



6 November 2009

Indigenous Heritage Law Reform
Heritage Division
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2601

To Whom It May Concern:

Indigenous Heritage Law Reform – Discussion Paper

On behalf of Brisbane Airport Corporation (BAC) I thank the Australian Government for the opportunity to comment on the Indigenous Heritage Law Reform Discussion Paper. As the airport lessee company for Brisbane Airport, BAC's role is to manage and develop Brisbane Airport. Given our role in developing Brisbane Airport, we have reviewed this discussion paper and provide the following comments.


The discussion paper refers to processes outlined in native title legislation that would continue as the means to secure heritage agreements. Clarification should be given to instances where Native Title has been extinguished, such as Brisbane Airport and how the consultation requirements and processes would be altered in those situations.

To ensure timeliness of development approvals, the following elements are critical to ensuring effective reform –

- Provision of guidance or definitions of what constitutes Indigenous Heritage;
- Clarification of the notification process for sites on Commonwealth Land; and
- Clear timeframes associated with the approval phase of the legislation.

Once again, I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Indigenous Heritage Law Reform Discussion Paper. If you would like to discuss these comments further, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07 3406 3000.

Yours sincerely


Julieanne Alrøe
Managing Director and CEO
Brisbane Airport Corporation Pty Ltd