



## Yamatji Marlpa ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

### Native Title agreement for Pilbara iron ore project

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The Kurama and Marthudunera people of the Pilbara region of Western Australia are pleased to announce an agreement with Iron Ore miners Red Hill Iron Ltd (RHI). The agreement covers RHI's Pannawonica project, about 120 km south of Cape Preston.

Negotiations were completed in approximately six months, with the resulting agreement giving RHI native title approvals for its project. The Kurama and Marthudunera people will receive financial benefits and compensation from the company, which reflects the importance to the Kurama and Marthudunera people of minimising the impact of mining projects on their traditional country.

The agreement includes provisions for protecting Kurama and Marthudunera heritage throughout the life of the mining project. A monitoring and liaison committee, made up of representatives of both parties, will meet regularly to develop long term relationships and provide ongoing information.

Kurama and Marthudunera elder Neil Finlay said, "It is important that mining companies work with Traditional Owners when they are planning their projects. They have to do their heritage work in the right way, because our country is the most important thing to us. I look forward to meeting with Red Hill Iron to talk with them about this."

Simon Hawkins, CEO of Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, said "Traditional Owners in the Pilbara continue to show that they are willing to do business with companies that respect their culture and heritage and their continuing interests in their traditional country. I congratulate the Kurama and Marthudunera people on reaching another agreement that will be beneficial to the community now and in the future."

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#### About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the native title representative body for native title claims in the Pilbara, Murchison and Gascoyne areas of Western Australia. The organisation has a

representative area of almost one million square kilometres and represents over 20 native title claims, all with their own language, culture and traditions.

YMAC is a not-for-profit organisation, run by an Aboriginal Board and provides a range of services to its members including claim and future-act representation, heritage protection services, community and economic development and natural resource management.

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**For interviews please contact:**

**Melissa Luciola | Communications Specialist**

**P 08 9268 7014 | F 08 9225 4633 | M 0458 010 483 | [mlucioli@ymac.org.au](mailto:mlucioli@ymac.org.au)**