

APPLICATIONS CURRENTLY IN NOTIFICATION

Queensland

Closing date	Application no	Application name
6 June 2002	QC01/22	Tagalaka People #1
	QC01/27	Gunbara Bulara Group
	QC01/36	Gunbara Bulara #2
	QC01/37	Muluridji People #2
	QC01/38	Djungan People #4
	QC01/39	Western Yalanji People #6
	QC01/41	Gunbara Bulara #3
	QC01/43	Christmas Creek Holding Group
	QC99/35	Gubbi Gubbi People #2
	19 June 2002	QC01/24
QC01/26		Kudjala People #3
QC01/40		Cape Holding Group
QC97/9		Kowanyama People
QC99/15		Mardigan People

For further information regarding notification of any of the applications listed contact the National Native Title Tribunal on 1800 640 501 or <www.nntt.gov.au>.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

'Review of the Native Title Claim Process in Western Australia: Report to the Government of Western Australia' by Paul Wand and Chris Athanasiou, September 2001

Review by Christine Ratnasingham, NTRU

The State of Western Australia has the second highest number of native title applications. The current Western Australian Government, when elected in February 2001, expressed a keen interest to reform the Western Australian native title claim process, and commissioned a review of the process in April 2001, also known as the *Wand report*. This review was conducted by Paul Wand, a former Vice President of Aboriginal Relations for Rio Tinto Ltd., and barrister Chris Athanasiou. Both Wand and Athanasiou have previously provided significant contributions to discussion of native title.

At the time this report was commissioned, the newly elected government expressed its aim as finding "the best way to achieve an environment where native title agreements are the norm rather than the exception". The review supports this aim and provides informed and well considered recommendations to assist the government establishing such an environment in Western Australia.

Justifying its recommendation that native title claims should move towards negotiation and mediation rather than litigation, Chapter 4 critically examines the native title claims process in Queensland, South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria. The native title claims process varies significantly in each state and territory due to the unique concerns of each region. The Northern Territory's native title claims process was excluded from the review because of its significant emphasis on litigation. The Aus-