

Larrakia at Bagot Community not consulted by Planit Consulting or Dragon Lady Pty Ltd - May 2014

Hon Peter Chandler

The Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment

Dept of Lands, Planning and Environment

GPO Box 2520

Darwin NT 0801

Dear Mr Chandler

We the undersigned, as members of the Larrakia tribe have a sacred duty to care for the land at sites of Darwin and Cox Peninsula. There are other sites that have historical and cultural significance to our family and all Larrakia people. The Interim Aboriginal Land Commissioner, Justice Dick Ward recognized the importance of the land incorporating the old Bagot Reserve and recommended this area be incorporated into the Kulaluk lease because of its historical and cultural significance. This includes an estimated over 200 burials. The Aboriginal Land Rights Commissioner, Justice A E Woodward, also recognized the importance of the area when he wrote in 1974 that "Kulaluk has become something of a symbol of the stand which Aborigines, with the help and guidance from many different sources, are now making against the past tendency to put their interests last in any consideration of land usage."

We are concerned that a small group have signed deals with developers that will alienate the Kulaluk lease from Aboriginal people. There are alternative plans that would create a wilderness, cultural, educational and environmental park employing Aboriginal people and providing amenities for the whole of Darwin. The Planit Consulting company has not consulted with us at Bagot, nor have the Development Consent Authority or the Gwalwa Daraniki Association.

As traditional owners, we would expect to be consulted over plans for the land, We also wish to register our protest at the recent destruction of vegetation on the lease near the old Bagot burial grounds.

Yours sincerely