

Communique: Cape York Region Package Sub-Working Group Meeting 24 August 2015

The Sub-Working Group of the Cape York Region Package (CYRP) met in Cairns on the 24 of August 2015. The meeting focussed on four key agenda items:

1. Understanding the TMR agreements with Traditional Owners through the Cape York Land Council regional Native Title process;
2. Update on the Mein Deviation tender and progress;
3. Progress on the Indigenous Community Business Cases;
4. Communication and planning the next Taskforce meeting.

Native Title Agreements on the PDR

- TMR presented to Traditional Owners and Cape York Land Council on the PDR component of the Cape York Infrastructure Package;
- A PDR Priority Agreement (PPA) and a Cultural Heritage Protection Agreement were finalised at the end of July between the Nominated Persons of Traditional Owners and the Cape York Land Council (CYLC) and TMR to allow works scheduled in 2015/16 to proceed and to progress a broader Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) to be developed for future PDR works.
- The contents of these agreements are commercial-in-confidence, however, an overview of the agreements is available here - <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Projects/Name/C/Cape-York-Region-Package-Peninsula-Developmental-Road.aspx> (scroll down to News - Thursday 10/9 PDF document)

Progress on the Mein Deviation component

- The agreements with TOs enabled the Mein Deviation tender to be awarded with cultural heritage clearances and establishment of monitors a priority for allowing construction to commence.
- The 29km seal will provide 91 direct jobs with a number of Key Result Areas to be met regarding local and Indigenous employment and training outcomes. Information on the Mein Deviation construction can be found on TMR's website www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Projects
- The successful tenderer was Civil Mining and Construction (CMC) who has engaged My Pathways to assist with meeting the Indigenous employment and training related Key Result Areas.
- A "Project Leadership Team" involving TMR and CMC will meet monthly to track Indigenous employment and training outcomes against the Key Result Areas identified in the contract
- The contract for construction commenced on the Mein Deviation works on 26 August 2015 – further information here - http://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/wt/releases/2015/August/wt275_2015.aspx

Progress on Indigenous Community Business Cases

- Business cases are under development for the Cape Indigenous Mayors Alliance (CIMA) agreed priorities for the \$50.5m investment in transport/non-transport related infrastructure;
- CIMA, TMR and DATSIP have been working collaboratively to ensure community business cases, with sufficiently robust technical information and costings, are completed to allow completion of the overall CYRP business case by the end of September 2015;
- The Business Case and individual Project Proposal Reports will be submitted to the Commonwealth and the State Governments for formal approval;

- Additional infrastructure priorities need to be fed into a process for securing strategic, longer-term investment for Cape communities.

Taskforce Engagement & Communications

- It was considered essential that the Taskforce meet in the near future with dates to be confirmed in the week of Monday 12 October 2015.
- The Sub Working Group welcomed additional communications resources dedicated by TMR to the CYRP

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Relevant information and media releases:

- TMR Cape York - <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Projects/Name/C/Cape-York-Region-Package-Peninsula-Developmental-Road.aspx>
- August 26 2015 - http://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/wt/releases/2015/August/wt275_2015.aspx