

**ERA****Energy Resources of Australia Ltd**

ABN 71 008 550 865

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**Media Release**

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### **Settlement of Jabiru native title case**

An in principle resolution to the Jabiru native title case was announced today. The proposed settlement will see Jabiru recognised as Aboriginal land and the town areas being leased to the Executive Director of Township Leasing for 99 years rent free. The native title application over the town was first lodged in 1997 and is one of the longest running native title cases in Australia.

Energy Resources of Australia Ltd (ERA) Chief Executive Rob Atkinson welcomed the proposed settlement of the case.

"I am delighted with today's announcement. The proposed settlement will formally recognise Mirarr traditional ownership of the land and provides certainty for the future of the town of Jabiru," Mr Atkinson said.

"This will benefit everyone who lives and works in the area. ERA has strongly supported the aspirations of the Mirarr to have their relationship with Jabiru formally recognised, and I offer my heartfelt congratulations and thanks to all those involved for their hard work and the goodwill demonstrated."

"ERA has been operating the Ranger mine on Aboriginal land for over three decades. We are confident that the town will continue to operate effectively under the new lease arrangements and that there will be no negative impact on town users and visitors."

#### **Background**

On 25 November 2009 the Mirarr Applicants and the other parties to the case including the Commonwealth Government agreed to an in principle resolution which will recognise the Mirarr People's traditional ownership of Jabiru. The proposed settlement includes scheduling the town of Jabiru as Aboriginal land under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.

The proposed settlement will also include the leasing of the town by the Executive Director of Township Leasing from the Mirarr under a rent free 99 year lease. It is expected that the terms of the new town lease will be negotiated over the coming months.

Jabiru is part of Kakadu National Park, and lies 250km east of Darwin. Unlike the surrounding areas of Kakadu, and ERA's Ranger Project Area and Jabiluka Mineral Lease, Jabiru was not scheduled as Aboriginal land when the first stage of Kakadu was declared in 1978. Jabiru and two adjacent blocks of land are instead owned by the Director of National Parks.

Jabiru is now a diversified regional centre, which in addition to housing many of ERA's employees and contractors, supports many of the estimated 200,000 tourists who visit Kakadu National Park each year. The town has a population of approximately 1,200.

The native title application over the township of Jabiru and adjacent blocks covers 68 square kilometres.

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For further information on the company's activities please access ERA's website at

<http://www.energyres.com.au>