

# ACICC

## Application Guidelines



### Introduction

The Tarong Coal Project lies within the southern area of the Wakka Wakka No. 2 Native Title Claim.

In early 2004, as part of its ongoing engagement with its local community, former Meandu Mine owners Rio Tinto Coal Australia (RTCA) had sought a meeting with the Registered Native Title Claimants for the Wakka Wakka No. 2 Claim to discuss ways of working with the Aboriginal interests in the area.

The Claimants agreed certain individuals represented groups of families who under traditional law and custom had interests in, and could speak for, that area of country. They nominated, and agreed to, six people to constitute a working group to work with RTCA. That working group chose to be called the Bunya Working Group which has since been meeting regularly to discuss a range of community issues and opportunities.

A relationship between the BWG and RTCA developed. Now, Tarong Energy – having bought the Tarong Coal Project from RTCA in 2008 – has inherited this relationship. Tarong Energy aims to be a valuable partner in this relationship in the future, encouraging a spirit of openness and cooperation.

One of the original outcomes of the initial discussions was the establishment of a program to assist the boarder South Burnett Aboriginal community through provision of a fund which would be accessible by all Aboriginal people in the Tarong Coal Project area and administered by an Aboriginal Community Interest Consultative Committee (ACICC).

This document outlines the Guidelines and administrative arrangements which were designed to make the ACICC work effectively and efficiently. It provides information on:

1. How to apply for funding; and
2. How projects will be assessed by the ACICC.

The ACICC fund has been established as a partnership program that aims to assist projects that will deliver long-term, sustainable outcomes for the South Burnett Aboriginal Community.

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## Proposals

Applications for funding may be made by members of the South Burnett Aboriginal community who can prove they normally reside in the South Burnett area. This area includes the towns of Murgon, Cherbourg, Wondai, Nanango, Kingaroy and Yarraman.

In order to receive funding, applications must meet the following mandatory criteria:

- Projects must deliver positive, constructive, real and sustainable outcomes to the South Burnett Aboriginal community;
- The project itself, including process and management, must be sound and viable;
- Business development funding must generate a “multiplier effect” (ie any dollar of funding put in creates more than one dollar worth of benefit);
- If funding education, training or scholarships, there must be real community benefit from the outcome or high potential for an employment outcome;
- Real community benefit must be demonstrated in all cases; and
- The funding must not create division in the South Burnett Aboriginal community.

In addition, applicants should attempt to address the following optional criteria in their application:

- **Outcomes:** how progress and outcomes will be measured over time and an assessment of what community benefits will be achieved;
- **Management skills and experience:** the experience and skill of the applicants or program managers relevant to the proposal, and for business proposals, any business or business management training;
- **Employment impact:** an indication of the likely number of people to be employed in the business;
- **Community benefit:** the nature and extent of benefit to the South Burnett Aboriginal Community;
- **Term:** how long the benefits will exist;
- **Alternatives:** will more benefits be created by putting ACICC funding with this project rather than anywhere else;
- **Self-contributions:** whether applicants are contributing financial or in-kind support themselves;
- **Viability research:** information on research done on the viability of the project, the project’s processes and expected outcomes;
- **Timing:** information on how long the project will rely on ACICC funding – preference will be given to stand-alone business enterprises requiring one-off funding or “seed funding”;
- **Future maintenance:** how the project will be sustained beyond funding;

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- **Effect on other opportunities:** whether the project will diminish opportunities for anyone in the South Burnett Aboriginal Community;
- **Effect on community relations:** whether the project will develop and strengthen relations or harm them;
- **Commitment to project:** whether the applicant will see the project through to its conclusion;
- **Skills:** whether the applicant has the necessary skills to make the project successful;
- **Reporting:** how will the applicant report to the ACICC on their progress;
- **Community need:** where there is a specific community need not being met that the project will meet;
- **Government funding:** whether there is a government funding already available for this project;
- **Support:** whether there are any other groups or sections of the community currently supporting the proposal;
- **Repayment:** whether the proposal contemplates repayment of the funding; and
- **Other:** any other information that the ACICC may find useful.

## Application Process

As a guide, eligible applicants are seen as those who:

- Can demonstrate capacity to make effective use of the funds;
- Are willing and able to subject the project to performance measures; and
- Can work in partnership with the Aboriginal Community Interest Consultative Committee (ACICC).

Applications will be considered from organisations and groups based in the South Burnett area.

Support from the ACICC may be the sole source of funding, however applicants are encouraged to seek funds from a number of sources, such as joint arrangements with the government or private funding bodies. Applicants should also identify the availability of funds or in-kind support from within their organisation or group.

Applicants cannot apply for funding of:

- Native title matters;
- Cultural heritage management matters; or
- Issues to be dealt with or considered by legal process.

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The following types of projects may be funded:

### **Aboriginal Business Development**

- Joint ventures between Aboriginal business and other businesses.
- Non-joint venture assistance.

### **Educational Programs**

- Scholarships to support high school, TAFE or university study. *There is a separate ACICC program for these scholarships; for enquiries see the contact details at the end of this document.*
- Assistance with vocational training.

### **Heritage and Culture Conservation**

- Educational programs (eg for local schools).
- Research programs (eg ethno-history work).
- Programs to update historical references.

### **Vocational Education Programs**

- Assistance in training for jobs.
- Assistance in searching for jobs.
- Vocational training to assist South Burnett Aboriginal people to improve their skills.

### **Community Benefits Projects**

- Specific projects the community has not been able to achieve through the usual sources of government funding.
- Projects that have an overwhelming benefit aspect in terms of community health and well being.
- Assistance in leveraging other resources.

### **Sporting and Community Activity**

- Specific grants to individuals whose specific circumstances require support.
- Assistance by way of awards for outstanding young sports people. *There is a separate ACICC program for these awards; for enquiries see the contact details at the end of this document.*
- Sponsorship of Aboriginal role models to promote sport and sporting achievement.

### **Other projects agreed to by the ACICC**

- Funding a business plan or feasibility study to establish a business.
- Funding business training.
- Funding professional advice as appropriate.

If you have a project of concept you think is appropriate for funding, contact the Executive Officer to discuss your idea. If it shows potential, direction can then be provided to help you prepare an application.

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In completing the application form, applicants will need to explain how the project will meet the aims of the ACICC, how they will measure its success and how the project will be undertaken.

### **The Committee**

The Committee will consider completed applications at its meetings – scheduled for four times per year. The ACICC will comprise 6 nominated members:

- 2 members appointed by the Bunya Working Group
- 2 members appointed by Tarong Energy
- 2 members to represent the interests of the broader South Burnett Aboriginal Community.

### **The Executive Officer**

The Executive Officer of the ACICC will handle most of the day-to-day enquiries and operations of the ACICC. Do you:

- Have any project ideas?
- Need help in completing an application form?
- Would like more information on this program?

If so, contact the EO by phone on (07) 4160 9163 or by post at c/- ACICC Executive Officer, PO Box 1165, Kingaroy, Qld, 4610.