

Native Title in the News February 2009

Date	State	Summary	Source
Feb-09	NA	Deal makes way for mid west	Iron ore producer Midwest Corporation has finalised heritage agreements with the Jidi Jidi Aboriginal Corporation (JJAC), covering its prospective iron ore and manganese tenants at the Robinson Range in WA's Mid West region.
1-Feb	NA	Submissions to close	Submissions are due to close for the Federal Government's native title discussion paper, which canvasses options for using the native title system to aid and address key areas of Indigenous disadvantage. The purpose of the discussion paper is to create ideas, stimulate discussion and seek input from the public.
2/02/2009	WA	Barry unveils \$60m Leeman resort plan	Developers have announced plans to turn the Leeman Caravan Park site into a 200-Bedroom, four-and-a-half star resort. The land is already zoned for use as caravan park and is not listed on the native title register, further inquiries will be made to make sure of this.
5/02/2009	NSW	Land rights claim over Cox Peninsula settled	Australia's longest running land claim has been settled, ending a 30 year struggle by the traditional owners for rights to prime land on Darwin's doorstep

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5/02/2009	WA	Act dismisses 14 WA native title claims	Fourteen native title claims covering more than 290,000km ² of the Goldfields, South West, the Pilbara and Geraldton have been dismissed on technicalities in WA recently.	<i>Farm Weekly</i> , (Western Australia, 5 February 2009), 167.
6/02/2009	NSW	Traditional land owners fire up quarry debate	The Ngulingah Aboriginal Land Council has accused Lismore City Council and the owner for Champions Quarry of not consulting with them over a proposed extension of the site.	<i>Northern Star</i> , (Northern Star, Lismore NSW, 6 February 2009), 6.
10/02/2009	TAS	Independence moves by Aboriginals	Aboriginal leaders are this month meeting in Launceston to plan a push to form their own government to control Crown land resources.	<i>Launceston times</i> , (Launceston TAS, 10 February 2009), 5.
11/02/2009	WA	Aboriginals oppose Swan Valley mosque	Plans to build a mosque in the Swan Valley have upset Noongar elders who claim the Caversham land is a sacred site and has been protected under the Aboriginal Heritage Act since 1984.	<i>West Australian</i> , (Perth WA, 11 February 2009), 13.

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12/02/2009	WA	Aboriginals set for mining deal with Rio	Aboriginal groups in the Pilbara and mining giant Rio Tinto are on the brink of signing Australia's biggest mining agreement after five years of sensitive discussions. The agreement, expected to be sealed in April, covers compensation, jobs, training, and protection of culturally important sites, environmental issues and post-mining rehabilitation of the land.	<i>West Australian</i> , (Perth WA, 12 February 2009), 44.
13/02/2009	QLD	Forum day	The Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation will hold a day of forums and workshop on February 28 at the Parliamentary Annexe, in Brisbane.	<i>Albert & Logan News</i> , (Logan VIC, 13 February 2009), 3.
17/02/2009	NT	Arernte warning: behaviour or get out	The native title holders of Alice Springs have called on bush visitors to mind the lore of the land while they're here - or get out. Under a plan being worked on with the Territory and Federal Governments, native title holders will educate visitors on where it'd safe to be and where its not.	<i>Centralian Advocate</i> , (Alice Springs NT, 17 February 2009), 5.
17/02/2009	NSW	Calls for Indigenous cemetery	With burial space scarce in south-east Sydney, an Indigenous leader has called for the historic Coast Hospital Cemetery at Cape Banks to be used wholly by local Aborigines.	<i>Southern Courier</i> ,(Sydney NSW, 17 February 2009), 1.

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19/02/2009	WA	Call to speed up native title	Kimberley Land Council executive director Wayne Bergmann has called for a new Kimberley-wide approach to native title negotiations in order to speed up the building of key projects in indigenous communities.	<i>Broome Advertiser</i> , (Broome WA, 19 February 2009), 9.
19/02/2009	NSW	Four remote communities sign up to 40-years leases	Traditional owners from four remote communities have decided to give up management of their land for the next 40 years under a lease agreement with the federal government. In exchange, the communities will get about 300 new houses and 250 existing houses will be refurbished.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> , (Malua Bay NSW, 19 February 2009), 9.
19/02/2009	NT	New Indigenous body sworn in	For the first time in the Northern Territory history, the government has appointed an Indigenous body to advise it on Aboriginal affairs.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> , (Malua Bay NSW, 19 February 2009), 7.
25/02/2009	QLD	Mabo community challenges State Government	The tiny island community that set the nation's land rights agenda with the 1992 Mabo decision say's it's ready to initiate a legal challenge against the Queensland government if necessary to have a new school built on native title land.	<i>Torres News</i> , (Thursday Island QLD, 25 February 2009), 10.

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26/02/2009	WA	LNG hub gets boost from traditional owners	The state government's plans for a gas processing hub on the Kimberley coast have received support from the region's traditional owners, which have said they are ready to discuss a deal for a large scale liquefied natural gas development on Aboriginal land.	<i>Business News</i> , (Perth WA, 26 February 2009), 4.
28/02/2009	NA	Half of land taken reverts to Aborigines	Aborigines in the Northern Territory will regain 50 per cent of the land that was compulsory acquired by the Federal Government, after a review of the intervention.	<i>Weekend Australia</i> , (28 February 2009), 10.
29/02/2009	NSW	New approach to closing gap	Land, culture identity and respect need to be among the issues addressed by the Rudd Government before it can tackle Aboriginal disadvantages.	<i>Daily Advertiser</i> , (Wagga Wagga NSW, 28 February 2009), 13. <i>Advertiser</i> , (Adelaide VIC, 28 February 2009), 24.