



Lodge a written submission

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Organisation Name :

Phone :

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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,

Please don't take the right to enjoy, maintain, control, protect and develop identity and cultural heritage from Wangan and Jagalingou people.

Only a select group of people was appointed to negotiate last when Adani was allowed to destroy cultural heritage. Traditional Owners have NO ENFORCEMENT powers to protect our cultural heritage.

Last year, the Minister refused to exercise his power under the Cultural Heritage Act to issue a stop order to protect a cultural heritage of Wangan and Jagalingou people, and many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The Minister ignored our evidence as Traditional Owners and the evidence of expert archeologists proving, that Adani breached the Acts.

At least three reforms have to be implemented. Please:

- 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.

For many people like me, Traditional People pose a wonder of the world we live in, and a source of wisdom and knowledge. I might never even have a chance to see or speak to them, but you have them next to you and mistreat them? Please take care of their rights and let them look after themselves like they always have. For all of us.

Your faithfully,
Sylvia Magon