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13 July 2006

Committee Secretary
Community Affairs Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Secretary

RE: INQUIRY INTO ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHT (NORTHERN TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL 2006

CPSU (PSU Group) wishes to make an oral submission to Inquiry into Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006.

The CPSU is the principal union representing employees in the Australian Public Service, ACT Public Service and the NT Public Service. As such the CPSU is a strong advocate on issues of public and community policy and service delivery.

The CPSU has exclusive coverage of the Northern and Central Land Councils. The proposed amendments to the legislation will have significant implications on the operations of these land councils.

Our members are committed to a system which supports the land rights of traditional owners and ensures they are effectively protected. Our members are integral in the framework which is currently in place, and we feel that they will be able to provide the inquiry with a valuable and unique insight into the effect the proposed amendments will have on the land councils and the wider community.

We are currently in the process of consulting our membership over the proposed amendments and wish to make a more detailed oral submission when the Senate Committee conducts public hearings in Darwin on the 21st of July.

Yours sincerely

Naomi Porrovecchio
Regional Director