



Yamatji Marlpa
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



Niyaparli People sign Land Access Agreement

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The Niyaparli People are pleased to announce the signing of a Land Access Agreement (LAA) with Greenmount Resources, known as the Karlawinda Gold Project Land Access Agreement. Greenmount Resources is a wholly owned subsidiary of Capricorn Metals Ltd.

The Karlawinda Gold Project is located within the Niyaparli native title claim area, approximately 50km south-east of Newman.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) represented the Niyaparli People in the negotiations. During the process, Economics Consulting Services was engaged to provide an independent economic assessment of the project and proposed native title compensation for the benefit of the Niyaparli People.

Simon Hawkins, CEO, YMAC says agreements like this LAA are the basis for a future of positive outcomes for Traditional Owners.

“This agreement demonstrates how negotiating in good faith with Traditional Owners can prove to have a positive outcome for both parties. The fact that agreement was reached within 6 months shows that when companies and Traditional Owners work together, negotiations can be concluded in a timely fashion with mutually beneficial outcomes.”

“It has far reaching benefits for the community, not only now, but in the future, enabling Niyaparli people to have access to training, employment and contracting opportunities associated with the Karlawinda Gold Project,” says Mr Hawkins.

Karlka Niyaparli Aboriginal Corporation (Karlka) has been appointed as the Niyaparli People’s agent under this agreement and will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the LAA.

Edith Hall, Chairperson, Karlka, says the group is pleased that Capricorn Metals listened during negotiations.

“Capricorn Metals has agreed to involve Nyiyaparli people in both cultural heritage and environmental surveys and studies. Our heritage and the environment are very much linked and we as Traditional Owners want to work with companies like Capricorn Metals to protect our heritage and the environment for future generations,” says Ms Hall.

The Nyiyaparli People authorised the terms of the LAA at a claim group meeting in Port Hedland on 28 October 2016. The LAA commenced on 18 November 2016. The mining lease for the Karlawinda project was granted on 23 November 2016.

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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