

## Media Release **No. 606**

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### **KAURAREG CEREMONY CLARKE STREET**

The TSRA Board Member for Ngarupai and Muralag Mr Yen Loban, Chief Executive Officer Mr Wayne See Kee and representatives of the Kaurareg People were pleased to be able to attend and conduct a ceremonial blessing at the Clarke Street development site Wednesday 26 November 2014.

The ceremony and blessing paves the way for recommencement of civil construction works on the residential housing project after a short voluntary suspension of works to address concerns raised by some of the Kaurareg People.

After the voluntary suspension the TSRA and the Kaurareg #3 Native Title Claimants and their legal representative's met and conducted a joint site inspections of the Project Area and discussed the Project.

The location and extent of the Project Area and disturbance areas was able to be clarified with the Kaurareg representatives and this clarification removed many of the concerns which had been held by them.

These discussions culminated in a Cultural Heritage Agreement under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld) being negotiated and signed by the TSRA and the Kaurareg #3 Native Title Applicants the day prior to the ceremonial blessing.

The meetings were attended by some of the registered native title applicants (with authority from the other applicants and broader Kaurareg group), and key elders with traditional responsibility for the land within the Project Area. The attendance of these key people was integral in addressing all issues and observing Kaurareg traditional laws and customs.

The terms of the Cultural Heritage Agreement are confidential however all issues have been addressed to both parties satisfaction and the Project Works can continue with little impact on the key milestones for the Project.

Both the TSRA and Kaurareg representatives were pleased that the discussions occurred quickly and constructively and demonstrates that Government and traditional owners can work together for the community benefit.

**ENDS**

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