



**Northern Land Council  
Territory Construction  
Association  
MEDIA RELEASE**



## **Indigenous training locked in for major projects**

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A significant agreement signed today by the Northern Land Council, the Territory Construction Association (TCA) and the Northern Territory Government has secured up to 30 Indigenous pre-employment training positions.

The aim of the training is to maximise Indigenous employment on forthcoming major projects, such as the soon-to-be-constructed Wickham Point LNG plant near Darwin. Working collaboratively, the NLC and TCA have brokered a deal with the NT Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) to provide skilled employees for the projects as well as the construction industry as a whole.

The landmark agreement, reached after consultations with the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation, includes provisions for some full-time employment upon completion of the 15-week training period. The training program is being funded through DEET.

Co-announcing the agreement, NLC Deputy Chairman John Daly said the deal would have a positive impact on Aboriginal economic development.

“This agreement is a further example of the excellent results being achieved by our Employment and Training Unit in association with the TCA, as already demonstrated by the successful outcomes achieved on the Alice Springs to Darwin Railway Project,” Mr Daly said.

“In December of last year the NLC and TCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding which committed both organisations to the creation of employment opportunities for Indigenous people. There could be no better proof that this partnership works than the deal announced today.”

Training positions will initially be offered to the Darwin region’s traditional owners, the Larrakia people, with provision for other Aboriginal people to be trained as the project ramps up. It is expected that the NLC and TCA will coordinate and manage the recruitment and training of participants placed in the course.

TCA President Steve Margetic welcomed the agreement, which benefits the construction industry and the Territory economy.

“Our aim was to create a fully transferable model to facilitate employment opportunities for traditional owners and Aboriginal people in the region,” Mr Margetic said.

“The results of the collaboration will increase local participation on major projects and will build a permanent skilled workforce in the industry.”