paydirt, Jun-06, pg 62.</p>
<p>Land Councils will no longer be "guaranteed funding" and indigenous people "unhappy with their performance will be able to set up representative bodies in competition". Mining and developments will also be "easier to negotiate". Under the changes the Federal Government will also handover the role of monitoring negotiations to the Northern Territory Government.</p>	<p>ALRA changed</p>	<p>Sydney Morning Herald, 1-Jun-06, pg 4.</p>
<p>Money paid to Indigenous Australians as compensation will be used by the Federal Government to "fund housing and to encourage traditional owners to lease out their land". "[I]nstead of using public money to pay rent to traditional owners...the funds will come from the Aboriginal Benefits Account which holds mining royalties...on behalf of indigenous communities". About 30 per cent of money collected from royalties is retained for spending on communities. The government has been criticised for using the benefits account money and also capping the rent payments at 5 per cent.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Age, 1-Jun-06, pg 6.</p>
<p>This week marks the 10th anniversary of National Reconciliation Week which provides an opportunity to reflect on the "reality that there is still much to be done to build relationships" and "hear about the culture and history of the nations' indigenous people and to explore new and better ways of meeting the challenges" faced by the Aboriginal community. It also coincides with the 1967 referendum which removed discriminatory clauses from the constitution and the High Court Mabo judgment which recognised native title rights and interests.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Bendigo Advertiser, 1-Jun-06, pg 8.</p>
<p>The Coyote Mine over 26 000 sq km of Tjurabalan land has been opened south east of Halls Creek. The mine will provide long-term employment for 100 people with 40 per cent employed by CDE capital which has a workforce that is about 50 per cent Aboriginal.</p>	<p>Gold mine opened</p>	<p>Broome Advertiser, 1-Jun-06, pg 4.</p>

<p>Indigenous Australians in the Northern Territory have been given the opportunity to buy 99-year leases on communally-owned land. This allows individuals to "buy their own homes and set up commercial enterprises" and will be "eligible for low-interest mortgages". The amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights Act also "curbs the power of the land councils". However Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Mal Brough said that the changes meant that "Aborigines now had a greater opportunity to prosper and land councils had been made more accountable". The reforms will also "speed up" exploration and mining applications since "communities will have the power to approve mining and other commercial applications" without referring to land councils.</p>	<p>Changes to Aboriginal Land Rights Act</p>	<p>Northern Territory News, 1-Jun-06, pg 2; Northern Territory News, 2-Jun-06, pg 12; Kalgoorlie Miner, 3-Jun-06, pg 12.</p>
<p>A business charter has been signed between Alcan and Yirrkala Business Enterprises. The agreement formalises a 30 year commercial relationship between the two companies and "aims to strengthen indigenous economic independence in north-east Arnhem Land". Alcan acting site manager Alister Field said that "it outlines joint objectives and business principles with particular emphasis on creating mainstream employment opportunities for Yolgnu people".</p>	<p>Mining agreement signed</p>	<p>Northern Territory News, 2-Jun-06, pg 31.</p>
<p>Deputy Premier Eric Ripper has said that the Government will appeal the Federal Court's decision which "spelt out the details of the Rubibi claim, which covers an area of more than 5200sq km". The decision has raised concerns that that "good will between the state and the native title claimants might be irreparably damaged". Mr Ripper has said that the state would continue to comply with the Native Title Act, but Wayne Bergmann, Kimberly land Council executive director has said that the appeal would "mean a return to uncertainty". He said that "on one hand we believe the Government is holding a gun to traditional owner's head and saying let's negotiate...and then appealing the decision".</p>	<p>State will appeal Rubibi decision</p>	<p>Australian, 2-June-06, pg 6; Sydney Morning Herald, 2-Jun-06, pg 2; West Australian, 2-Jun-06, pg 6; Sunday Times, 4-Jun-06, pg 50; Koori Mail, 7-Jun-06, pg 4.</p>

<p>The State Government is moving towards handing back "thousands of hectares of sand dunes on Stockton Bight to the Aboriginal community". Under the scheme ownership of the land will be transferred and leased back to the Government to "be run as a national park, with money for the lease paid to the park's board of management to help run the park". Half of the board will consist of registered traditional owners who will "set up a plan of management for the park" which may affect public access to "culturally sensitive areas".</p>	<p>Land returned to traditional owners</p>	<p>Newcastle Herald, 2-Jun-06, pg 5.</p>
<p>Justice Tony North has warned parties that mediation will be scrapped and the case will be sent for trial if parties to the Gunditjmarra claim don't make progress by mid-June. He said that "it will be a result of the failure of the policy makers to either make their policy or explain to me in detail why they haven't given the very pressing circumstances of the applications". The claim covers an area of 140 000 acres and related to the "right to camp, fish and use other natural resources on Crown land". The claim was first lodged in 1996 and mediation has been held since 1999. There are 175 parties to the claim which may also relate to the delays in the process. Native Title Services Victoria (NTSV) said that the Victorian Government has made an offer and since then the focus has been on finalising the in-principle agreement.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Hamilton Spectator, 3-Jun-06, pg 3.</p>
<p>The new laws designed to preserve wild rivers will also leave Cape York Peninsula Aborigines to "die in a ditch of welfare" said Noel Pearson, director of the Cape York Institute. Indigenous groups and pastoralists have "joined forces" to oppose the laws. At the old Musgrave telegraph station at the weekend both groups have resolved to oppose the legislation that "prevent[s] any development or use of river systems away from the state's large population areas". Cape York Council chairman Michael Ross says will "destroy development opportunities and economic prospects of indigenous people". Pastoralists contend that the "legislation was introduced without consultation and prevents them from making improvements to their cattle stations". The influence of environmental groups has lead to the enactment of the legislation which graziers and Indigenous claim would curb development. Mr Pearson said that the "way that this policy will work out is that indigenous people will die on welfare (with) no prospect for development, no prospect of jobs (or) even developing the lands that they already have". The state D</p>	<p>Graziers and Indigenous groups form alliance to oppose legislation</p>	<p>Weekend Australian 3-Jun-06, pg 29; Australian 5-Jun-06, pg 7; Cairns Post, 6-Jun-06, pg 9.</p>

<p>The federal government has legislated for the transfer of nuclear waste to the Northern Territory where it will be stored on the Aboriginal owned Muckaty Station. An NLC spokesman has confirmed that the land council has joined a federal reference group and its executive council has visited the Lucas Heights to inspect the facilities in Sydney. National Labor Party president Warren Mundine has also welcomes the domestic nuclear waste industry.</p>	NA	<p>Australian Financial Review, 3-Jun-06, pg 4; Land Rights News, 1-Mar-06, pg 3.</p>
<p>The breakdown of customary law can lead to the diminished success of native title claims. Graham Hiley QC has said that "while proving an ongoing connection to land going back to sovereignty was an essential requirement". Accordingly, if groups "no longer maintain and observe traditional law and customs relating to land it could cause a claim to fail". This view was affirmed by National Native Title Tribunal President Graeme Neate. Some examples of traditional societies exist in Arnhem Land, Cape York and in the Torres Strait Islands but where there has been a substantial degree of development the system breaks down. Mr Hiley said that "with the recent negative focus on some indigenous community member's criminal actions..it is important not the difference between criminal law and customary law".</p>	NA	<p>Cairns Post, 3-Jun-06, pg 6.</p>
<p>Dja Dja Wurrung clans Aboriginal Corporation deputy chairman and Traditional Land Rights committee member Gary Murray says that "16 heritage sites were under threat in VicRoads duplication works" on the Calder highway. He said that he refused to sign the draft protocol in place until VicRoads was prosecuted for the destruction that it created.</p>		<p>Bendigo Advertiser, 3-Jun-06, pg 2.</p>
<p>In his speech to the Bendigo Historical Society, local Dja Wurrung leader Gary Murray said that "land rights and dispossession were still a stumbling block on the path to reconciliation". He said that these fundamental problems need to be addressed rather than putting "band aids" on them noting that out of the 16 000 hectares of land across Australia, only 714 is owned by Aboriginal people. According to him, "the wrong sorts of solutions have been put in place" and that "they've got to localise it and resource it properly" to achieve viable outcomes.</p>	NA	<p>Bendigo Advertiser, 3-Jun-06, pg 2.</p>

<p>The future of the Indigenous Tent Embassy has been put in the "too-hard basket" despite a federal report recommending the establishment of a permanent cultural centre on the site. The Embassy has been considered both a "political statement" and an "eyesore" since it was established in 1972 in protest for Aboriginal land rights. Ray Swan chairman for the embassy working group said that the "same issues that led to the embassy being established in the first place remained unresolved".</p>	NA	Sunday Canberra Times, 4-Jun-06, pg 11.
<p>Traditional land owners from the Yarra ranges have been invited to become members of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Gavin Jennings said that the council will be set up to provide advice on cultural heritage issues. This move is a part of the new Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 which will ensure that the "protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage is an integral part of the planning and land development process". Applications must be received by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria at GPO Box 2392, Melbourne 3001 by Friday 30 June.</p>	NA	Mountain View Mail - Healesville, 6-Jun-06, pg 8; Upper Yarra Mail, 6-Jun-06, pg 8.
<p>The third annual Mabo Lecture will be based on "why native title tends to polarise Australians". The lecture will be delivered by Prof Larissa Behrendt.</p>	NA	Cairns Post, 7-Jun-06, pg 5.
<p>The proposed Traveston Crossing dam will impact on four recorded cultural heritage sites that have been registered at the state level. In the Cooloola Shire Councils submission on the proposed dam, it was revealed that the dam will "destroy several known areas of Aboriginal archaeological significance" to the Kabi Kabi, Butchulla and Wakka Wakka people.</p>	NA	Gympie Times, 7-Jun-06, pg 5.
<p>The son of land rights activist, Vincent Lingiari has died of a heart attack. His father lead the Wave Hill walk off in 1966, was a former land council executive and member of ATSIC. His death has been felt by the Gurindji community.</p>	NA	Northern Territory News, 7-Jun-06, pg 5.

<p>A traditional owner board with representatives from five tribal groups has been set up to engage indigenous people in natural resource management in the Condamine River catchment. The board will "play a major role in the protection of significant local cultural heritage sites" and was set up after a consultation process between the Condamine Alliance and traditional owners. The alliance is responsible for managing environmental and community projects in the area. Jerome from the Jarowair people said the "organisation is the start of a process to eliminate all the negative things that have happened over the past 200 years".</p>	<p>Traditional owner board established</p>	<p>Koori Mail, 7-Jun-06, pg 67.</p>
<p>The NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Milton Orkopoulos has welcomed the decision of the Land and Environment Court dismissing a claim by the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council (DLALC). The DLALC had been involved in a deal in which a waterfront property at The Entrance was sold for \$42 million after which the Minister appointed an administrator. He said that the message to the land council "has been clear from day one; you are required to operate within the law the same as everyone else". The Minister said that he despaired the "wasted money of land councils in these legal actions" and that the court ruling "provided another reason why the upcoming review of the Aboriginal Land rights act was so important".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Koori Mail, 7-Jun-06, pg 13.</p>
<p>The Northern Land Council (NLC) has raised concerns about the new amendments to the Land Rights Act. NLC chief executive Norman Fry said that the "amendments appeared to breach the Racial Discrimination Act [and] aimed at breaking up land councils by removing financial independence and terminating valid land claims". He said that "the proposal that land councils be forced to delegate land use functions to small corporations, and prioritise scarce resources to them is unworkable and inefficient and will promote dispute and jeopardise development outcomes".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Koori Mail, 7-Jun-06, pg 3.</p>
<p>Aborigines are saying that the Gold Coast Airport is destroying the midden and have said that "they have been left out of the consultation process to manage the relic". Gold Coast Native Title Group committee member Wesley Aird said that the airport is "misusing its terrorism laws to prevent Aborigines from viewing the midden site" rather than "consulting them in an open and transparent manner".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Tweed Sun, 8-Jun-06, pg 11.</p>

<p>The Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape Sustainable Tourism Plan is seeking input from people who want "further community values integrated into the plan". The area was previously famed by the Gunditjmara people and the plan will be used to "attract domestic and international visitors to the national heritage values on the Bdj Bim landscape".</p>	NA	Portland Observer, 9-Jun-06, pg 5.
<p>BHP Billiton will invest \$5 million into the Silver Swan Northwest Joint Venture nickel exploration project. An agreement has also been reached with native title claimant groups and that the tenements would be made available in approximately three months.</p>	Mining agreement reached	Kalgoorlie Miner, 9-Jun-06, pg 1.
<p>Newmont Pajingo Operations have celebrated the 10th anniversary of Reconciliation Week with indigenous representatives. General Manager Jim Beyer said that it "provided all Australians with an opportunity to mend relationships". He said that for Newmont it was an "time to reflect on [their] partnerships with traditional Kudjala landowners and cultural diversity" in the workplace. Newmont has been working with the local community to "develop sustainable business initiatives and to increase employment and career development opportunities".</p>	NA	Northern Miner, 9-Jun-06, pg 6.
<p>The Northern Territory Anti-Discrimination Commissioner Tony Fitzgerald has said that the "Aboriginal land owners are entitled to require permission to enter their land in the same way as do owners of pastoral properties and private urban residences". He said that the "relaxation of the permit system unfairly deprives Aboriginal land owners of a right enjoyed by every other land owner in Australia". According to him, "rather than unilateral removal of the Aboriginal entitlement to regulate access to their land, the sensible way to assess alleged links between permits and social conditions is to include Aboriginal land owners in discussions about [the] complex issue".</p>	NA	Centralian Advocate, 9-Jun-06, pg 8.

<p>It has been argued that Risdon Cove will not receive national heritage listing. Clarence City Council alderman Tony Mulder has said that Richard James's motion failed to include Aboriginal heritage values and that his "unilateral approach" is "doomed to failure". Several aldermen were in favour of the heritage listing but wanted it to be "jointly developed with the Aboriginal community in a spirit of mutual respect and reconciliation". Mr Mulder also said that "while heritage listing enables protection of its values, only motioning European values is easily construed as an attempt to regain control of land that was handed back to its original owners by the Groom Liberal Government".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Hobart Mercury, 10-Jun-06, pg 31.</p>
<p>Activist Michael Mansell has said that Tasmania should be renamed 'Lutruwita' and that there was a "trend to go back to Aboriginal place names". Tasmanian author Heather Rose said that the idea would not be supported by business and government but said that there is "something incredibly strong and wonderful in acknowledging these ancient names".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Sunday Tasmanian, 11-Jun-06, pg 9.</p>
<p>Aboriginal leader Barbara Tjikatú has received the Order of Australia in recognition of her contribution to the "history and development of the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park" and her role in "the campaign for land rights and the handing back of Uluru to traditional owners in the 1980s". She is also responsible for establishing joint management arrangements for the park.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Media Release, 12-Jun-06, pg 1.</p>

<p>Labor will vote against the proposal of ALP president Warren Mundine to "offer Aborigines the chance to buy their own homes". Labor indigenous affairs spokesman Chris Evans said that Labor will not support the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill in its current form. The bill "enables traditional owners of Aboriginal land in the Northern Territory to sell entire towns to anyone, black or white" which Labor believes "goes too far and under mines the integrity of an act which aims at protecting the rights to land of traditional owners". The federal Government wants the system to be "adopted nationally" but Senator Evans said that Labor "backed 'real measures' aimed at economic development on indigenous land and encouraging the home ownership aspirations of indigenous Australians". He said that with the current laws the government had failed to "strike the right balance". The Northern Territory's Chief Minister Claire Martin backed the changes but Senator Evans said that the "most controversial elements of the bill including the 99-year leasing provisions and additional ministerial power</p>	NA	Media Releases, 13 Jun-06, pg 33; Australian 16-Jun-06, pg 4.
<p>Mal Brough has said that the "Labor Party remain wishy washy on the real reform needed on land ownership for indigenous Australians". He said that the details were announced in November and Labor had "plenty of time" to review the amendments. Mr Brough also said that the amendments come from joint submissions by the land councils. According to him, the "leasing scheme is voluntary and the leasing of a township cannot proceed without approval of the local traditional owners". He said that "these are hard decisions aimed at breaking welfare dependencies and providing real opportunity to participate in the market economy and start the long term process of allowing indigenous Australians to share in the prosperity the rest of the country enjoys".</p>	NA	Media Release, 13-Jun-06, pg 47.
<p>Conservationists, the state Government, graziers and indigenous groups are in negotiations over a number of sites in Cape York along the Normanby River and the McIlwraith Ranges. Some of the areas include the sand dunes of Shelburne Bay, the floodplains by the Normanby River and Australia's largest stands of old growth hoop pine. Environment Minister Desley Boyle said that "we have already put a stop to mining at Shelburne Bay and are negotiating with the local Wuthathi people".</p>	NA	Cairns Post, 14-Jun-06, pg 6.

<p>Owners of the Riversleigh Station are carrying out conservation work to meet the "priorities of its Aboriginal owners, pastoral managers and environmental authorities". The station is owned by the Waanyi people and Zinifex Century Mine. Some initiatives have included subdividing a large paddock to protect the Gregory River system as well as training Waanyi stockmen.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Western Sun, 14-Jun-06, pg 5.</p>
<p>Residents from the Gloucester district have "mounted a counterattack against...mining companies they believe are threatening the fabric of their community". After a public meeting residents formed the Barrington-Gloucester-Stroud Preservation Alliance to oppose the expansion of two coal mines and the issue of gold exploration licenses. The group's deputy chairman, Tony Tersteeg said that the Gloucester was a "farming and tourist community and if all these mines go ahead they will change the entire structures of [the] environment and...economy". The alliance has been supported by Aboriginal groups.</p>	<p>Alliance formed to oppose mining</p>	<p>Newcastle Herald, 14-Jun-06, pg 18.</p>
<p>The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy chief executive Phil Sutherland said that the "Aboriginal Heritage Act needed to be reviewed to reflect the significant progress made in the area of native title". The chamber has also said that it wanted "better integration between the Aboriginal Heritage act and native vegetation regulations and parks management". These calls for reforms have emerged as a part of the state Parliament's natural resources committee initiating an inquiry into mineral resource development in South Australia. The inquiry is "focusing on the administrative and legislative framework that governs exploration and development".</p>	<p>Committee Inquiry established. For information call 8237 9475 or email NRC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au</p>	<p>Adelaide Advertiser, 14-Jun-06, pg 56.</p>

<p>The Njamal native title group have reached agreements with CBH Resources Limited, Consolidated Minerals Limited (CML) and with the individual miner Barry Kayes making history after signing all three in one day. The CBH agreement involves the Sulphur Springs Project which is an open-cut copper and zinc mine near Port Headland. The agreements contain a range of provisions "including a financial settlement, employment and training initiatives and undertakings in heritage and environmental protection". The CML agreement involves compensation for current and future mines which has exceeded the native title act which only requires companies to deal with traditional owners over future acts.</p>	Mining agreements signed	North West Telegraph, 14-Jun-06, pg 5.
<p>The Muswellbrook Common has been made "off-limits" to recreational trail bike riders by the Aboriginal Land Council, Wanaruah who took ownership of the area under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act three years ago. The land council "fear[s] that any injury sustained by a rider could result in the land council being liable".</p>	NA	Newcastle Herald, 15-Jun-06, pg 53.
<p>In a report prepared by an administrator appointed to the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council, it was revealed that the council had spent \$6.9 million "on legal fees and various other pursuits that had borne little benefit to members". Under law, "proceeds from the sale of land must be used for the benefit of all members of the local Aboriginal land council". The land council recently earned \$42 million from a sale of land near The Entrance.</p>	NA	Newcastle Herald, 15-Jun-06, pg 19.
<p>The Western Australian government has been "accused of holding vital community projects in Broome to ransom over Rubibi native title negotiations". Plans to upgrade the Goolarabooloo Aboriginal have been referred to the Office of Native Title even though it is not a part of the Rubibi claim area. Proponent Joseph Roe said that he needs to find "more than \$6 million to upgrade the facility to provide low-cost accommodation for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people". Federal MP Barry Haase visited the hostel and also raised concern that the "upgrade has been made a part of native title negotiations". However a spokesman for Deputy Premier Eric Ripper said that the "Housing and Works is not provide funding for projects such as the hostel and referring it to native title negotiations was an attempt to find a solution".</p>	NA	Broome Advertiser, 15-Jun-06, pg 5; Herald Sun, 26-Jun-06, pg 15.

<p>The Burrup Peninsula is a "powerhouse of WA's economy" and a draft for managing the resources in the region is yet to be released. It will cover ethics, culture, industry and economics and coincides with the native title settlement in 2003 with the Ngarluma Yindjibarndi, Yaburara Mardudhunera and Wong-goo-tt-oo people. The Peninsula is jointly managed by traditional owners and the Department of Conservation and Land Management. The plan is to "protect and preserve sites of cultural and natural significance, tell a story of Aboriginal connection to country and provide compatible recreational and commercial opportunities".</p>	NA	West Australian, 15-Jun-06, pg 20.
<p>The Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Northern Australia and Indigenous Affairs, the Hon Warren Snowden, said that the Bill to amend the Land Rights Act was a "short cut to disaster". He found that there was an "unwillingness to negotiate appropriate amendments" with the "creation of smaller land councils" and "unnecessary proposals for leasing Aboriginal Land" creating a "recipe for disaster". He said that Aboriginal communities or groups should have been consulted and given an opportunity to express their views and that the amendments "undermine the integrity of the Land Rights Act".</p>	NA	Territory Times, 16-Jun-06, pg 7; Media Release, 19-Jun-06, pg 69; Territory Times, 23-Jun-06, pg 6.
<p>Democrats deputy leader, Andrew Bartlett says that changes to the Land Rights act needs to be scrutinised and "referred to a parliamentary inquiry".</p>	NA	Northern Star, 19-Jun-06, pg 30.
<p>The federal government has asked the Galiwin'ku community to support long-term private leases on communal land in return for housing and jobs". In exchange Indigenous Affairs minister Mal Brough has "promised to fund the construction of about 50 new houses, provide more work-for-the-dole funding, jobs and additional land and sea rangers." He is promoting the uptake of the leases to "encourage home ownership and business development" and said that it was not a matter of "giving up rights". The community has been given two months to decide.</p>	NA	Media Release, 19-Jun-06, pg 71; Herald Sun, 20-Jun-06, pg16.

<p>The Mines and Energy Minister Kon Vatskalis has launched "a new handbook designed to assist partnerships between mining companies and traditional owners". The handbook aims to "promote Aboriginal employment in the mining industry" and show that "Aboriginal partnerships do work, they bring mutual benefits, and making an agreement with the community is the way to succeed".</p>	NA	Katherine Times, 21-Jun-06, pg 9.
<p>The Kalkadoon people have signed an agreement with Universal Resources for the Roseby copper and gold mining project after a year of negotiations. The agreement will allow Universal Resources to mine on five leases in exchange for business opportunities, training and employment, compensation and cultural heritage management. The value of the agreement has not been disclosed with up front payments contingent on the value of copper. The company will also "help in the submission of contracts for tender work" but "will nit show preferential treatment".</p>	Mining agreement signed	North West Star, 21-Jun-06, pg 1.
<p>The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council will potentially earn "millions of dollars" after sand extraction will begin on land at Salt Ash. The council has passed a resolution to enable extraction and is awaiting approval from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council.</p>	NA	Newcastle Herald, 21-Jun-06, pg 21.
<p>There have been claims that a \$20 million depository will be built on the Indigenous owned Muckaty Station near Tennant Creek. A deal has been struck between the Northern Land Council and the Federal Government. Three Defence owned sites were originally named including Fishers Ridge, Hart's Range and Mount Everand. Work is expected to begin in 2010 and be completed in eight months.</p>	NA	Northern Territory News, 21-Jun-06, pg 3; Northern Territory News, 24-Jun-06, pg 1.
<p>Residents in the Portland District have mad a submission to the Glenelg Shire Council "highlighting the perceived injustice surrounding the development plan for the Convincing Ground Area". Action group spokesman Owen Roberts said that "it seems that the planning department of the council is unduly influenced by both indigenous objections and by the ministers himself". They said that there was no proof that the area was a culturally significant site and that they will not forfeit land to "appease a vert dubious land claim".</p>	NA	Warrnambool Standard, 21-Jun-06, pg 6.

<p>Residents from Broome's exclusive strip on Cable Beach fear that they will "lose their homes" if the Yawuru people lodges a claim in the Federal Court for a compensation claim. The Kimberly Land Council (KLC) has recommended to traditional owners to take their claim to the Federal Court for a compensation claim worth more than \$70 million. This has "struck fear among some of the residents near Broome's famous cable beach". Property owners had previously thought that they had freehold title over the land., but despite knowing of the problem for three years, the State Government still has not "informed the residents that they are on Aboriginal Land". Traditional owners are "angry that the Government, while saying it wants to negotiate a settlement, has decided to challenge a Federal Court decision granting native title...in the Kimberly".</p>	<p>Compensation claim pending</p>	<p>Australian, 21-Jun-06, pg 1; Australian, 21-Jun-06, pg 5; Broome Advertiser, 29-Jun-06, pg 4.</p>
<p>Glenelg Shire town planner Bernie Wilde said that more legal action will arise "as a result of the the unresolved Convincing Ground saga" and that he was the victim of a "well-funded concerted effort" by the state government to destroy his career.. Mr Wilde had "approved an application by developer Michael Maher to subdivide" the land in contention but claims that the "appropriate consultation was made with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and there were no issues of relevant declarations made under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legislation". The Federal Police have seized documents over a sacred site known as the Convincing Ground which was the site of the slaughter of Aborigines. A Gunditj-Mara leader has called the land "an [I]ndigenous Gallipoli".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Herald Sun, 21-Jun-06, pg 12; Warrnambool Standard, 21-Jun-06, pg 6.</p>
<p>Chris Illert, Northern Illawarra Aboriginal Collective (NIAC) general manager has "lashed out at the State Government's handling of sensitive Aboriginal Issues". He said that the state was "intentionally avoid[ing] concerned Aboriginal groups in an attempt to pursue mining around major dams and waterways". He said that the NIAC was demanding a formal commission inquiry into the issue.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Wollongong Advertiser, 21-Jun-06, pg 1.</p>

<p>National Native Title Tribunal president, Graeme Neate has argued that agreement making is "one of the most practical ways to resolve native title issues" and that events of the last three months have reaffirmed this. He said that "groups are increasingly choosing to reach agreement" with "about 80 per cent of the 59 determinations that native title exists have been made by agreement". According to him "these types of determinations give parties...greater say in what the determination contains." Other agreements such as Indigenous Land Use Agreements may also be a "stepping stone on the way to a native title determination or may be part of the determination process". Through agreements parties can gain benefits such as employment, compensation and recognition and lead to "constructive working relationships" through "developing an understanding of each other's perspectives".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Koori Mail, 21-Jun-06, pg 28.</p>
<p>Six native title claim groups in the Pilbara region are on the verge of reaching Binding Initial Agreements (BIAs) with Rio Tinto Iron Ore which will give traditional owners "consent and support to Rio Tinto's operations and will streamline and Rio Tinto's native title approval processes". Even though full agreements are yet to be reached the BIAs have resolved the level of compensation that will be received by the claim groups. Pilbara Native Title Service chairman Neil Finlay said that the BIAs would "allow future negotiations to focus on broader economic social issues". The six native title claim groups include the Gobawarra Minduarra Yinhawanga, Innawonga Bunjima, Kuruma Marthudunera, Ngarlawanga, Nyiyaparli and Puutu Kurnti Kurrama Pinikura.</p>	<p>BIAs reached</p>	<p>Koori Mail, 21-Jun-06, pg 8.</p>

<p>The Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) and the Federal Government have entered into a "strategic partnership" to "work together with indigenous communities to facilitate industry's commitment that the socio-economic benefits of mining and minerals processing are shared with communities affected by its operations". A number of partnerships are being trialled in the Pilbara region, Wiluna, Boddington and Kununurra, Tanami region and Western Cape after the signing of a Memorandum of understanding in June 2005. The partnerships "aim to be responsive to local conditions and concerns and build new projects and expand on those that are already working and commit to achieving real improvements".</p>	Partnerships trialled	Koori Mail, 21-Jun-06, pg 6.
<p>The State Government has announced a moratorium to the Wild Rivers legislation in the Cape York region but industry and community groups want it to be extended to include all at-risk river systems. Acting Premier Anna Bligh said that "the Government was committed to the protection of Queensland's wild rivers but..wanted to get the balance right". The decision was in response to issues raised by a number of stake holders including pastoralists and Indigenous communities. AgForce lobbied for the moratorium saying that it had the potential to "shut-down future development in North Queensland". Similarly, indigenous leader Noel Pearson said that the legislation threatened the "future viability of indigenous and non-indigenous communities in the region". However Regional Chairman of the Carpentaria Land Council said that some areas covered under the legislation were an "important cultural resource to Indigenous people" and that a "focus on short-term economic gain means that...spiritual and cultural customs were overlooked."</p>	NA	Queensland Country Life, 22-Jun-06, pg 3.
<p>The First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region have registered a native title claim over the natural resources in the Riverland and parts of the Lower Murray. In a "state first" members of the group will engage in direct negotiations with State and Local Governments as well as representatives from a range of industries including the South Australian Farmers Federation and the Chamber of Mines and Energy and Fishing Industry Council. The discussions aim to establish Indigenous Land Use Agreements.</p>	NA	Murray Valle Standard, 22-Jun-06, pg 5.

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<p>The Aboriginal Land Trust is "seeing partners for the long-term management of the centre and visitor precinct" at Head of Bight. Trust manage John Chester said that "indigenous communities could gain enormously from commercial ventures with the private sector" and that the "trust believed the existing facilities and the land provided the base for development of a range of tourist products".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Adelaide Advertiser, 24-Jun-06, pg 59.</p>
<p>The Federal Government has denied that a deal has been made to place a nuclear waste site on the Muckaty Station near Tennant Creek. A spokesman for the Federal Science Minister Julie Bishop said that the owners of the station have not "officially offered their land and it is not one of the sites being considered by the current review". The Northern Land Council has also denied the report.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Sunday Territorian 25-Jun-06, pg 4.</p>
<p>The 'rebirth' of the iron ore mine on Koolan Island will "develiver strong employment opportunities for local Aborigines". Aztec Rose who recently acquired the mine has a "goal of having 30 per cent of its 220 person workforce filled by indigenous people". The "employment pledge" is a part of a agreement between traditional owners, the Dambima-Ngardj people and Aztec Resources. Aztec Chairman Ian Burston said that the agreement was "built around understanding, trauts and most importantly, cooperation". He also said that there was a "tight labour market and that "it was important for the industry, the indigenous community and Government to cooperate to improve the skills of local people rather than looking offshore to fill these positions".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Mining Chronicle, Jun-06, pg 12; Prospect Magazine, 25-Jun-06, pg 27.</p>

<p>The Dja Wurrung people have negotiated an Indigenous Land Use Agreement with the owners of the Forest Resort at Creswick. The agreement will give the resort owners access to 20.6 ha of land under native title to develop a golf course and construct an international hotel. In exchange traditional owners have secured employment and training opportunities cultural recognition though a commitment to display and sell local indigenous art and display signage. The agreement has given parties "an opportunity to develop solid working relationships that had the potential to stand the test of time". National Native Title Tribunal President Graeme Neate said thar "groups across Australia are increasingly sorting out their native title issues through agreement" and this was "another example of an agreement being reached before native title claimants have settled their claim".</p>	<p>ILUA signed</p>	<p>Bendigo Advertiser, 26-jun-06, pg 3.</p>
<p>Greens senators Rachel Siewert, Kerry Nettle and Christine Milne visited the Indigenous community near Mt Everand. A Greens spokesman said that they had been "completely ignored by the federal government and none of the federal ministers responsible for making decisions about the waste dump site has made an effort to see for themselves what a devastating impact a nuclear waster dump would have". At the following Australian Greens National Council meeting the delegates passed a motion opposing the dump and "expressed support for working with Indigenous people to overcome Aboriginal poverty and disadvantage".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Media Release, 26-Jun-06, pg 1.</p>
<p>A new contract system developed by the Minerals Council of Australia and native title claimants will fast track agreements through using a common template for ILUAs. The agreements will allow mineral explorers to sign a Deed of Assumption on the terms of the use agreement and circumvent a system of lengthy negotiations with Indigenous groups. Cultural heritage and economic benefits are a part of the agreement. The National Native Title Tribunal has registered the agreement "so that it can be carried out and used by other groups".</p>	<p>ILUA template developed</p>	<p>Bendigo Advertiser, 26-Jun-06, pg 3.</p>

<p>The Juluwarlu Aboriginal Corporation has "received support to acquire the buildings it operates" and has approached the Roebourne Council about the land. The proposed acquisition would provide the Corporation with "greater security to ensure the sustainability of its operations and also enable it to attract more funding through demonstrated security of tenure". However shire executive services manager Mark Jones has said that it "would be better for an Indigenous Land Corporation to buy the premises under its land acquisition program" which will require the submission of a business plan.</p>	NA	Pilbara News, 28-Jun-06, pg 9.
<p>Western Desert Aboriginals, the Martu, want Rio Tinto's Kintyre uranium deposit to "be developed to provide them with essential services that the State Government has failed to deliver". Western Desert Land Aboriginal Corporation chief executive Clinton Wolf said that even though they have previously opposed uranium mining they had been "forced to the negotiating table through poverty". He said that the communities with smaller populations "wanted to forget about a rights agenda and start looking at an economic agenda". Mr Wolf also said that it was a matter of capitalising on opportunities that will become available.</p>	NA	West Australian, 29-Jun-06, pg 6.
<p>The proposed gas line from PNG faces further delays as costs blow out. One of the significant costs is the negotiations with traditional owners over access to traditional land. There has been "an army of negotiators and advisers...trying to resolve a stand-off between APC and some traditional owners over compensation payments".</p>	NA	Courier Mail, 29-Jun-06, pg 65
<p>Chalco, will lodge its final bid to develop the bauxite mine are Aurukun on Cape York. The Beattie Government has said that it will "examine the proposal in detail to see whether it met its requirements about job numbers and long-term economic benefits for the indigenous community around Aurukun".</p>	Mining agreement proposed	Australian, 29-Jun-06, pg 20.

<p>Djugan member Colin Ozies has said that the state government has denied the existence of the Djugan. He said that the "Djugan people had to battle successive State Governments" and that "Rubibi was formed to present a united front because Richard Court would not deal with separate claims by Djugan, Yawuru and Goolarabooloo peoples. Mr Ozies was critical of the Government's approach noting that in "denying the Aboriginal people their natural rights smacks of hypocrisy" takes away individual identities turning Indigenous people into "generic 'home brand' Aboriginals".</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Broome Advertiser, 29-Jun-06, pg 7.</p>
<p>The Woppaburra people of the Keppel Islanders are working with the government to have traditional land transferred back through the Queensland Aboriginal Land Act. The agreement will include "will provide traditional names for the six parcels and build long term social and economic development opportunities as future land holders."</p>	<p>Land transfer proposed</p>	<p>Morning Bulletin, 29 Jun-06, pg 31.</p>

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<u>Tribunal # & Fed Court #</u>	Comment

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