



Lodge a written submission

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Q.1 Please upload your document.

A.

Q.2 Do you have any comments you wish to add?

A. To whom it may concern (and that should be all of us),

I fully support the rights of the Wangan and Jagalangou people who are the Traditional Owners of the land, to make decisions about their cultural heritage as practiced on this land. As they have requested:

"The management and protection of cultural heritage should be in our hands, and not in the hands of the State or developers. We are calling for the following reforms, that are needed at a minimum to improve the protection of cultural heritage in Queensland:

- Amend the definition of 'Aboriginal party' so that traditional owners with cultural connection to Country can be involved in consultation and negotiation processes, regardless of their status as a native title party.*
- Create greater enforcement powers for First Nations, so that we aren't reliant on the State to protect our cultural heritage if it is in imminent danger of harm or destruction.*
- Establish an independent First Nations-led decision-making body that is responsible for dispute resolution and mediation, and for assessing who the right people to speak for Country are."*

It is in the best interests of all Australians for the Queensland government to agree to these requests, as we have an unique opportunity to walk and work together, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous residents.

The Wangan and Jagalangou people have cared for this Country for thousands of years and have the best interests of the place at heart - can the same be said for those with the short term goal of maximum and ephemeral profit?

Yours sincerely,

Christine Young