



**Office of the Hon Jenny Macklin MP
Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services
and Indigenous Affairs**

Parliament House
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MC11-008172

01 SEP 2011

Ms Margaret Clinch
margaret.clinch@bigpond.com.au

Dear Ms Clinch

Thank you for your email of 28 June 2011 to the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP, about Knuckey Lagoon Management. The Minister has asked me to reply to you on her behalf. I apologise for the lengthy delay in responding.

The Australian Government is concerned about community conflict and personal safety. When residents of Knuckey Lagoon are experiencing community conflict and feel that their personal safety and property is at risk, they should contact the Police immediately.

Aboriginal Development Foundation Association Incorporated is aware of the current conflict situation at Knuckey Lagoon and is working closely with all parties through ongoing supported mediation to ensure a positive outcome for all.

Associations are required under Section 21 of the Associations' Act to have a dispute resolution process in their Constitution. Any internal dispute, for example, between a member and another member, or a member and the management committee are to be handled by the Association through mediation. The Northern Territory Government provides mediation through the Community Justice Centre as a free service.

If someone who is not a member of the Association and would like to query a process or decision that has been made by Aboriginal Development Foundation Association Incorporated this should be addressed in writing. Their address is GPO Box 2784, Darwin, Northern Territory 0801.

Aboriginal Development Foundation Association Incorporated do not receive funding from the Australian or Northern Territory Governments for municipal services, capital work and repairs and maintenance to housing.

However, the Northern Territory Government has an agreement in place with Yilli Rreung Aboriginal Housing Corporation to manage repairs and maintenance for housing within the Darwin Town Camps including Knuckey Lagoon and One Mile Dam.

I trust this information helps to address your concerns.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alice Kemble'.

Alice Kemble
Adviser