Hi,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this new initiative by the Federal Government. I have discussed these proposals with the Directors of the Binjari Community Aboriginal Corporation and am happy to provide the following feedback.

The Board supports this initiative and the intent as they understand it from the information provided. They believe the intention will bring more power in the decisions as to what happens on community back to the community which is to be applauded.

Their only concerns were with the federal government’s perceived collaboration and endorsement of the Northern Land Council and to a lesser extent the NT Cattlemen’s Association.

They acknowledge that their CLA and land was originally excised from a pastoral lease and concede that it is appropriate for the NT Cattleman’s Association to be represented and informed of this possible changes but the Board has strong objections to any involvement by NLC who they consider do not have the best interests of indigenous people at heart but are instead driven by “self-interest” alone.

Representatives look forward to attending any consultation or information sessions in the future to move these important changes forward

Thank you

Bev Patterson

Community Facilitator Binjari

[Redacted]