



# Media Release

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## **Largest set of Aboriginal Agreements in Australia's resources history signed for GLNG project**

The partners of the Gladstone Liquefied Natural Gas (GLNG) project together with local Aboriginal Traditional Owners, signed the seventh and final *Indigenous Land Use Agreement* for the Project at a ceremony in Gladstone today.

Signing this final agreement, called the 'Murribindi Gap B' agreement, which is one of 42 individual agreements with Aboriginal peoples for the GLNG project, means the project can commence construction with certainty that the appropriate Aboriginal agreements and conditions are now in place from Gladstone through to Roma.

The Murribindi agreement covers the GLNG pipeline corridor roughly between the Expedition Range in the west and the Dawson Range in the East.

Collectively, the 42 signed agreements are the largest set of agreements with Aboriginal peoples in Australia's resources sector history.

GLNG is a joint venture between Australia's largest domestic gas producer Santos and Malaysia's PETRONAS, the world's second largest LNG producer.

President GLNG and Queensland Rick Wilkinson said the agreements are similar to those Santos has with pastoral or agricultural landholders and involve arrangements for land use and access, and the way the project will manage impact on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

"The agreements provide surety to everyone – Santos, the GLNG project and Traditional Owners – that issues such as Native Title have been considered effectively and appropriately, and that the project can proceed with confidence and won't be subject to delays," Mr Wilkinson said.

"The big positive from my point of view is that our process has been highly collaborative and we have managed to achieve the agreements based on respect for the Traditional Owners and a common objective of reaching agreement through negotiation."

Santos Principal Advisor, Indigenous Affairs Craig Jones said the large number of agreements was needed as the GLNG project covers such a wide footprint – from the gas fields in Roma along the pipeline route and to the proposed LNG facility in Gladstone.

"Along with Native Title and Cultural Heritage considerations, the Santos team is working closely with Traditional Owners to discuss important topics like employment, training and enterprise development," Mr Jones said.

"The employment, training and enterprise outcomes will assist Aboriginal communities to achieve important development outcomes in to the future."

"They'll also assist GLNG to build capability in the region and manage potential future skills shortages in the LNG industry."

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One of the signatories for the Aboriginal Traditional Owners Donna Sandow said she was happy with the negotiation process and felt the agreement addresses employment and training interests ahead of construction of the GLNG project.

“We had the opportunity to meet several times with Santos and our legal representative to discuss the project at length,” said Ms Sandow.

“We appreciated that Santos supported our requests, like a Working Party and a Employment and Training Workshop – which allowed us to consider our options.

“The Agreement’s employment and training component is an excellent foundation for us to address employment and training needs.

“Our Agreement also gives us the opportunity to continue to work with Santos in accessing other opportunities that are available with this project like 300 jobs for Indigenous People along the pipeline route,” Ms Sandow said.

**ENDS**

### **About the GLNG project**

*Gladstone Liquefied Natural Gas (GLNG®) is a pioneering project to convert coal seam gas (CSG) to liquefied natural gas, representing a major investment in a cleaner energy source for the future. The project is led by Santos, Australia’s largest domestic gas producer, in partnership with PETRONAS, Malaysia’s national oil and gas company and the world’s second largest LNG exporter.*