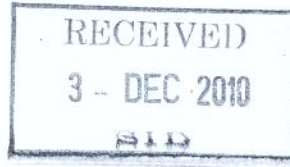




Department of Justice

Native Title Unit

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Our ref: CD/10/330104
30 November 2010

The First Assistant Secretary
Social Inclusion Division
Attorney-General's Department
305 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

7/12/10 KT → KD
→ Tiff

Dear Sir / Madam

NATIVE TITLE DISCUSSION PAPER: MAXIMISING OUTCOMES FROM NATIVE TITLE BENEFITS

Thank you for the opportunity to make a response to the discussion paper *Leading practice agreements: maximising outcomes from native title benefits*.

As you would be aware, the recent election in Victoria resulted in a change of Government. The current Government has not yet articulated its policy position in relation to the matters set out in the paper. For this reason we are unable to provide you with a detailed response at this time.

However, further consultation between the Commonwealth and Victoria on how any proposed measures affect agreements made in Victoria, including any agreements that may be made under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010*, would be valuable at a later date.

In the meantime, officers of the Native Title Unit at the Department of Justice (Victoria) will continue discussions with the Department of Families Housing Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and the Attorney-General's Department about any implications the measures set out in this paper have on current commitments of the Victorian Government under existing settlements.

Yours sincerely

Dean Cowie
Acting Manager
Native Title Unit