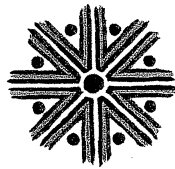


98/0546

DG File 46

**PUBLIC**



**ATSIC**

DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

2 MAY 2003

42095

File No 98/0546

Action Officer G. Barrett

HEARINGS 18/8/03  
MR Richard Curry.

Richard Curry  
Director General  
Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA)  
P O Box 7770  
Cloisters Square  
PERTH WA 6850

*Requester*

*Please arrange a formal meeting.*

*Greg Joyce - ATIC*

*Barrett Gortett } ATIC*

*Gordon } ATIC*

*Myself }*

*Diana Peckley } DIA*

*DJP*

Dear Richard

**INDIGENOUS URBAN SETTLEMENTS PROJECT**

At the April 2003 meeting of the Perth Noongar Regional Council, a paper was presented to the Council advising that DIA is seeking ATSIC advice on the Council's position on the future of four urban settlements: Cullacabardee, Henley Brook, Nyoongah Community Inc; and Swan Valley Nyungah Community.

After considering the paper and engaging in considerable discussion, the Council made the following decision (decision no 022):

*" That the Perth Noongar Regional Council strongly oppose the wholesale closure of Cullacabardee, Henley Brook (Saunders Street), Nyoongah Community Inc Gnanagara and Swan Valley Nyungah Community, and supports a review by ATSIC and DIA of the four settlements to include but not be limited to the following matters:*

- *Ensure participation of the residents, Native Title Claimants and Government decision makers at all levels in the review process, including on site meetings with the communities;*
- *Identify any non-housing options eg; Employment, recreational, cultural etc;*
- *Identify resources required by each settlement for both housing and non housing management and the cost of those resources;*
- *Investigate the benefits of managing the housing including rent collection and repairs and maintenance in all settlements by a single organisation/agent;*
- *Alternative governance structures to improve management;*
- *ALT, Department of Housing and Works and relevant Local Governments and other key stakeholders be invited to participate;*
- *Options for removal of waste where it is an issue;*
- *Recognition of sovereign and inherent citizen rights;*
- *Identify economic based options;*
- *Identify theme based usage eg, Employment/training, cultural, older persons, housing, youth and women;*
- *Accountability and responsibility of communities and Government:*

*Rescheduled for 8/7/03*

*1.30*

*Meeting Scheduled 24 June 2003*

- *Anti-social and racist behaviour of non-Indigenous people in the vicinity of the settlements; and*
- *Strategies to promote harmonious relationships within the communities in the spirit of reconciliation.*

*Copy of the resolution to be sent to the ATSIC Chief Executive Officer, ATSIC Chairperson and local MLAs".*

This decision is consistent with the underlying principles of the Statement of Commitment and the partnership framework which underpins the process for addressing problems facing Indigenous people in Western Australia.

The residents of the four targeted urban settlements should not be penalised because of past failed attempts by government to deal with urban Indigenous homelessness.

I look forward to working with the State Government on this matter and suggest that DIA provide the Council with a comprehensive briefing paper with draft terms of reference for our consideration and input.

Yours sincerely,



Gordon Cole  
Chairperson  
Perth Noongar Regional Council  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission

29 April 2003

ATSIC  
16th Floor  
156 Adelaide Tce.