

Submission to the 'Reshaping Queensland's cultural heritage laws' consultation

Closing date: 31st March 2022

Submitted by: Sandra Croaker

Queensland's Cultural Heritage Acts have failed to protect the precious cultural heritage of the Wangan and Jagalingou People on the Carmichael Coal Mine site. To prevent this happening for the Wangan and Jagalingou People and all other Traditional Owners in Queensland in future, I am asking the Queensland Government to:

1. Amend the definition of 'Aboriginal party' so that Traditional Owners with cultural connection to Country are always involved in consultation and negotiation processes, regardless of their status as a native title party.
2. Create greater enforcement powers for First Nations, so that we aren't reliant on the State to protect our cultural heritage if it is in imminent danger of harm or destruction.
3. Establish an independent First Nations-led decision-making body that is responsible for dispute resolution and mediation, and for assessing who the right people to speak for Country are.

Yours respectfully,

Sandra Croaker