



Yamatji Marlpa ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Badimia people announce Minjar Gold Agreement

MEDIA RELEASE: 31 October 2013

The Badimia People, Traditional Owners in the Mid-West of WA have signed a native title agreement with Minjar Gold for its proposed mining operations and future expansions, approximately 400kms north-north east of Perth.

The agreement was negotiated over an eight month period and includes financial payments based on production along with employment targets and contracting opportunities for Badimia people. There are also protocols in place to protect Badimia heritage.

An Aboriginal Liaison Officer will be employed, and a monitoring Liaison Committee will also be established to ensure the agreement works successfully over the coming years.

“The Badimia people are looking forward to a beneficial relationship with Minjar Gold,” said Reg Yates, Chairperson of the Badimia Working Group. “It is important that this agreement gives preferential contracts to Badimia businesses. That is very valuable, because it allows us to be partners in the process, and gives Badimia people a sense of pride.”

“Minjar Gold is delighted to have reached an agreement with the Badimia people to explore and mine gold in Badimia land in a short time frame. This agreement will provide both the Badimia people and Minjar Gold economic success and a good long relationship that will benefit both parties,” said Minjar CEO Max Ji.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) CEO Simon Hawkins said, “The agreement commits to a 10% Badimia workforce on this project, which means opportunities for Badimia people on their own country, both to work and to develop the skills within the community. It is great to see these kinds of opportunities flowing to Traditional Owners in the Mid-West.”

ENDS

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.

For interviews please contact:

Amy Cargill | Communications Specialist

P 08 9268 7014 | F 08 9225 4633 | M 0458 010 483 | acargill@ymac.org.au