

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL OF TERRITORY CO-OPERATION

9 March 2010

The Council of Territory Co-operation tomorrow travels to Groote Eylandt for two days of meetings and hearings in relation to its terms of reference. This will include site visits of the new housing construction under the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program – SIHIP – and open forums, in both Angurugu and Umbakumba where SIHIP houses are being built.

Visits to both townships will be undertaken on Wednesday and a public hearing is scheduled for 9.00am to 12.30pm and 2.00 to 3.30pm on Thursday

The Chair, Independent Member for Nelson Mr Gerry Wood, said that the Council is keen to meet with local residents and discuss their views on the three issues presently under review by the Council, namely Working Futures and local government reforms, as well as SIHIP.

"There will be opportunities for people to have their say at the open forums scheduled for 12.00 to 1.30pm at Angurugu and 4.00 to 5.30pm at Umbakumba on Wednesday, and again from 2.00 to 3.30pm at the Alyangula hearing on Thursday", said Mr Wood.

Mr Wood said that the Council would have liked to have gone to Milyakburra on Bickerton Island also but its schedule during this trip does not allow for it. "However we will be back at some stage", stated Mr Wood.

On the morning of Thursday's Public Hearing the Council will meet with representatives of the Anindilyakwa Land Council and the Earth Connect Alliance, which is constructing the SIHIP housing. The hearing is from 9.00am to 3.30pm at the Land Council's meeting room and, unless requested by a witness, it will be open to the public.

A copy of the Council's Groote Eylandt itinerary follows.

Further information – Pat Hancock, Secretary on 8946 1429 or 0401 111 429

ENDS

ITINERARY for Council of Territory Cooperation

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, 10&11 MARCH 2010

GROOTE EYLANDT

Members:	Mr Wood, Ms Anderson, Mr Elferink, Mr Gunner, Ms Scrymgour, Mr Westra van Holthe
Wednesday 10 March 2010	
10.00am	Arrive Groote Eylandt
10.15am – 12.00noon	Tour of Angurugu and site visit of SIHIP houses, including visit to health centre
12.00noon – 1.30pm	Community Open Forum, Shire Council Board Room
2.30pm – 4.00pm	Tour of Umbakumba and site visit of SIHIP houses
4.00pm – 5.30pm	Community Open Forum, Council Conference Room
Thursday 11 March 2010	
9.00am	Meet at Anindilyakwa Land Council meeting room 30 Bougainvillea Drive Alyangula
9.15am	Anindilyakwa Land Council – Mr Walter Amagula, Chairman Mr Tony Wurramarrba, Deputy Chairman Mr Richard Preece, CEO
10.45am	Break
11.00am	Andrew Schroth, General Manager, Earth Connect
12.30pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Open forum
3.30pm	Hearing close