



CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8936 5500
Facsimile: 08 8936 5576

Mr s47F
Chief Executive Officer
Aboriginal Investment Group
PO Box 40298
CASUARINA NT 0811

Dear Mr s47F

Thank you for your letter of 12 March 2020, regarding the Remote Laundries Project. I am writing to provide my support for Aboriginal Investment Group's application for a Commonwealth Government grant under the Aboriginal Benefits Account, for this project.

The six identified remote Aboriginal communities (Borrooloola, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Ngukurr, Wadeye and Yarralin), for which the Remote Laundries Project will be implemented in, will greatly benefit from the installation of laundry facilities. This initiative will generate job creation and improve health outcomes for Aboriginal people in these communities.

The self-determination nature of this proposal is in line with the Northern Territory Government's policies, in particular around Local Decision Making as it considers investments for Aboriginal people, by Aboriginal people. Further, I am pleased to hear the project will also increase Aboriginal employment in the communities.

I wish the Aboriginal Investment Group every success in their endeavours towards continued community development and community empowerment, and look forward to hearing the positive outcomes from such a great initiative.

Yours sincerely

s11C

MICHAEL GUNNER

31 MAR 2020



Scott McConnell MLA
MEMBER FOR STUART



Building a stronger future for Stuart

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

s47F

Chief Executive Officer
Aboriginal Investment Group
PO Box 40298
Casuarina NT 0810

19 March 2020

Re: Aboriginals Benefit Account – The Remote Laundries Project

Dear Mr s47F

I am writing to provide my strong support for Aboriginal Investment Group (AIG) to deliver The Remote Laundries Project to the six designated communities of Borroloola, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Ngukurr, Wadeye and Yarralin. These Northern Territory indigenous populations will greatly benefit from the installation of a Remote Laundries Project laundry, an initiative that will generate job creation and provide improved health outcomes, significantly improving living standards in our remote communities.

I am impressed by the community-centric nature of this proposal which considers investments for Aboriginal people, by Aboriginal people. Furthermore, the project will increase indigenous employment on community.

I wish the Aboriginal Investment Group every success in their endeavours towards continued community development and community empowerment.

Yours Sincerely,

s11C

Scott McConnell
Member for Stuart
Northern Territory Government



Victoria Daly
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Regional Office
29 Crawford Street,
KATHERINE NT 0850

PO Box 19
KATHERINE NT 0851

Telephone 08 8972 0777
Facsimile 08 8971 0856
admin@vicdaly.nt.gov.au
www.victoriadaly.nt.gov.au

s47F

Chief Executive Officer
Aboriginal Investment Group
PO Box 40298
Casuarina NT 0810

20 March 2020

Re: Community Benefits Fund – Remote Laundries Project Yarralin

Dear Mr s47F

I am writing to provide my strong support for s11C to establish a Remote Laundries Project laundry in Yarralin. The Yarralin community will greatly benefit from the installation of a Remote Laundries Project laundry, an initiative that will generate job creation and provide improved health outcomes, significantly improving living standards in our remote NT communities.

I am impressed by the community-centric nature of this proposal which considers investments for Aboriginal people, by Aboriginal people. Furthermore, the project will increase indigenous employment on community.

I wish the s11C every success in their endeavours towards continued community development and community empowerment.

Yours Sincerely,

s11C

Brian Pedwell
Mayor
Victoria Daly Regional Council

| # | Criteria | Guidelines | Assessment | Justification |
|----|---|--|------------|---------------|
| 1 | Criterion 1 - Proposal Benefits | Selection Criteria question. Set assessment value to Assess if Required. Assess as per standard process. Maps to Response field. | s47C | s47C |
| 2 | Criterion 2 - Need for proposal | Selection Criteria question. Set assessment value to Assess if Required. Assess as per standard process. | s47C | s47C |
| 3 | Criterion 3 - Capacity to deliver the Proposal | Selection Criteria question. Set assessment value to Assess if Required. Assess as per standard process. | s47C | s47C |
| 11 | Selection Criteria Moderation Line. | 'Moderate if Required' . Assess as per standard process. | s47C | s47C |
| 12 | Has the Standard Appraisal Checklist been finalised? process. | Administration question. Set assessment value to Assessment required. Assess as per standard process. | s47C | s47C |

| Created Date | Created By | Type | Description |
|------------------|------------|-----------|---|
| 15/03/2021 14:57 | s47E(d) | Note | AMO - 20210315 - App sent back to PO for more info - LE |
| | | | |
| 20/03/2020 15:34 | s47E(d) | Evidence | s47C |
| 14/05/2020 10:57 | s47E(d) | Reference | |
| 16/06/2020 11:14 | s47E(d) | Reference | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 10/06/2020 13:23 | s47E(d) | Evidence | s47C |
| 17/07/2020 12:21 | s47E(d) | Reference | |

| Application ID | Organisation | Title | Assessor |
|----------------|---|--|----------|
| s22(1) | | | s22(1) |
| 4-E2009T2 | NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CHARITABLE TRUST | The Remote Laundries Project - Stage 2 | s22(1) |

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

From: s22(1)
To: s22(1)
Subject: FW: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 5 March 2021 3:33:00 PM
Attachments: [image013.jpg](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[image017.png](#)
[image018.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.jpg](#)
[image009.jpg](#)
[image010.jpg](#)
[image011.jpg](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image025.png](#)
[image026.png](#)
[image027.png](#)
[image028.png](#)
[image029.jpg](#)
[image030.png](#)
[image031.png](#)
[image032.png](#)
[image033.png](#)
[image034.png](#)

s22(1)
 Darwin Tiwi Islands | Top End and Tiwi Islands | Regional Network
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 P. s22(1)
 Jacana House 39-41 Wood Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
 w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au
 NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



From: s22(1)
Sent: Friday, 5 March 2021 1:49 PM
To: s22(1)
Subject: FW: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

s22(1)
 Top End & Tiwi Islands Branch | Central Group
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 P. s22(1)
 s22(1)
 Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
 w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au
 NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



From: s22(1)
Sent: Thursday, 2 July 2020 9:55 AM
To: s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Cheers I have finalised GPS

s22(1)

Top End & Tiwi Islands Branch | Central Group
National Indigenous Australians Agency

P: s22(1) s22(1)
Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au
NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



From: s22(1)
Sent: Thursday, 2 July 2020 9:34 AM
To: s22(1)
Subject: FW: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

FYI – one approved

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------|--------------|--------|
| 4-E2009T2 | NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CHARITABLE TRUST | CASUARINA NT 0810 | \$809 000.00 | s22(1) |
|-----------|---|-------------------|--------------|--------|



From: s11C s22(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 July 2020 3:59 PM
To: s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

It actually reads stronger with that sentence gone so yes, take it out
s11

s11C
Regional Manager
Top End and Tiwi Islands | Central Group | Operations and Delivery Division
National Indigenous Australians Agency
P: s22(1) m: s22(1)
L5 Jacana House 39-41 Wood Street Darwin 0800
w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

EA: s22(1)
P: s22(1) e: s22(1)



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



From: s22(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 July 2020 3:25 PM
To: s11C s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hi s1

I have amended again, attached is the s47C

Could remove my sentence

Thanks

s2

From: s22(1)
Sent: Wednesday, 1 July 2020 8:46 AM
To: s11C s22(1)
Subject: ABA AIG Laundries [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hi s11C

I would like to run this one passed you for the RM Endorsement I have drafted a s47C Comments welcome Thanks

s2

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------|--------------|----|------|
| 4-E2009T2 | NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CHARITABLE TRUST | CASUARINA NT 0810 | \$809 000.00 | s2 | s47C |
|-----------|---|-------------------|--------------|----|------|

Application Summary assessment

AIG Remote Laundries
s11C

s47C

18 FEB 2021

PDR: MS20-000710

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS AGENCY
MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION

To: Minister for Indigenous Australians (for decision by 23 February 2021 to facilitate advice to applicants of the outcomes of the February 2020 round this month)

ABORIGINALS BENEFIT ACCOUNT (ABA) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 2020 – FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations - that you:

s22(1)

3. Indicate your decision for each Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) grant application received in the February 2020 funding round at Attachments D and Attachment E and agree to the negotiation of funding conditions for those applications you support.

Agreed / ~~Not Agreed~~

4. Sign the letters to applicants at Attachment F for supported applications only.

Agreed / ~~Not Agreed~~

s22(1)

KEN WYATT

Date:

25 February 2021

Comments:

s22(1)



15. It is the NIAA's view the processes used to assess the applications have satisfied your obligations as the decision maker under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines* (CGRGs) (Attachment I). Decisions you make are reviewable under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1972*.
16. Under Section 64(4) of the Land Rights Act, you are the decision maker to approve grant funding from the ABA. You have broadened your delegation of decision-making powers to NIAA Senior Executive Service (SES) employees with responsibilities for ABA matters (Land Rights Act Instrument of Delegation M7 of 2019 executed on 16 October 2019). The conditions you agreed in June 2019 on funding amounts and risk ratings for particular levels of SES delegates apply (MS19-001576 refers) (Attachment I).
17. Once the NIAA has negotiated conditions with relevant organisations, a NIAA delegate will take into review the merits of the proposal, the organisation's risk rating and the parameters of the project when considering making a direction to debit under Section 64(4) of the Land Rights Act.

s22(1)



Sensitivities

Nil.

s11C

Group Manager
Central Group
11 February 2021

Policy Officer: s22(1)
Phone no: s22(1)
Consultation: Economic Policy and
Programs Group

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

OFFICIALReleased under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency**ATTACHMENTS****ATTACHMENT A** s22(1) **ATTACHMENT B** s22(1) **ATTACHMENT C** s22(1) **ATTACHMENT D** PROJECTS RECOMMENDED BY ABAAC**ATTACHMENT E** PROJECTS NOT RECOMMENDED BY ABAAC**ATTACHMENT F** LETTERS TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FROM FEBRUARY
2020 TO NEGOTIATE FUNDING CONDITIONS**ATTACHMENT G** s22(1) **ATTACHMENT H** DESCRIPTION OF ABA ASSESSMENT PROCESS**ATTACHMENT I** OBLIGATIONS OF DECISION MAKER**OFFICIAL**



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
Member for Hasluck

Reference: MS20-000710

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

Ms **s47F**
Program Manager
Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust
PO Box 40298
CASUARINA NT 0811

Dear Ms **s47F**

I am writing to you in response to Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust's application for funding from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) under subsection 64(4) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.

As the Minister for Indigenous Australians, I am the final decision maker in relation to any proposal funded from the ABA account for an ABA Beneficial Grant. In the instance of your application, I am pleased to inform you that I have directed the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to negotiate funding conditions with Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust. In making my decision, I took into consideration the assessment undertaken by NIAA and the advice provided by the Aboriginals Benefit Account Advisory Committee.

Please note that this is an in-principle agreement only and the project scope, budget and conditions remain to be agreed. Officials from NIAA will contact you shortly to commence negotiations for your project:

- The Remote Laundries Project - Stage 2.

Once these negotiations have concluded, a delegate may consider entering into a Funding Agreement.

Should you require further information regarding your application or the funding negotiation process, please contact Ms s22(1), Adviser, Northern Territory Strategy and Policy Branch via email at aba@official.niaa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

The Hon KEN WYATT AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians

/ / 2021

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

Attachment I

OBLIGATIONS UNDER RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Under the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) Section 64(4) Beneficial Grant Guidelines, the Minister for Indigenous Australians (the Minister), or Minister's delegate, is the funding approver responsible for deciding grant funding.

On 16 October 2019, the Minister delegated his powers under S64(4) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* to direct amounts to be paid or applied to or for the benefit of Aboriginals living in the Northern Territory to (Instrument Number M7 of 2019):

- the Chief Executive Officer of the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA);
- an SES employee or acting SES employee in the NIAA who is responsible for ABA matters;
- an SES employee or acting SES employee in the NIAA who is classified SES Band 1, or is acting at that level, and is based in the Northern Territory.

On 14 June 2019, the Minister approved the framework under which he agreed that he would delegate certain powers. Under this framework (the Decision Making Policy for Administered Funding), the Minister has delegated authority for administered funding decisions to the NIAA, in regard to ABA Beneficial Grants, as follows:

| Funding | Delegation limits per funded activity (Maximum total value and Activity Risk Assessment rating) | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| | CEO Deputy CEO (DCEO)* | SES Band 2* | SES Band 1* |
| Aboriginals Benefit Account — beneficial grants, township leasing and ABA Advisory Committee (section 64(4), 64(4A), 64(6)) | CEO – to the limit of funds available when endorsed for formally delegated by the Minister CEO/DCEO – up to \$10 million standing delegation Can execute agreements of Risk rating of up to High | Up to \$1 million. Can execute agreements of Risk rating of up to Medium. | Up to \$0.75 million Can execute agreements of Risk rating of up to Medium. |

* These delegations can only be exercised over administered budgets for which the delegate has responsibility.

In making your decision you will need to consider your mandatory obligations associated with approving grants presented by the NIAA.

If you approve expenditure under the Minister's delegation, you *must* ensure that the proposed expenditure is a proper use of money ('proper' when used in relation to the use or management of public resources means efficient, effective, economical and ethical).

When an official is acting under a delegation, it is best practice for officials to include the following information, which an official is required to prepare for a Minister under paragraph 4.6 of the *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines* (CGRGs):

- 4.6 *Officials **must** provide written advice to Ministers [or delegate], where Ministers [or delegate] exercise the role of an approver. This advice must, at a minimum:*
- a. explicitly state that the spending proposal being considered for approval is a 'grant';*
 - b. provide information on the applicable requirements of the PGPA Act and rules and the CGRGs (particularly any ministerial reporting obligations), including the legal authority for the grant;*
 - c. outline the application and selection process, including the selection criteria, that were used to select potential grant recipients; and*
 - d. include the merits of the proposed grant or grants relative to the grant guidelines¹ and the key consideration of achieving value with relevant money.²*

If the proposed expenditure of relevant money relates to a grant, paragraph 4.5 of the CGRGs requires where you exercise the role of approver you *must* also record, in writing, the basis for the approval relative to the grant guidelines and key considerations of value with relevant money. The recommended basis and record for the approval, relative to the grant guidelines and the key consideration of value for money, are set out in this brief. If there is any alternative basis or considerations on which you are basing your decision you should record these in accordance with clause 3.9 of the CGRGs.

If you approve the commitment of relevant money under s23(3) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) an NIAA officer will enter into the arrangement pursuant to s23(1) of the PGPA Act, or s32B of the FF(SP) Act (and 32C if applicable).

The NIAA is responsible to ensure forward year commitments are recorded in accordance with the PGPA Act. The NIAA must record any applicable amounts if you approve the grants recommended in this brief.

Conflict of interest

If you as a delegate, in making this decision, have a real or perceived conflict of interest, you will need to make an appropriate declaration and consider any further steps you may need to take to address the conflict. This could include referring this decision to an alternate delegate. Further information including your obligations, can be found in the [Conflict of Interest Policy](#) on the intranet.

¹ This includes the requirement that a proposed grant be consistent with the policies of the Commonwealth, noting that these policies include the guidelines issued in respect to the relevant granting activity. In this context, the basis for recommending or rejecting each proposed grant should be set out in the assessment material for each grant and should reflect the particular merits of each project in terms of the grant guidelines (including assessment against the eligibility and assessment criteria)

² It is better practice to include this information for any delegate exercising the role of an approver

s22(1)

From: s22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 12:53 PM
To: s22(1); s22(1); s22(1)
Cc: s11C
Subject: FW: Signed: MS20-000710 - Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) February 2020 Grants Funding Round [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Team, fyi, see DLO's advice below on the Minister's request for additional information on the 11 applications from Feb 2020 round ...

s22(1)

s22(1)

ABA Projects Section | Central Group
National Indigenous Australians Agency
p. s22(1) | m. s22(1)
Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | GPO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.



From: DLO Wyatt (Protected) s47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 9:46 AM
To: s22(1) DLO Wyatt (Protected) s47E(d)
Cc: s22(1)
Subject: RE: Signed: MS20-000710 - Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) February 2020 Grants Funding Round [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)

The Minister has taken the option of requesting further information where that option was provided by NIAA – rather than 'not approving' the project.

Accordingly, the Minister is likely to be interested in whether changes are possible/contemplated that would enable a project to be resubmitted for approval. Thus the nature of the further information will vary according to the project, including why the project was not endorsed by NIAA.

This is all I have at this stage.

Kind Regards

s22(1)

s22(1) **Senior Departmental Liaison Officer**

Office of the Minister for Indigenous Australians

National Indigenous Australians Agency

p. s22(1) m. s22(1)

w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



From s22(1)

Sent: Saturday, 10 April 2021 3:03 PM

To: s47E(d)

Cc: s22(1)

Subject: Signed: MS20-000710 - Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) February 2020 Grants Funding Round
[SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hello DLO

In response to the Signed: MS20-000710 - Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) February 2020 Grants Funding Round, the Minister has requested further information on 11 ABA funding applications. To progress those applications, can you please advise what information the Minister is requesting? The ABA team are finalising the ABA February 2020 round, therefore clarification on the Minister's request is required to progress those 11 applications to finalise the funding round.

MS20-000710 Signed brief, Attachment D Recommended Applications and Attachment Not Recommended are attached for further reference.

The below applications which the Minister requested further information on are listed in MS20-000710 – ATT D – Recommended Apps:

| ORGANISATION | TITLE |
|--------------|-------|
|--------------|-------|

s22(1)



Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust

The Remote Laundries Project -
Stage 2

s22(1)



Please contact s22(1) or s22(1) if further information is required.

Regards

s22(1)

ABA Projects Team | Central Group
National Indigenous Australians Agency

p. s22(1)

m. s22(1)

Level 5 Jacana House, 39-41 Woods Street, DARWIN NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801

[w. niaa.gov.au](http://w.niaa.gov.au) [w. indigenous.gov.au](http://w.indigenous.gov.au)



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



s22(1)

From: s22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, 27 April 2021 3:40 PM
To: s22(1); s22(1)
Subject: February 2020 round - Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust: The Remote Laundries Project - Stage 2 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1), s22(1)

I am sending you this email so you are aware of the possibility this may be escalated in the future.

s47F from Aboriginal Investment Group (AIG) called on 15 April 2021 to seek an update on the outcome of the February 2020 application from the Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust for the Remote Laundries Project – Stage 2. s47F advised the two contact people nominated on the application, Ms s47F and Mrs s47F, were no longer working at AIG and her and Ms s47F are now the contacts. s47F and s47F had met with s22(1) (TETI region) on this day and s22(1) also contacted the ABA inbox asking for us to let AIG know what the outcome of their application is.

I advised s47F the February 2020 outcomes were known for the majority of the applications and there were 11 the Minister was seeking further information on before making his final decision and that an outcome should be known in the next 6-8 weeks. s47F asked what further information the Minister wanted and when he would be briefed. I advised s47F the information would come from internal and the Minister would be briefed in the next 1-2 weeks. s47F voiced her concern at it taking so long to receive an outcome on their application (now over 12 months ago). I also let s47F know that we would let them know via email of the outcome as soon as we receive it.

s47F called again this morning and mentioned the Governor General met with them last Friday and was supportive of the project and wrote to the Minister for Health on Saturday. s47F also mentioned they had received a report from s11C on the benefits of the project and highlighted a finding in the report that the project would see a savings to government of \$78m through the project of establishing seven more laundries over the next five years.

s47F asked for an update on the outcome, again expressing her concern in the delay of getting an outcome on the application. s47F asked if there was a way to escalate the decision making so they were able to plan for the project outlining the health benefits and employment benefits of the project. I advised s47F we could not single out their application above all others and that we would need to brief the Minister on all 11 applications at the same time. s47F asked for a timeframe of when the outcome would be known as she did not feel the 6-8 week timeframe was soon enough and has asked for us to get back to her with a solid timeframe and not the 6-8 week guestimate.

Please advise who will call her back to provide the solid timeframe.

Thank you

s22(1)

ABA Secretariat
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 p. 1800 354 612
 Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
 w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

From: s47F
To: s11C s22(1)
Cc: s22(1) s47F
Subject: Remote Laundries Project - ABA funding follow-up
Date: Wednesday, 12 May 2021 1:56:40 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[Remote Laundries Project S-CBA - Overview Mar21.pdf](#)
[Remote Laundries Project S-CBA - Placemat May21.pdf](#)

Hi s11C s22(1)

Thanks again for your time today, your support is greatly appreciated.

s11C as discussed, any introductions you could make for us that you think will aid our project moving forward, would be welcomed - in particular, introductions to the following:

s47F - s11C

s47F

Any Federal Government official in the Health space including Hon. Greg Hunt
 Any philanthropic organisations you come across that have an alignment with the Remote Laundries Project - (Health, Social, Economic outcomes)

s22(1) - I'll touch base with you in the next couple of weeks to get an update on timeframes re the ABA Grant funding. Any questions you have in the meantime, please do let me know.

I've attached softcopies of the s47F and a Placemat for future reference. Also, see below - link to our Remote Laundries Project documentary which is a great way to share our storey in an incredibly impactful way. Please feel free to share.

<https://youtu.be/9uxAzSDkvVE>

Look forward to catching up again soon.

Thanks.

s47F

s47F

GENERAL MANAGER - REMOTE LAUNDRIES

Aboriginal Investment Group

T: s11C | F: s11C | M: s47F
 32 Dripstone Rd Casuarina NT 0810 | PO Box 40298 Casuarina NT 0811

s47F [@aiggroup.org.au](mailto:s47F@aiggroup.org.au)



www.aiggroup.org.au

www.remotelaundries.org.au

Office working hours: **Monday to Friday.**

From: s22(1)
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: RE: ABA Grant Funding [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 20 May 2021 4:36:00 PM
Attachments: [image004.jpg](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.jpg](#)

Hi s47F

It was good to meet with you and s47F last week. No further information is required for the application at this stage. We'll give you an update as soon as we have one.

Kind regards

s22(1)

s22(1)

ABA Projects and Food Security Section | Central Group
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 p. s22(1) | m. s22(1)
 Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | GPO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
 w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.



From: s47F@aiigroup.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 8:35 AM
To: s22(1)
Cc: s47F@aiigroup.org.au>
Subject: ABA Grant Funding

Hi s22(1)

Just checking in to see if you have any updates re our Grant App (Mar 2020) since our meeting last week? Pls do let us know if you require any further info.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

s47F

s47F

GENERAL MANAGER - REMOTE LAUNDRIES

Aboriginal Investment Group

s11C

| M: s47F

32 Dripstone Rd Casuarina NT 0810 | PO Box 40298 Casuarina NT 0811

s47F

[@aiggroup.org.au](mailto:s47F@aiggroup.org.au)



www.aiggroup.org.au

www.remotelaundries.org.au

Office working hours: **Monday to Friday.**

Email-signature



From: ABA
To: s22(1)
Subject: RE: Remote Laundries Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 15 April 2021 5:00:24 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

OFFICIAL

We will manage it from this end and will let you know if we need any input from the region.

From: s22(1)
Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 4:26 PM
To: ABA <ABA@official.niaa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Remote Laundries Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22(1) – thanks so much we did advise they ring but they asked us to follow up on their behalf.

I have been on leave for a couple weeks so a bit out of the loop- are we gathering further information for the Minister or your selves?

Thanks

From: ABA <ABA@official.niaa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 2:46 PM
To: s22(1) ABA
 <ABA@official.niaa.gov.au>
Cc: s22(1) s22(1)
 s22(1)
Subject: RE: Remote Laundries Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)

I took a call from s47F this morning seeking information on the outcome of their application. I have since spoken with s11C and advised her the Minister is yet to make his decision and has sought further information from the Agency before he does.

s47F asked what the timeframe was for the decision. I told her the outcome should be known in the next 6-8 weeks.

s47F has also asked if we are able to let her and s47F know when the next ABA grant funding round opens. I told her this would possibly be in June and that we did not have a confirmed opening date. I also let s47F know the round would be an open round and the ABA website would be updated with information on when the round opens as the information comes to hand.

Regards

s22(1)

From: s22(1)

Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 2:20 PM

To: ABA <ABA@official.niaa.gov.au>

Cc: s22(1); s22(1)

Subject: Remote Laundries Project

Hi

We had a meeting with Remote Laundries Project, Australian Investment Group.

They were asking about results for the ABA application which they think dates from February 2020 round. We advised that we through the successful/unsuccessful letters had been distributed. They advise that have not receive d any communication from ABA

Would you be able to please provide status that I can feed back?

Thanks

s22(1)

Senior Adviser a/g

Darwin, Tiwi Islands Engagement

Top End Tiwi Islands Strategic Economic Development

Central Group

National Indigenous Australians Agency

s22(1) | s22(1)

s22(1) | www.niaa.gov.au | www.indigenous.gov.au

Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801

NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.



From: s22(1)
To: s22(1)
Subject: DRAFT Further information request email to be sent to NT regions for input [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021 10:13:31 AM
Attachments: [Table to brief Minister with further information requested.docx](#)
[image013.jpg](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[image017.png](#)
[image018.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)

I could not find anything in Sharehub to show that s22(1) has actioned this so I have drafted the email below for sending to the ABA Leads and RMs for the 11 further information requests from the February 2020 round. Could you please review and let me know when it is ready to send out.

Hi ABA Lead/RM

The Minister has requested further information on applications submitted in the February 2020 ABA grant funding round before making his final decision. s47C

[Redacted]

s47C [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]. Could you please update the attached and return to me by no later than **close of business Thursday 20 May 2021.**

Thank you

s22(1)

ABA Secretariat
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 p. 1800 354 612
 Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
 w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

NIAA C-19 signature block updated



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.

OFFICIAL

PDR: EC21-000239

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS AGENCY

- **To:** s11C, Group Manager - Central

MEETING WITH ABORIGINAL INVESTMENT GROUP

| | |
|---|--|
| Attendees: s47F, Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Investment Group. s11C, Group Manager, Central Group. s22(1), Regional Manager a/g, Top End and Tiwi Islands. s22(1), Senior Adviser a/g, Darwin and Tiwi Islands Region. s22(1), Executive Officer to s11C s11C | Meeting Date: 17 March 2021 Start Time: 10:00am Finish Time: 11:00am Venue: 32 Dripstone Rd Casuarina |
|---|--|

Purpose:

- Aboriginal Investment Group (AIG) and National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to meet and view new laundry.

Our Objectives:

- To discuss how the services provided by AIG are assisting Indigenous Australians in the homeless community in and around Darwin.

Their Objectives:

s47C

- To discuss how the laundry and other services are assisting the homeless community in and around Darwin including providing employment opportunities for the women's prison and Indigenous Australians with special needs.

Key Points:

s22(1)

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency
OFFICIAL

s22(1)

[Redacted]

Background:

s22(1)

[Redacted]

s47C

[Redacted]

s22(1)

[Redacted]

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

s22(1)

Regional Manager a/g
Top End Tiwi Islands, Central
Group
March 2021

Contact Officer: s22(1)

s22(1)

Consultation: NT Lands Team and
NT ABA Team.

NOTED:

Date:

From: s22(1)
To: s22(1)
Cc: s22(1); ABA: s22(1); s22(1); s22(1)
Subject: Table with further information - Feb20 round - TETI Region (1) [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 22 June 2021 2:46:14 PM
Attachments: [Table with further information - Feb20 round - TETI Region \(1\).docx](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1),

Responses re two of these are captured in the attached – s22(1) is finalising text on the third one and will send through to you this afternoon.

If anything further is needed, feel free to reach out directly to s22(1) re the laundries one, and s22(1) on the other two.

Kind regards,

s22(1)

s22(1)

Regional Manager

Top End and Tiwi Islands | Central Group | Operations and Delivery Division

National Indigenous Australians Agency

p. s22(1) m. s22(1)

e. s22(1) [@official.niaa.gov.au](mailto:s22(1)@official.niaa.gov.au)

GPO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801

w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

EA: s22(1)

p. s22(1) | e. s22(1)



From: s22(1) s22(1)

Sent: Thursday, 10 June 2021 4:30 PM

To: s22(1) s22(1)

Cc: s22(1) ABA <ABA@official.niaa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Additional information on unresolved Feb 2020 ABA applications – TETI
 [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Importance: High

H s47F, and s22(1)

As you may know, the Minister requested further information on a number of applications that were submitted in the February 2020 ABA grant funding round and considered by ABAAC in December 2020. We need to get these resolved. Three of the applications are for your region (see attached) and we are seeking your Region's further input on these please.

In total, additional information was requested on 11 applications. s47C

It would be appreciated if you would please provide additional information/comments on the applications and ABAAC's recommendations that will assist the Minister in his decision making. We've suggested some examples of additional information below that may be relevant, noting your knowledge of these matters is greater than ours and there may be other relevant information you can provide. We note when considering/endorsing applications, RMs can draw on information beyond that provided in application documents.

The applications in your region are:

s22(1)

2. s11C

s47C

s47C

s22(1)

Could the additional information please be added to highlighted column in the attached. We would appreciate this information by cob Thursday 17 June please so we can get this brief to the Minister.

Thank you, much appreciated

s22(1)

s22(1)

ABA Projects and Food Security Section | Central Group
National Indigenous Australians Agency

p s22(1) | m. s22(1)
Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | GPO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



| Organisation | Project Details | Funding Requested and Proposed Budget | Key Budget Items | Agency Comments and Conditions (MS20-000710) | ABAAC Advice and Comments (MS20-000710) | ABAAC Recommended Funding (MS20-000710) | Minister's Decision (MS20-000710) | Revised Agency Comments and Conditions | Minister's Decision |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| [Redacted] | | | | | | | | | |
| Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust | <p>Proposal title: The Remote Laundries Project - Stage 2</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> | s11C | s11C | s47C | s47C | \$809,000.00 | <p>Negotiate funding conditions</p> <p>Not approved</p> <p>Further information</p> <p>Comment: No comment recorded</p> | s47C | <p>Negotiate funding conditions</p> <p>Not approved</p> <p>Further information</p> <p>Comment:</p> |

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS AGENCY
MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION**

To: Minister for Indigenous Australians (for decision by **16 July 2021**)

**ABORIGINALS BENEFIT ACCOUNT (ABA) FEBRUARY 2020 GRANTS FUNDING
ROUND – PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Recommendations - that you:

1. Indicate your decision for each unresolved Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) grant application received in the February 2020 funding round at Attachment A and agree to the negotiation of funding conditions for those applications you support.

Agreed / Not Agreed

2. Sign the letters to applicants at Attachment B for supported applications only.

Agreed / Not Agreed

3. Note the Assessment Process at Attachment C and the Obligations of Decision Makers at Attachment D.

Noted / Please Discuss

KEN WYATT

Date:

Comments:

Key Points:

1. Following the receipt of funding recommendations from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) Advisory Committee (ABAAC) for grant applications received in the February 2020 ABA beneficial grants funding round, on 25 February 2021 you:

s47F

- requested further information on 11 applications for your decision.

s22(1)

s22(1)

5. If you indicate your approval of recommended applications, the NIAA will enter into negotiations with applicants around funding and funding conditions.
 - a. Where the NIAA has provided additional information on recommended funding conditions, the NIAA will enter into negotiations on the basis of this information unless you indicate otherwise.
6. To support the timely notification of outcomes, letters to applicants for the 11 applications are included in this brief for your signature should you approve the negotiation of funding conditions (refer Attachment B). Only those letters for applications you approve should be signed. The NIAA will inform unsuccessful applicants and provide constructive feedback.
7. Under subsection 64(4) of the *Aboriginals Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* and ABA Beneficial Grants Guidelines, you are the decision maker to approve grant funding from the ABA. If, at Attachment A, you indicate your approval of the grant funding, the NIAA will enter into negotiations with those organisations around funding conditions.

Background:

s47C

10. It is the NIAA's view the processes used to assess the applications have satisfied your obligations as the decision maker under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines* (CGRGs). Decisions you make are reviewable under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1972*. The assessment process for the February 2020 funding round is described at (Attachment C).
11. Under Section 64(4) of the Land Rights Act, you are the decision maker to approve grant funding from the ABA. You have broadened your delegation of decision-making powers to NIAA Senior Executive Service (SES) employees with responsibilities for ABA matters (Land Rights Act Instrument of Delegation M7 of 2019 executed on 16 October 2019). The conditions you agreed in June 2019 on funding amounts and risk ratings for particular levels of SES delegates apply (MS19-001576 refers) (Attachment D).

12. Once the NIAA has negotiated conditions with relevant organisations, a NIAA delegate will take into review the merits of the proposal, the organisation's risk rating and the parameters of the project when considering making a direction to debit under Section 64(4) of the Land Rights Act.

Sensitivities:

s22(1)



s11C

Group Manager
Central Group
1 July 2021

Policy Officer: s22(1)

Phone no: s22(1)

Consultation: Arnhem Land and Groote Eylandt (ALGE), Central Australia (CA), and Top End and Tiwi Islands, Central Group; Land Branch.

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A FURTHER INFORMATION – FEBRUARY 2020 APPLICATIONS

ATTACHMENT B DRAFT LETTERS FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

ATTACHMENT C DESCRIPTION OF THE ABA ASSESSMENT PROCESS

ATTACHMENT D OBLIGATIONS OF DECISION MAKER

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

| | Organisation | Project Details | Funding Requested and Proposed Budget | Key Budget Items | Agency Comments and Conditions (MS20-000710) | ABAAC Advice and Comments (MS20-000710) | ABAAC Recommended Funding (MS20-000710) | Minister's Decision (MS20-000710) | Further information and reviewed NIAA endorsement Released under the FOI Act by the National Indigenous Australians Agency | Minister's Decision |
|--------|---|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| s22(1) | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust | Proposal title: The Remote Laundries Project - Stage 2 s11C | s11C | s11C | s47C | s47C | \$809,000.00 | Negotiate funding conditions Not approved Further information Comment: No comment recorded | s47C | Negotiate funding conditions Not approved Comment: |



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
Member for Hasluck

Reference: MS21-000338

Ms s47F
Program Manager
Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust
PO Box 40298
CASUARINA NT 0811

Dear Ms s47F

I am writing to you in response to Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust's application for funding from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) under subsection 64(4) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.

As the Minister for Indigenous Australians, I am the final decision maker in relation to any proposal funded from the ABA account for an ABA Beneficial Grant. In the instance of your application, I am pleased to inform you that I have directed the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to negotiate funding conditions with Northern Australian Aboriginal Charitable Trust. In making my decision, I took into consideration the assessment undertaken by NIAA and the advice provided by the Aboriginals Benefit Account Advisory Committee.

Please note that this is an in-principle agreement only and the project scope, budget and conditions remain to be agreed. Officials from NIAA will contact you shortly to commence negotiations for your project:

- The Remote Laundries Project - Stage 2.

Once these negotiations have concluded, a delegate may consider entering into a Funding Agreement.

Should you require further information regarding your application or the funding negotiation process, please contact Mr s22(1), Senior Adviser, Northern Territory Strategy and Policy Branch via email at aba@official.niaa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

The Hon KEN WYATT AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians

/ / 2021

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

From: s22(1)
To: s47F
Cc: s11C s22(1); s47F
Subject: RE: ABA Funding - Remote Laundries Project [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 23 June 2021 4:29:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Thanks s47F

It was good speaking with you earlier. We are committing best efforts to meeting these timeframes, noting some parts of the assessment process are out of my control.

Kind regards

s22(1)

s22(1)

ABA Projects Section | Central Group
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 p. s22(1) | m. s22(1)
 Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | GPO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801
 w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.



From: s47F <s47F@aiigroup.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 23 June 2021 1:59 PM
To: s22(1) s22(1)
Cc: s11C s22(1); s22(1)
 ; s47F@aiigroup.org.au
Subject: RE: ABA Funding - Remote Laundries Project

Hi s22(1),

Thanks for your call earlier.

In summary of our call earlier today, you've committed to the following timeframes:

- Have our application submitted for the clearance process by COB 2 July 2021
- Have our application confirmed by the clearance process team and submitted to the Ministers office by COB 9 July 2021

I'll be in contact later next week to ensure we're on track with the above timeframes. We appreciate you keeping this final process on track in the meantime.

Thanks,

s47F

s47F

GENERAL MANAGER - REMOTE LAUNDRIES

Aboriginal Investment Group

s11C

| M: s47F
32 Dripstone Rd Casuarina NT 0810 | PO Box 40298 Casuarina NT 0811

s47F [@aiggroup.org.au](mailto:s47F@aiggroup.org.au)



www.aiggroup.org.au

www.remotelaundries.org.au

Office working hours: **Monday to Friday.**



From: s47F

Sent: Wednesday, 23 June 2021 9:59 AM

To: s22(1) (Unclassified) <s22(1)>

Cc: s11C s22(1); s22(1)

Subject: ABA Funding - Remote Laundries Project

Hi s22(1),

I've just left you a vm – would appreciate it if you could give me a call when you're free.

As s11C knows, I spoke with Minister Wyatt and s22(1), Chief of Staff at the Barunga Festival the other weekend and was told our application is with the Minister. He asked me to email him and

they'll get onto it. I heard from s22(1) last Thursday and he promised an update early this week. I received a call this morn from s22(1) who simply told me it's in the "approval process" and can't tell me anymore than that – no timeframes etc.

She said this is with NIAA and I need to call yourself s22(1). I told her I'm in constant contact with you and you can't provide any further info other than it's with the Minister. So, you see I'm being told by Minister Wyatt's office that our application is with NIAA/ABA and NIAA/ABA are telling me it's with the Minister. Are you able to provide a more accurate update?

Look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

s47F

s47F

GENERAL MANAGER - REMOTE LAUNDRIES

Aboriginal Investment Group

s11C

| M: s47F

32 Dripstone Rd Casuarina NT 0810 | PO Box 40298 Casuarina NT 0811

s47F

[@aiggroup.org.au](mailto:s47F@aiggroup.org.au)



www.aiggroup.org.au

www.remotelaundries.org.au

Office working hours: **Monday to Friday.**



| Created Date | Created By | Type | Description |
|------------------|------------|-----------|---|
| 1/12/2020 10:56 | s22(1) | Note | RM Endorsement email uploaded to attachments |
| 18/09/2020 14:04 | | Note | |
| 12/10/2020 12:50 | | Reference | AMO - 20201106 - Regional Manager Endorsement email sent - MP |
| 12/10/2020 12:50 | | Reference | AMO - 20201105 ORP assessor s22(1) - MP |
| 12/10/2020 12:50 | | Reference | AMO - <Add Date> - Programme Owner email sent - < Initials > |
| 12/10/2020 12:50 | | Reference | AMO - 20201020 - Assessment Panel email sent - LE |
| 12/10/2020 12:51 | | Reference | AMO - 20201020 - RO assessor: s22(1) - LE |
| 12/10/2020 12:51 | | Reference | AMO - 20201014 - request for RO panel assessors email sent - LE |
| | | | s47C |
| | | | |
| | | Evidence | |
| 30/10/2020 17:29 | | Note | AMO - 20201020 - Assessment reassigned to s22(1) - LE |
| 20/10/2020 16:13 | | | |

From: s22(1)
To: s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 19 October 2020 5:57:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.jpg](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image019.png](#)
[image020.png](#)
[image021.png](#)
[image022.png](#)
[image023.png](#)
[image024.jpg](#)

Can we get maybe s22(1), s22(1) and s22(1) – to do one each as well?

From: s22(1)
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 4:25 PM
To: s22(1) s22(1)
s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22(1)

We have removed s22(1) as an assessor so there is no need to worry about this piece of work.

s22(1)

Top End & Tiwi Islands Branch | Central Group
National Indigenous Australians Agency

p. s22(1)

s22(1)

Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801

w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



From: s22(1)
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 4:24 PM
To: s22(1)
Cc: s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Okay, thanks s22(1) and s22(1) I will advise s22(1) accordingly. Is there any training or Task cards s22(1) can access for this piece of work?

s22(1)

From: s22(1)
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 4:17 PM
To: s22(1)
Cc: s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22(1) thanks for the heads up. s22(1) has advised there is a high workload for ABA assessments so s22(1) IEO ABAs will be reassigned to Economic team to help lighten the load.

Regards

From: s22(1)
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 4:05 PM
To: s22(1)
Cc: s22(1)
Subject: RE: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22(1),

The following staff have quite a large number of assessments plus we have another 10 that I haven't allocated yet cause I need to find assessors;

s22(1)
s22(1)
s22(1)
s22(1)
s22(1)
s22(1)
s22(1)
s22(1)

Is there anyone else you would like to nominate noting that EL1's will be your delegate to write the RM endorsements. s22(1) was nominated by s22(1) and I checked in with s22(1) and she suggested it would be ok to still send her some?

I will probably need to put the call out for more assessors.

s22(1)

Top End & Tiwi Islands Branch | Central Group

National Indigenous Australians Agency

p. s22(1)

s22(1)

Jacana House 39-41 Woods Street Darwin NT 0800 | PO Box 9932 DARWIN NT 0801

w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au

NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.

**From:** s22(1)**Sent:** Monday, 19 October 2020 3:33 PM**To:** s22(1)**Cc:** s22(1)**Subject:** FW: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22(1) – can these be reassigned or is policy for on-ground staff to undertake? Noting no training has been received.

Do we have a list of whom in DTI/Economic has received an ABA assessment request?

Thanks

From: s22(1)**Sent:** Monday, 19 October 2020 3:25 PM**To:** s22(1)**Subject:** FW: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22(1)

Can you please advise if s22(1) is still required to undertake these 3 ABA assessments? She was to be allocated applications as part of her role when she went to the Darwin office. s11C

s22(1)
1

From: s22(1)
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 11:06 AM
To: s22(1)
Subject: FW: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

From: s22(1)
Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 10:31 AM
To: s22(1)
Cc: s22(1) (Protected) <s22(1)>; s22(1) (Protected) <s22(1)>
Subject: ABA - Panel Assessment - Multiple Applications [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s22(1)

The below Aboriginals Benefit Account application is now ready for panel assessment and has been allocated to you in GPS.

We would be grateful if you could complete the assessment by **COB 26 October 2020** – please feel free to contact us if there are any issues with this timeframe. Once the assessment is complete, we would be grateful if you could please **notify us, via this address**.

Attached is a support document, which includes links to a number of resources to assist you in conducting the assessment and the ABA Assessment Plan. When conducting the assessment, please ensure that:

- You have read and understand the ABA Guidelines and ABA Assessment Plan
- You have entered a comment in the Justification field for each criterion (see Assessment Plan for Guidance)
- **IMPORTANT:** You have added a note in the Notes tab, giving an overall appraisal of the merits and deficiencies of the application. This note **MUST** be created as **Note Type “Evidence”** and the Note text **MUST** begin with **“PANEL APPRAISAL -”**

s22(1)

s22(1)

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | <p>The purpose of this project is to enable the expansion of NAAC, to be able to better support and delivery services to remote Aboriginal Corporations fulfilling its strategic objective of building stronger and healthier Aboriginal communities. We successfully provide business support services to Aboriginal Corporations, manage community stores, run the Remote Laundry project and more, building wealth in Aboriginal communities. To meet the needs and assist more</p> | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------|------|
| 4-FCZQM6E | NORTH AUSTRALIA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION | Upgrade of 32 Dripstone | Indigenous Communities, we need to expand our footprint and grow. This will allow us to expand our service offerings in Casuarina, providing a training centre for Indigenous Governance, Community Store Management and a Laundry Training centre. The centre will support over 60 remote Indigenous staff employed at our managed stores and support the staff expansion in our Remote Laundries Project. We will also provide Governance training to Aboriginal Boards across the Northern Territory. | CASUARINA, NT, 0810 | s11C |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------|------|

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or if you require assistance.

Kind regards,

s22(1) | **Adviser**

Assessment Management Office | Select, Support & Report Branch
National Indigenous Australians Agency

p. s22(1)

Charles Perkins House 16 Bowes Place Phillip ACT 2606

w. niaa.gov.au w. indigenous.gov.au



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.

From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: [REDACTED]
 Date: Friday, 6 November 2020 5:25:00 PM
 Attachments: [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

Hello

TRANCHE 3 of August ABA RM Endorsements. With [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] away early next week – your workload is higher – let me know if you do not have capacity
 Thanks

OFFICIAL

Good Afternoon

The following Aboriginals Benefit Account Applications are now ready for endorsement by the Regional Manager. They have one assessment and risk ratings are pending for some organisations.

The endorsement needs to be completed to me by close of business 12 November 2020 to review for RM. Please advise if this timeframe is unsuitable.

The [Recording Regional Manager Endorsement](#) and [Changing your Access](#) in GPS task cards may assist with this process.

| App lication ID | Provider Name | Application Description | Location | Organisational Risk Rating | Funding Applied for |
|-----------------|---|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| 4-FC2QM6E | NORTH AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CORPORATION INC | The purpose of this project is to enable the expansion of NAAO, to be able to better support and delivery services to remote Aboriginal Corporations fu f lling its strategic objective of building stronger and healthier Aboriginal communities. We successfully provide business support services to Aboriginal Corporations manage community stores run the Remote Laundry project and more building wealth in Aboriginal communities. To meet the needs and assist more Indigenous Communities we need to expand our footprint and grow. This will allow us to expand our service offerings in Casuarina providing a training centre for Indigenous Governance Community Store Management and a Laundry Training centre. The centre will support over 60 remote Indigenous staff employed at our managed stores and support the staff expansion in our Remote Laundries Project. We will also provide Governance training to Aboriginal Boards across the Northern Territory. | CASUARINA NT 0810 | Pending | [REDACTED] |

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Adviser
 Aboriginal Management Office | Select Support & Report Branch
 National Indigenous Australians Agency
 [REDACTED]
 Charles Perkins House 16 Bowes Place Philip ACT 2606
 W: niaa.gov.au E: niaa@niaa.gov.au



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the wisdom, past, present and emerging.



NIAA05631_COVID-19-EmailSignature_200416_1240

[REDACTED]

IMPORTANT This message, and any attachments to it, contains information that is confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional or other privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you must not review, copy, disseminate or disclose its contents to any other party or take action in reliance of any material contained within it. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email informing them of the mistake and delete all copies of the message from your computer system.

thanks

PDR: MS21-000165

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS AGENCY
MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION

RECEIVED

23 JUN 2021

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

s11C

To: Minister for Indigenous Australians (for decision by **02 July 2021** to facilitate advice to applicants of the outcomes of the August 2020 round)

**ABORIGINALS BENEFIT ACCOUNT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING –
MARCH 2021 – FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS****Recommendations - that you:**

s22(1)

3. Indicate your decision for each Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) grant application received in the August 2020 funding round at Attachment D and Attachment E and agree to the negotiation of funding conditions for those applications you support.


Agreed / Not Agreed

4. Sign the letters to applicants at Attachment F for supported applications only.

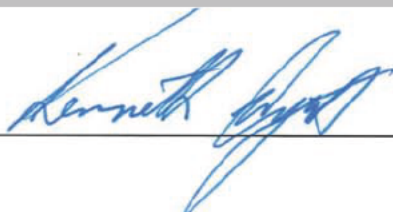

Agreed / Not Agreed

5. Note the Assessment Process at Attachment G and the Obligations of Decision Makers at Attachment H.


Noted / Please Discuss

s22(1)

KEN WYATT



Date:

29 June 2021

Comments:

Key Points:

1. The Aboriginals Benefit Account Advisory Committee (ABAAC) met in Darwin on 15 to 18 March 2021 to consider and make recommendations on s22(grant applications received in the August 2020 Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) funding round and the final s2 proposals for the ABA Homelands Project. One application was subsequently withdrawn, leaving 122 beneficial grant applications for your consideration.

s47C



s47C

6. If you indicate your approval of recommended applications, or if you approve any of the not recommended applications, the NIAA will enter into negotiations with applicants around funding and funding conditions.
7. To support the timely notification of outcomes, letters to applicants for recommended applications are included in this brief for your signature should you approve the negotiation of funding conditions (refer Attachment F). Only those letters for applications you approve should be signed. The NIAA will inform unsuccessful applicants and provide constructive feedback.

s22(1)

Background

s47C

12. It is the NIAA's view the processes used to assess the applications have satisfied your obligations as the decision maker under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines* (CGRGs). Decisions you make are reviewable under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1972*. The assessment process is described at (Attachment G).

13. Under Section 64(4) of the Land Rights Act, you are the decision maker to approve grant funding from the ABA. You have broadened your delegation of decision-making powers to NIAA Senior Executive Service (SES) employees with responsibilities for ABA matters (Land Rights Act Instrument of Delegation M7 of 2019 executed on 16 October 2019). The conditions you agreed in June 2019 on funding amounts and risk ratings for particular levels of SES delegates apply (MS19-001576 refers) (Attachment H).
14. Once the NIAA has negotiated conditions with relevant organisations, a NIAA delegate will take into review the merits of the proposal, the organisation's risk rating and the parameters of the project when considering making a direction to debit under Section 64(4) of the Land Rights Act.

s22(1)



s22(1)

s22(1)



Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

s11C

Group Manager
Central Group
17 June 2021

Policy Officer: s22(1)
Phone no: s22(1)
Consultation: Land Branch, Housing
Policy Branch, EPPG.

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A s22(1) [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT B s22(1) [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT C s22(1) [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT D **PROJECTS RECOMMENDED BY ABAAC**

ATTACHMENT E **PROJECTS NOT RECOMMENDED BY ABAAC**

ATTACHMENT F **LETTERS TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FROM AUGUST 2020
TO NEGOTIATE FUNDING CONDITIONS**

ATTACHMENT G **DESCRIPTION OF THE ABA ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

ATTACHMENT H **OBLIGATIONS OF DECISION MAKER**

ATTACHMENT I s22(1) [REDACTED]

| # | Organisation | Project Details | Funding Requested | Proposed Budget | Key Budget Items | Agency Comments and Conditions | ABAAC Advice and Comments | ABAAC Recommended Funding | Minister's Decision |
|--------|--|---|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| s22(1) | | | | | | | Released under the FOI Act by the National Indigenous Australians Agency | | |
| 57 | North Australia Aboriginal Corporation | Proposal title: Upgrade of 32 Dripstone s11C | PAGE FOR DELETION | s11C | s11C | s47C | s47C | \$195,705.00 | <div>Approved</div> <div>Negotiate funding conditions</div> <div>Not approved</div> <div>Further information (please specify below)</div> |

| # | Organisation | Project Details | Funding Requested | Proposed Budget | Key Budget Items | Agency Comments and Conditions | ABAAC Advice and Comments | ABAAC Recommended Funding | Minister's Decision |
|---|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| | | s11C | | | | s47C | Released under the FOI Act by the National Indigenous Australians Agency | | Information requested: |

s22(1)



ASSESSMENT PROCESS**ABA GRANT FUNDING ROUND
AUGUST 2020**

s22(1)

Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency

As per the ABA Grant Guidelines, funding was available for either small projects up to and including \$250,000, or large projects valued over \$250,000, under four funding categories:

- Supporting Enterprises;
- Supporting Community;
- Supporting Culture, Language and Leadership; and
- Supporting Land, Sea and Waters Management and Use.

Assessment of Applications

The objective of the assessment process is to identify projects to be recommended for the negotiation of funding conditions including recommending the amount of funding to be negotiated.

A Grant Design Strategy was developed to support the Agency's assessment of the applications, in line with the ABA Grant Guidelines and the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines. The Strategy sets out the approach for assessment of applications to ensure it is robust, transparent, and fair. The Strategy provides details on the following process:

- The Assessment Management Office undertook the registration compliance check of applications received before they were distributed to Agency staff for assessment.
- Each application was assessed by one Agency Panel Member sourced from the relevant Region. These staff were provided with appropriate tools and training to support them through the assessment process.
- The Regional Managers of each Northern Territory Region provided advice on whether each application was endorsed.

- A review process was conducted to ensure the consistency and quality of advice provided to the ABAAC.

s22(1)



Released under the FOI Act by the
National Indigenous Australians Agency



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians
Member for Hasluck

Reference: MS21-000165

Mr s47F
Project Officer
North Australia Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 40298
CASUARINA NT 0811

s47F

Dear

I am writing to you in response to the North Australia Aboriginal Corporation application for funding from the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) under subsection 64(4) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*.

As the Minister for Indigenous Australians, I am the final decision maker in relation to any proposal funded from the ABA account for an ABA Beneficial Grant. In the instance of your application, I am pleased to inform you that I have directed the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to negotiate funding conditions with North Australia Aboriginal Corporation. In making my decision, I took into consideration the assessment undertaken by the NIAA and the advice provided by the Aboriginals Benefit Account Advisory Committee.

Please note that this is an in-principle agreement only and the project scope, budget and conditions remain to be agreed. Officials from the NIAA will contact you shortly to commence negotiations for your project:

- Upgrade of 32 Dripstone Road

Once these negotiations have concluded, a delegate may consider entering into a Funding Agreement.

Should you require further information regarding your application or the funding negotiation process, please contact Ms s22(1) Adviser, Northern Territory Strategy and Policy Branch on 1800 354 612 or via email at aba@official.niaa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



The Hon KEN WYATT AM MP
Minister for Indigenous Australians

29 / 6 / 2021