

[Redacted]

I have a number of concerns about the current Community Living Area Land Reform and future models as described on your website. Basically I never agreed with your so-called, "Stronger Futures" Legislation and I don't agree with your CLAREform because 1) the Government did not (and so far as I can tell is not planning to) actually consult with Aboriginal people in an engaging and empowering way, providing measures to overcome language and cultural barriers to meaningful dialogue 2) the so called "Strong Futures" legislation and the CLAREform violates Australia's commitments to International Law (CERD 1997 4 (d) and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Arts 3, 19, 32.) in this regard and also in regard to having different laws for Australians according to their race.

For actual consultation and respect of Aboriginal people's rights the Government should:

1) Spell out a method or process whereby all Aboriginal people affected will be effectively informed and instructed (in their language if necessary) re: their rights and any proposed changes, with sufficient time for them to absorb the information, consult within their own groups (e.g. Land Councils etc.) and external advisors and present a meaningful response. This method should take into account and correct all the errors made by the Government in the "Stronger Futures" Legislation process which have been detailed by numerous Aboriginal and Human Rights groups i.e. free, prior and informed consent, recording verbal submissions in Aboriginal languages, using fully qualified translators.

2) In addition, the Government should spell out a detailed and transparent process or method for accurately recording and publishing the responses of affected people and groups. One step before publishing results of consultation should be to check back with those Aboriginal groups to ensure their actual words and meaning have been correctly recorded. That is, the Government should check it's correct understanding of the responses before publishing its own version.

In addition I ask and suggest:

- 1) Why are only SELECTED Community Living Areas (CLAs) to be consulted and not all CLAs?
- 2) The government should not allow approval of any development on land without fully informed consent of landowners..a condition for all other landowners.
- 3) The government should provide certainty and security for those people living in CLAs by proposing changes to leases that will give land owners the same rights to make decisions and manage their land.
- 4) Why has the government removed the basic human right of the need for people going on to Aboriginal land to receive approval from the Aboriginal landowners.

Thank you for your consideration. I truly hope this process is far more respectful of Australia's indigenous people's rights to equality under our laws than the so-called "Stronger Futures" Legislation has been - in both process and content.

Sincerely yours,

Joy Dahl
[Redacted]