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To: [CHA_Review](#)
Cc: wanganandjagalingousog@gmail.com
Subject: Submission regarding review of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Acts
Date: Wednesday, 30 March 2022 3:21:29 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am moved to make this submission because of the brutal treatment of the Wangan and Jagalingou Peoples at the hands of the Queensland government and Adani (Bravus) last year when a significant cultural heritage area was destroyed without free prior and informed consent. It wasn't as dramatic as Rio Tinto blowing up the Juukan Gorge caves with the approval of the WA government, but it was the same thing.

I urge your review to recommend that the following steps be taken as a minimum:

- Amend the definition of 'Aboriginal party' so that Traditional Owners with cultural connection to Country can be involved in consultation and negotiation processes, regardless of their status as a native title party.
- Create greater enforcement powers for First Nations, so that we aren't reliant on the State to protect our cultural heritage if it is in imminent danger of harm or destruction.
- Establish an independent First Nations-led decision-making body that is responsible for dispute resolution and mediation, and for assessing who the right people to speak for Country are.

Yours sincerely

Peter Murphy

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