

NYAMBA BURU YAWURU LTD — IRRIGATION PROJECT

Statement by Minister for Lands

MR J.N. CAREY (Perth — Minister for Lands) [9.05 am]: I rise to inform the house of a significant project that underscores our government's commitment to supporting new opportunities for Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley. The Cook government has approved a 420-hectare land transfer to support a proposed pivot irrigation development that will deliver benefits to the Yawuru people. The land will be transferred to Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd in conditional freehold. The pivot irrigation development will create local jobs and supply fodder to support the Kimberley pastoral industry. The land transfer is subject to the successful negotiation of an Indigenous land use agreement and will support the diversification of NBY's agriculture operations to generate new and sustainable income for the Yawuru community. The conditional freehold tenure will give Yawuru long-term secure ownership, along with their native title rights, over the land area in a boost to attract more investment into NBY's business proposals while also improving the economic viability of ongoing livestock production activities.

The approval of this land transfer exemplifies our commitment to working with traditional owners to close the gap by supporting social, cultural and economic opportunities for communities and Aboriginal businesses. As Minister for Lands, I will always work to support and enhance our regional communities.