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GUNDITJ MIRRORING
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8 April 2011

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary

Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Bill 2011; Carbon Credits (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2011 and Australian National Registry of Emissions Units Bill 2011

Although our Gunditjmara community has not had sufficient time to properly review the above mentioned bills, as native title holders to the 2007 consent determination of non-exclusive native rights and interests to approximately 132,000 hectares of crown land in the far southwest of Victoria, we request that the 3 bills provide adequate and engaging status to Gunditjmara native title holders as having rights and interests in carbon and other similar projects facilitated on the crown land where our native title is recognized.

We also request that similar recognition is provided to the holders of 'Aboriginal Title' under the Traditional Owners Settlement Act 2010 (Vic) as holding rights and interests in carbon across crowns lands and reserves in Victoria.

The recognition of native title rights and interests in the above mention bills will mean an inclusion for Gunditjmara people in the proposed carbon farming initiatives program and participation in related activities that will continue to enhance our community's caring for country and achieving parity to Closing The Gap and other Commonwealth priority indicators.

Yours sincerely

Damein Bell
Executive Officer