



Yamatji Marlpa
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



NEWS RELEASE

Release Time IMMEDIATE

Date 4 November 2015

NEW AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BANJIMA PEOPLE

BHP Billiton has signed a new native title agreement with the Banjima People in Western Australia.

The BHP Billiton Banjima Comprehensive Agreement covers an area of 8263 square kilometres and includes a number of the Company's Pilbara-based iron ore operations and most of the Banjima Native Title determination area.

BHP Billiton Iron Ore President, Jimmy Wilson, said the agreement was believed to be one of the most significant of its kind in Australia and highlighted the Company's transparent and unique approach to engaging Indigenous communities.

"BHP Billiton and the Banjima People have carefully considered all of the terms of this agreement over many years to ensure it would provide real and lasting benefits to both parties," he said.

"I am incredibly proud that we have secured an agreement that reflects our approach of developing true partnerships with Indigenous communities. It moves us away from transaction-based engagement to an ongoing and open relationship that will span generations to come.

"With a life of more than 100 years, it provides long-term certainty for both BHP Billiton, in terms of our current operations and potential future developments, and the Banjima People, with regards to how we will respect and treat their land."

Banjima Native Title Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC Chairperson, Slim Parker, said: "We are in the midst of a period of great change. Through the agreement, the Banjima People have a great opportunity to build a fantastic future through programs and projects.

"The Banjima People are privileged to be at the forefront of a future that can truly be fabulous in all areas of our lives. Change is the name of the game if we the Banjima People are to build prosperity through self-determination. This will enable sustainability of our law and culture for future generations to come."

Simon Hawkins, CEO of Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, the native title representative body for the Pilbara region, said this agreement between BHP Billiton Iron Ore and the Banjima People is a positive outcome after many years of negotiation.

“This agreement between BHP Billiton and the Banjima People is a great achievement for all parties involved. It shows that mining and Traditional Owners can co-exist if parties are willing to listen and work co-operatively,” he said.

The area of the BHP Billiton Banjima Comprehensive Agreement includes some of BHP Billiton’s interests at Mining Area C, Yandi, Munjina, Upper Marillana, Ministers North, parts of Mudlark, Roy Hill and Marillana.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: www.bhpbilliton.com.

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 and copies of hi-res images of the event please contact:

Yvonne Tessensohn-Bleach | Communications Officer

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

P (08) 9268 7000 | M 0417 025 225 |

Leanne Franco

BHP Billiton Iron Ore

P (08) 6321 7388 | M 0477 761 136 |