



## Nyikina Mangala wins battle against French uranium giant



French multinational Areva Resources has pulled out of a controversial exploration program for uranium near Derby, surrendering all of its exploration tenements in the Kimberley's Canning Basin. The company's decision comes less than a month after the National Native Title Tribunal determined that granting an exploration license on Nyikina Mangala native title was 'in the public interest'.

It's a win for Nyikina Mangala Traditional Owners, who have battled the company every step of the way amidst concerns uranium exploration would jeopardise suicide prevention and cultural programs. Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson Wayne Bergmann, says he is proud Nyikina Mangala Traditional Owners exercised their freedom to say no but is also concerned by the lack of protection offered by native title.

"Right now, we're seeing companies and government using native title to bulldoze Aboriginal people. We can't expect native title to protect our interests and the things that are important to us. *The Native Title Act* discriminates against Aboriginal people and reduces the ability of Traditional Owners to determine what

activities occur on their country.”

Mr Bergmann says, “In this instance, Areva Resources only employed one Aboriginal person in 2013. Smart companies build relationships with Traditional Owners and don’t use the native title system to disempower people.”

Nyikina Mangala people, opposed to the exploration from the get-go, have a moratorium on uranium exploration and mining.

KRED Enterprises supports its members to make decisions about what happens on their country. We act only on the direction of our members.

**KRED employed 170 Traditional Owners last financial year  
170!!**





*The photos below were taken at Munkajarra, a place on Nyikina Mangala country where young people are taught traditional dance and culture. This would have been jeopardised had Areva's exploration plans gone ahead.*



## By standing together in a cultural block, we are strong

All up, KRED Enterprises acts for 13 native title groups across the Kimberley. There are 6 members of Ambooriny Burru and another 4 groups in the process of becoming members. KRED only acts on the direction of Kimberley Traditional Owners. Governments and companies can break people and organisations when they stand by themselves. But we're standing up for each other, we're standing together in a cultural block.



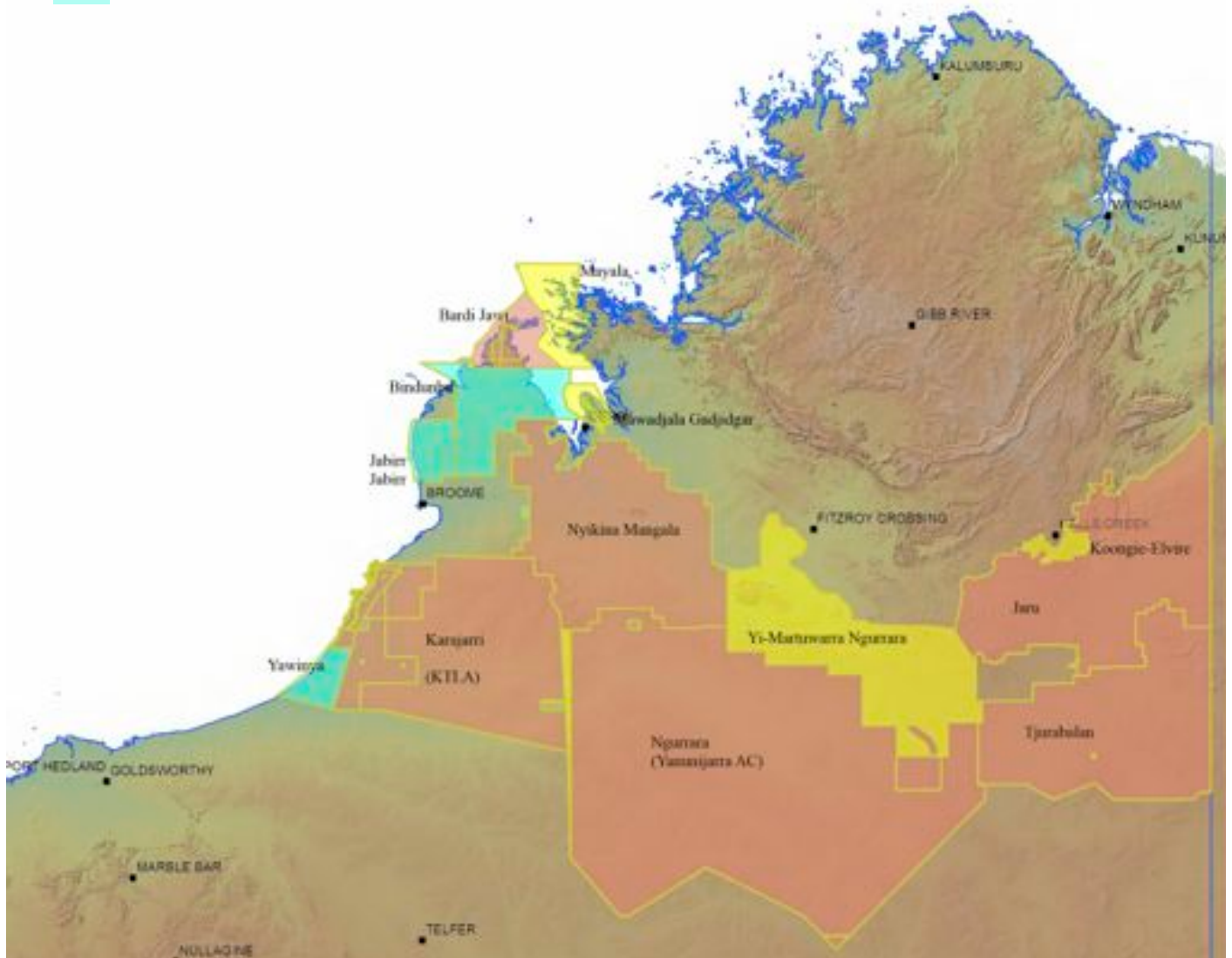
Red shading indicates Ambooriny Burru members



Yellow shading indicates native title groups in the process of becoming Ambooriny Burru members



Green shading indicates groups KRED Enterprises acts for





## Changes to Aboriginal Heritage Act offend Kimberley TOs

The draft amendments to the WA Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 are on the table—and they don't look good.

Legal experts are concerned. Aboriginal academics are concerned. The Kimberley Land Council is concerned. And KRED Enterprises is concerned, that the proposed changes will mean less involvement by our people on crucial decisions relating to heritage.

According to the Draft Bill, all power will be transferred to a single CEO in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. The CEO can decide that 'there is no Aboriginal site on the land,' they will decide what is included or axed from the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects, and there will be no tribunal or way for our people to challenge the decisions of the CEO or the Minister.

Further, there is no requirement for the CEO to be an Aboriginal person or to even have relevant qualifications in Aboriginal heritage, archeology or anthropology.

KRED Enterprises Chairperson, Anthony Watson, says it's shocking decision-making power will rest with a single CEO.

"This is highly offensive to Kimberley Traditional Owners. The Aboriginal Heritage Act in its current form is in desperate need of reappraisal, but the proposed changes simply serve the state's drive for rapid development at the expense of the rights and interests of Aboriginal Traditional Owners."

The Law Society of Western Australia has also slammed the bill for not ensuring transparent reasoning of CEO determinations and for not guaranteeing Aboriginal people a voice in the decision-making process.

Should the Draft Bill become law, rather than smooth negotiations between Traditional Owners and industry, it will increase conflict and litigation in relation to impacts on heritage sites.

Mr Watson says the government has the opportunity to switch lip service with leadership.

"We urge them to dump this Draft Bill and seek the free, prior and informed consent of Traditional Owners as they craft a new Bill—a Bill we can feel proud of, a Bill that we can feel confident will protect our heritage sites and objects in the decades to come," Mr Watson says.



## KRED breaking it down for FASD awareness

A couple of weeks ago on the beaches and basketball courts of Broome, local kids were back flipping, hip-swinging and breaking it down. Indigenous Hip Hop Projects were behind the shenanigans, choreographing and filming a clip about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

The project was initiated by Josie Farrer, Member for the Kimberley, as a means of raising awareness among young people about the dangers of drinking while pregnant. Not only did the young people involved learn this message, they were also able to share it with their peers and the local community in a creative and fun way.

The Ambooriny Burru Foundation stepped up as a major sponsor of the project. In addition to seeking economic development opportunities for Aboriginal people, we're also committed to social development. Through the Ambooriny Burru Foundation, we provide scholarships to aspiring Indigenous athletes, scholars and musicians and we also proudly offer support to tackle social issues that affect all Aboriginal people—including FASD, suicide and homelessness.

Given the shameful statistics around FASD—Aboriginal children are a hundred times more likely to be affected than non-Aboriginal children—we deemed this a worthy project to contribute to.

Indigenous Hip Hop Projects are excellent at what they do and if you're interested in checking out the clip, which stars students from St Mary's College in Broome, try searching for 'Indigenous Hip Hop Projects' & 'Broome' on YouTube.







## Spirit Bear Dreaming

Our Karajarri members have been hooking pink salmon and dodging grizzly bears on the traditional country of First Nations People in Canada.

The Ambooriny Burru Foundation proudly sponsored the Karajarri Healthy Country Study Tour to enable our members to investigate effective models of First Nations governance and land management.

According to Mervyn Mullardy, one of six Traditional Owners to participate in the tour, 'it really opened Karajarri eyes,' particularly in relation to First Nations management of commercial activities on country.

The first stop on the tour was Klemtu, a community run by two tribes, the Kitasoo and Xai'xais. Balanced on the edge of a somber, frosty waterway and ringed with mountains, it's a lucrative place for industry, with fishermen, loggers and tourists all vying for use of country.

But the First Nations people of the area have strict management structures in place, meaning tourism and commercial fishing operations can only happen at certain times of the year and any logging is monitored and undertaken alongside rehabilitation programs.

"The community has struck a commercial balance between controlling development and protecting the environment," Mervyn said.

"We stayed in the tourist lodge at Klemtu, which is fully owned by the First Nations people. The community generates money by getting tourists involved, teaching them to be aware of country and of the stories for their area."

Money earned from commercial operations flows back into programs like the Coastal Guardian Watchmen Network, which is the equivalent of the Kimberley Ranger Network.

Our Karajarri members were impressed to see effective models of Indigenous economic development. Equally impressed were their First Nations hosts, especially when watching the Karajarri Traditional Owners dance in Klemtu's Big House.

"They had a cultural shock, I think, seeing us performing there, seeing Indigenous people dancing, from the other side of the world. Their traditional songs were also really powerful and they spoke of how they felt connected with us, with our dreaming and their stories coming together from other sides of the world. They felt so proud that we'd come all the way from Australia to meet them," Mervyn said.

One of the stories the Kitasoo shared was about the creation and symbolism of the Spirit Bear, but despite searching for it with the Karajarri Traditional Owners, the bear remained elusive.

They also visited the Heiltsuk Nation and the Metlakatla Nation, and joining the exchange, were people from the Lutsel K'e Dene Nation in the Northwest Territories.



"This other mob that was tagging along, an old lady chief and two young girls, they cried for us when we left. They wanted us to come back again and visit their Nation, further north in the mountains," Mervyn said.

The experience lived up to expectations as both a cultural and a learning exchange.

"Reading books and videos is alright, but actually going there, being there, is really another level. I'd like to thank KRED for supporting us."

Through the Ambooriny Burru Foundation we're committed to realising the educational aspirations of our members. All surplus income from KRED's activities goes back into Ambooriny Burru for the benefit of all our members. Members' priorities include law and culture, land management, education, scholarships and economic development opportunities that support the wellbeing of our people.







Last financial year we gave \$30,000 to support the educational aspirations of our members



*We helped make it possible for the 7 Kimberley girls in the Gorna Liyarn dancers to represent Australia at the Springville World FolkFest, America, and also for rodeo star Sally Malay to compete in the US.*