LAND ACCESS MILESTONE FOR SA’S PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

South Australia has achieved a significant Native Title land access milestone, with the signing of an agreement covering petroleum exploration and production in much of the Cooper Basin.

The **Conjunctive Petroleum Indigenous Land Use Agreement** is a first for this State, and is Australia’s first such agreement covering a proven petroleum producing region.

The Agreement has been signed today by Mineral Resources Development Minister Paul Holloway, Attorney-General Michael Atkinson, the SA Chamber of Mines and Energy (on behalf of the petroleum industry), and the Yandruwandha & Yawarrawarrka people of the State’s far northeast.

Mr Holloway says South Australia is setting the national pace with this important agreement.

“The goodwill established since the implementation of Native Title land access arrangements in SA in 2001 has been an excellent foundation for petroleum exploration and production in our State,” says Mr Holloway.

“I’m delighted this agreement has been constructively negotiated by all the parties, under the auspices of the State Government, the ALRM and the SA Chamber of Mines & Energy.”

“Conjunctive ILUAS represent an evolutionary step in streamlining the processes that enable the grant of licences for petroleum exploration and production, while also protecting rights that flow from Native Title.”

“This is an excellent outcome that manifests trust in the processes that protect Native Title and enable upstream petroleum operations in South Australia.”

“Negotiations to reach further conjunctive ILUAs are progressing in our State, and I look forward to further positive outcomes.”

“I congratulate everyone involved in this process, especially the Yandruwandha & Yawarrawarrka people and their legal counsel, the ALRM and its legal counsel, the representatives of the petroleum exploration and production companies, and the Chamber.”

“Staff from the Crown Solicitor’s Office, the Native Title Section of the Attorney General’s Department and from PIRSA’s Petroleum and Geothermal Group should also be commended for their work on this agreement,” says the Minister.