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**STATEMENT TO THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE INQUIRING INTO THE REEVES REVIEW  
OF THE ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS  
(NORTHERN TERRITORY) ACT.**

We, the people who have signed below, are Yankuntjatjara Traditional Owners of the land within the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Aboriginal Land Trust.

Some of us including **Mr Windlass and Mr Stuart are those that personally accepted the first hand back of the land and signed the Lease with the Director of Parks and Wildlife in 1994.**

The Yankuntjatjara people own the Uluru area. It is not owned by Nganyatjarra or *Pitjantjatjara people*, or other Aboriginal people - although we respect those "Anangu People" that have links to this Land. Uluru and KataTjuta is Yankuntjatjar . It is passed on traditionally by Yankuntjatjara people and must be managed by Yankuntjatjara people.

**CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL**

We have concerns about the CLC but **we do not want a new break away Land Council.** We want the CLC to do its job better and to listen to us, not do what they think is right for us.

We do not believe the CLC has properly performed its job under the Land Rights Act. It has never developed an understanding of the Traditional People because it is too remote. It uses terms like "informal consent" to make decisions. Decisions can only be made by Traditional Owners and at times the CLC fails to "take instructions" from Traditional Owners.

**LAND RIGHTS & NATIVE TITLE**

We want the CLC to work with us to assert our fight under the Native Title Act and the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act.

But we must assert our rights. The CLC can help us but cannot do it for us.

## ULURU KATATJUTA NATIONAL PARK

Our biggest worry is the management of the Uluru-KataTjuta, National Park.

The problem is that - no full Yankuntjatjara, people are on the Uluru-KataTjuta National Park's Board of Management. The “representatives” who are appointed by the CLC as “Traditional Owners” to manage the Park have no authority in Yankuntjatjara, law to do so. This is a very great concern to us as the organisation who should know these things, the CLC, has helped appoint these people.

Of greater concern is that the CLC has appointed a non-traditional Aboriginal women from outside Yankuntjatjara people to be a member of the Board and the person is now the Chairperson. As Traditional People we cannot accept that a female from another area of Australia is managing our country for us. This is disturbing and upsetting and goes against our understanding of right and wrong. Our representatives must be our own people - this is not up for discussion - it must happen. And for those of us that are lawmen that woman's appointment is embarrassing and demeaning. This is why Windlass is not on the board. Windlass is the most senior Yankuntjatjara, man. If the CLC wants a person who will fight for the Park it should look to Traditional Owners, not to outsiders.

We have complained but are ignored. The CLC has even threatened to remove their staff from the area so royalties can not be distributed.

The CLC needs to be reminded about what its job is and reminded that it has failed to do that job. It is big organisation that employs a lot of people. It sometimes forgets who it works for.

Other things we want in the Park, but have been ignored are:

- 1. Signs that recognise Yankuntjatjara ownership of the Park. We are not “Anangu” - we are Yankuntjatjara.**
- 2. A Register of Traditional Owners**
- 3. A review of the way "gate monies" are distributed**
- 4. Indicate their support for the appointment of a Northern Territory Government Representative.**

We want the system to work better than it has. We support the existence of the CLC but we want a system where we can control the Land Council - not one where the Land Council controls us.

Please note our concerns.

WINDLASS(signed)

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Signature

JOE STUART(signed)

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Signature

EILEEN HOOSAN(signed)

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Signature

BRIAN DOOLAN(signed)

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Signature

INAWINYTJI STANLEY