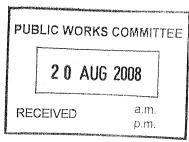


## Yamatji Land & Sea Counci



Our Ref: WAD036 Your Ref:

19 August 2008



Committee Secretary Standing Committee on Public Works Department of House of Representatives PO Box 6021 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Secretary,

## AUSTRALIAN SKA PATHFINDER RADIO TELESCOPE GERALDTON-GREENOUGH AND MURCHISON SHIRE, WA

I refer to the above. YMBBMAC are the Native Title Representative Body for a number of native title claim groups in the Yamatji region of Western Australia. Specifically we represent a number of claim groups whose native title interests will be, or may be affected by the development of the Australian SKA Pathfinder Radio Telescope project.

YMBBMAC does not oppose the ASKAP Radio Telescope project, however YMBBMAC does wish to make sure that we can work together with all parties so that the project can maximise outcomes in relation to heritage and other benefits for each of the effected native title claim groups.

YMBBMAC is anxious to ensure that native title rights and interests are accommodated in the project. It is our understanding that the laying of a fibre optic cable and supporting infrastructure could have implications for various claim groups. It is important that YMBBMAC are able to work with government and other associated parties, to guarantee that heritage protection in the general region is ensured.

A representative of YMBBMAC would like to appear before the committee to give evidence about these matters. We request that the hearing be closed due to the confidential nature some of these issues.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Meegan

PRINCIPAL LEGAL OFFICER

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