



Australian Government

Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

31 July 2018

Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Email:

Dear

Proposed amendments to the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006

As you may be aware, the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations and the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) administer the Commonwealth *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (CATSI Act)—an incorporation statute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups.

Today, there are a growing number of vibrant corporations (just over 3000) who are registered under the Act, involved in a broad range of social and economic activities. From the delivery of essential services, arts, health, and with growing numbers involved in the business sector, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations play an important role in the Australian economy.

The CATSI Act has now been in operation for 11 years, and government proposes to introduce amendments to make the law stronger and allow corporations to use it more effectively. The proposed amendments were informed by an independent technical review of the CATSI Act, and stakeholder consultations undertaken as part of that review.

Many of the changes aim to streamline the Act and reduce red tape, especially for smaller corporations with revenue of less than \$250,000 per year. Other proposed changes seek to improve options for responding to lower-level cases of non-compliance, and to increase transparency for members. A summary of the changes is attached to this letter.

ORIC is now undertaking consultation to seek input on the detailed design of the changes and implementation arrangements.

In late August we will be releasing a discussion paper and will invite written submissions on matters raised in that paper. In the meantime, I am keen to offer you an individual briefing on the proposed amendments. ORIC is available to set up a day and time that suit. Please email ORIC at <insert email address> or <insert phone number>.

If you have any comments on the proposed amendments please email CATSI-review@oric.gov.au. More information about the amendments and consultation opportunities will be made available on oric.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Mike Fordham
Acting Registrar of Indigenous Corporations