

Joint Statement of Intent Summary

2019

between

Sibelco Australia Limited,
the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation
and
the State of Queensland



SIBELCO



Sand mining on Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) will be phased out by the end of 2019. With a shared focus on maintaining local jobs and economic outcomes, Sibelco Australia Limited (Sibelco), the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) and the Queensland Government (State), signed a Joint Statement of Intent on 20 February 2019 to ensure an orderly exit of sand mining operations and transition to a large landscape rehabilitation work program - *“baru yaguliba gubiyiya”* (time to heal and regrow).

When Native Title was determined on Minjerribah on 4 July 2011 by the Federal Court of Australia, the Bligh Government committed to end sand mining paving way for land to be returned to the Quandamooka People. In 2016, the Palaszczuk Government implemented their election commitment to substantially phase out sand mining by the end of 2019 and committed \$20 million in funding to implement an Economic Transition Strategy (known as Minjerribah Futures) to diversify the economy towards sustainable industries and \$5 million to assist Sibelco workers to transition into new employment. In 2018, the Palaszczuk Government committed an additional \$4.75 million to further support Minjerribah Futures projects, to stimulate business development, increase economic activity and create sustainable jobs.

While sand mining began on Minjerribah in 1949, Sibelco’s operations on the island began in 2001 when it took over operation of the silica sand mine. Following this, in 2009, Sibelco became the only mining operator on Minjerribah through the acquisition of the mineral sands operations. Sibelco, as a privately owned multi-national mining company, takes pride in working closely with local communities and authorities to fulfil the company’s commitments in environmental stewardship and social responsibility.



COVER ARTWORK BY JOSHUA WALKER

QYAC manage Native Title rights and interests on behalf of the Quandamooka People as the Registered Native Title Body Corporate. QYAC is governed by the QYAC Board where the 12 families descended from the apical ancestors listed in the Quandamooka Native Title Determination have the right to nominate and elect a director. To support the rehabilitation of the landscape, QYAC and the Quandamooka People will work closely with Sibelco, sharing their knowledge, skills and cultural values as the Traditional Owners of Minjerribah.

It will take many years to successfully rehabilitate Minjerribah, which is why all parties have come together to develop and demonstrate a clear and common path forward for the Island as operations shift from extraction to rehabilitation. New workforce opportunities will be created as the State, Sibelco and QYAC work together to achieve common objectives and facilitate rehabilitation and land management as a positive, new work program for Minjerribah- the baru yaguliba gubiyiya rehabilitation program.

TRANSITION TO REHABILITATION

Sibelco and QYAC have committed to working together as Minjerribah transitions to rehabilitation. Together they have developed a Minjerribah Rehabilitation and Surrender Plan that will ensure the necessary rehabilitation is completed progressively over all land affected by Sibelco mining activities and ongoing management of that land is transitioned to QYAC and its land management partners in a timely manner.

The plan also provides for engagement between Sibelco and QYAC as the registered Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Body and Aboriginal Party for the development of a cultural heritage management plan to ensure cultural heritage is protected through this rehabilitation phase.

Sibelco's mining extraction operations will continue at the single remaining operating mine site, Enterprise mine, until expiry of the mining rights on 31 December 2019. The transport of mineral sand will continue in early 2020 as Sibelco transports the remaining stockpiles off the Island.



All parties have committed to maximise the use of the existing Sibelco workforce, Quandamooka People and local Minjerribah residents in implementing the baru yaguliba gubiyiya rehabilitation program. The State will provide training and support to upskill local Minjerribah residents in rehabilitation roles as required.

Over time, as Sibelco fulfils its rehabilitation requirements, it is appropriate that QYAC assumes responsibility for ongoing land management activities continuing their caring for country role. This means that as land is rehabilitated to the required standards and surrendered, there will be opportunities for ongoing land management work. QYAC will build on its already well-established land management team to continue caring for country on Minjerribah.

The Queensland Government \$5 million Workers Assistance Scheme is assisting affected Sibelco workers in re-training and transitioning into different industries and alternative career pathways.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

The Joint Statement of Intent aligns objectives supported by all parties and will be the framework to assist Minjerribah shift from mining to rehabilitation over the next decade.

The baru yaguliba gubiyiya rehabilitation program will remain a significant contributor to the Island's economy whilst the Island diversifies and transitions towards a sustainable, service-led economy.

IMPLEMENTATION

Sibelco, QYAC and the State will work in good faith to deliver on commitments made to ensure a smooth, productive transition from sand mining that benefits the community and leaves a positive legacy. All parties have committed to keeping the community informed of implementation progress.

