



received
29/12/22.

The Hon Linda Burney MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians

Reference: MC22-004586

Mr Luke Clarke
PO Box 996
DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Mr Clarke *Luke*

Thank you for your correspondence of 30 September 2022 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, regarding your clients' identity and family connections. The Prime Minister has requested that I respond on his behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I acknowledge the concerns raised by your clients. This is a complex and personal issue for First Nations people - our identity and cultural heritage is the essence of who we are. First Nations identity of an individual or a family group should be respected and the Australian Government, or I personally, would not seek to interfere in this matter.

I note the matter raised primarily relates to the jurisdiction of ACT Government and that you have already raised this matter with the Hon Andrew Barr MLA, ACT Chief Minister.

In relation to Native Title processes, the National Indigenous Agency (NIAA) provides assistance to Native Title claimants, holders and people who may hold Native Title through a national network of funded Native Title representative bodies and service providers. Service providers operate independently of the NIAA and the Australian Government in deciding who they will assist, how they will provide assistance, prioritise workloads, and in the day-to-day management of any matters.

NTSCORP is the relevant service provider for NSW and the ACT and I recommend you contact that body to explore potential options. NTSCORP can be reached by phone on 02 9310 3188 or toll free 1800 111 844 or email at information@ntscorp.com.au.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely

The Hon LINDA BURNEY MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians

Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

15 DEC 2022