{Correspondence reference number}

16 September 2024

«Customer»

«Postal\_Address»

«Suburb» «State» «Postcode»

Dear «Customer»,

I refer to your application dated «date» to use Crown land for «purpose».

On 28 March 2013 the State Government entered into a Land Use Activity Agreement (LUAA) with the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (now known as Djaara). The LUAA recognises Djaara’s rights in relation to areas of public land and sets out classes of activities that may occur on public land that may interfere with those rights.

Under the LUAA, the use of land for «purpose» is an Advisory Activity. The LUUA requires {name of responsible organisation}, as the Decision Maker, to undertake certain procedural steps before we can allow the activity to proceed. We must:

1. Notify Djaara of the activity;
2. Provide Djaara with the opportunity to comment on the activity; and
3. Consider comments received.

I have today sent a notification to the Djaara advising of the activity. A period of at least 28 days is provided for them to comment. I will contact you again after this period has expired.

Enclosed is a fact sheet on the Dja Dja Wurrung settlement. If you would like to find out more on the LUAA please visit the [online guidance materials](https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/dja-dja-wurrung-land-use-activity-agreement-guidance-local-government).

Should you require further information regarding this project, please me on {phone number} or email {email address}.

Yours sincerely,

**{Name and role}**

**Fact sheet**

**SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE DJA DJA WURRUNG TRADITIONAL OWNER GROUP AND THE STATE OF VICTORIA**

The Victorian Government and the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DDWCAC), on behalf of the Dja Dja Wurrung Traditional Owner group, entered into a **Recognition and Settlement Agreement** under Victoria’s *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* on 28 March 2013. The agreement formally recognised the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of approximately 266,532 hectares of public land in Central Victoria.

* The settlement resolved four native title lodged under the Federal *Native Title Act 1993*.
* The Traditional Owner group comprises Aboriginal people who identify as Dja Dja Wurrung and are descended from Aboriginal ancestors associated with Dja Dja Wurrung country in the nineteenth century.
* The settlement included the transfer of two national parks, one regional park, two state parks and one reserve to the category of ‘Aboriginal Title’ held by the Dja Dja Wurrung. The parks are jointly managed in perpetuity with the state.
* The agreement also led to the transfer of two parcels of public land in order to make them freehold properties (approximately 56.2 hectares). Located at Carisbrook and Franklinford, these were of particular cultural significance. The agreement does not otherwise affect freehold land.
* The financial value of the settlement package was $9.65 million. This included: an investment to provide an annual income to the corporation, capital for economic development opportunities, and funding to otherwise assist the corporation in meeting settlement obligations.

**The DDWCAC Land Use Activity Agreement (LUAA) is a sub agreement to the Recognition and Settlement Agreement.** The State of Victoria and DDWCAC negotiated the LUAA, which came into force on 25 October 2013. It aims to simplify and categorise activities that take place on public land that may affect traditional owner rights, and puts in place a system to ensure they are adequately consulted with and engaged when a proposed land use activity is proposed for their traditional land.

The environmental and social implications of the LUAA are positive.

* The rights of Traditional Owners are protected.
* Traditional Owners are empowered to negotiate social, cultural and economic development benefits, which may include increased employment and business development, as well as health and education assistance.
* Environmental impacts of land use activities are considered as part of normal procedures.
* Traditional Owners have additional interests in minimising the environmental impacts of land use activities.



