



Lodge a written submission

Submitted By : Bill Moran

Submitted On : 2022-03-30 22:05:00

Organisation Name :

Phone :

Email :

bmoran

Q.1 Please upload your document.

A.

Q.2 Do you have any comments you wish to add?

A. Following recent events on Wangan and Jagalingou land where Traditional Owners we're not able to maintain, protect, develop and enjoy their identity and cultural heritage under Qld law, it is evident that reform is necessary. The following reforms could be considered the bare minimum for improving the agency and authority of the original and rightful custodians of Wangan and Jagalingou land, and all indigenous nations that continue to exist in so called Queensland:

- 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.

Sovereignty was never ceded. Colonial law enables the destruction of the basic human rights of indigenous people. This needs to change as a matter of urgency.