Pine Hill Consent Determination Celebrated Today

Minister for Central Australia, Karl Hampton, today joined the Ilkewartn and the Ywel estate groups of the Annatyerr Traditional Owners to celebrate today’s Federal Court consent determination of native title in the Pine Hill Native Title Claim.

“This Government is committed to improving the lives of Indigenous Territorians and this includes working with Traditional Owners towards a negotiated resolution of Native Title claims,” Mr Hampton said.

“From today, the Traditional Owners will have their recognised Native Title rights and interests protected by law.

"Any future dealings which affect their recognised Native Title rights will require their consent.

“The Territory Government previously entered into an Indigenous land use agreement to enable horticultural development over part of the claimed land.

“Budget 2009 commits $3.5 million towards completing access from the Stuart Highway to the Pine Hill horticultural district with Centrefarm Aboriginal Horticulture Pty Ltd to develop the area and provide jobs for local Indigenous Traditional Owners.

“Today’s consent determination hearing of the Federal Court at Pine Hill – 150 kilometres north of Alice Springs - doesn’t establish Native Title but rather, recognises the fact Native Title always existed over the eastern half of the Pine Hill pastoral lease.

“The Territory Government agreed to settle this Native Title claim by entering into an Indigenous land use agreement, and a consent determination.

“Today’s consent determination is the third in the Territory’s history, following last week’s consent determination in Elliott and a consent determination at Tennant Creek in 2007.”

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