

SUBOUTPUT 4.3

Provide cultural and heritage support as appropriate to the Traditional Owners and other clients of the Land Councils.

Sacred sites and sacred objects

The CLC carried out 114 instances of such support.

These included:

- five sacred site/work area clearances for exploration activities
- three sacred site/work area clearances for horticultural or pastoral activities
- 77 sacred site/work area clearances for essential services like housing development, roadworks, water and power supply works, telecommunication service works and a police station
- a successful funding submission and project management to completion of a new keeping place for men's sacred objects at Yuendumu
- facilitation and documentation of the actual return of 58 men's sacred objects from the National Museum of Australia to Tennant Creek and Lajamanu following comprehensive CLC research and reports in the preceding two financial years on the traditional ownership and repatriation of the objects
- comprehensive research and reports on the traditional ownership and repatriation of 94 men's sacred objects at the South Australian Museum, the National Museum of Australia and in CLC's care, towards their return to traditional owners next financial year
- three comprehensive investigations into and/or reports on sacred site damage or suspected damage

- completion of 17 genealogy request responses and a small number of other types of cultural and heritage support

- CLC continues to engage with the NT Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) to discuss protocols for site clearance and protection.

Aboriginal ceremonial activities and funerals

The CLC ensured that ceremony funding was processed at the regional level requiring appropriate authorisation of the Executive member and regional coordinator.

The following regions were assisted with ceremony support, largely for men's ceremony which takes place annually over the summer months:

Ntaria, Santa Teresa, Amoon-guna, Williams Well, Imanpa, Lajamanu, Dagaragu, Kalkaringi, Willowra, Papunya, Kintore, Harts Bluff, Mt Liebig, Epenara, Tennant Creek, Alikarenge, Mungkurta, Soapy Bore, Anterrenge, Alparra, Amplatwatja, Irreilee (no 5), Mulga Bore, Mt Allen, Laramba, Twerrep and Willowra.

This year the CLC also processed 191 funeral assistance applications.

Women's Law and Culture meeting

This annual event was funded by grants from the Alice Springs and Central Remote Indigenous Coordination Centres (ICC) and the CLC organised the 2006 Women's Law and Culture Meeting which was hosted by the women from Kalkarindji.

More than 300 women from across Central Australia participated in this successful event which ran for five days.

Radioactive Waste Repository

The CLC represents the traditional

landowners of two of the proposed sites listed in Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005 [the Bill].

These sites are the Harts Range and Mount Everard sites.

The CLC also represents the claimants in the Alcoota Land Claim which is being finalised over the Aboriginal owned Alcoota Pastoral Lease, the lease which surrounds the proposed Harts Range site.

Traditional landowners for both sites are strongly opposed to the plans to locate the Commonwealth's radioactive waste management facility on their land.

The CLC has taken a number of steps to insure that traditional landowners have been properly informed about the proposed nuclear waste facility.

During the consultation meeting with traditional landowners on 20 October 2005, information about the proposed facility was provided by the Department of Education, Science and Technology (DEST), and Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO).

The presentation by DEST and ANSTO outlined the need for the facility, the nature of radiation and safety issues, site assessment and selection process, proposed infrastructure and on-going monitoring and management at the facility.

The CLC provided an experienced interpreter to translate the Commonwealth's presentation into Arrernte.

The CLC is satisfied that effective communication and understanding of the proposals was achieved.

Both groups requested the CLC to assist them to oppose the construction of the proposed facility at either Mt Everard or Alcoota/Harts Range or on any part of