

## **Mirrarr Welcome Senate Enquiry**

**27 April 1999**

The Traditional Owners of the Jabiluka Mineral Lease today welcomed the Australian Senate's decision to conduct an inquiry into all aspects of the Jabiluka uranium mine proposal.

Executive Officer of the Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation, Jacqui Katona, said:

“From the outset the Government and ERA have been working hand-in-glove to ensure that the Jabiluka project is fast-tracked regardless of the obvious negative impacts on the world heritage cultural values of the Mirrar people.”

“We hope that this Senate Inquiry will provide an objective assessment of the cultural impacts of the Jabiluka project which the Government has failed to undertake.”

“The inquiry will also provide an opportunity to expose the Government's misleading, deceptive and blatantly false representations to UNESCO on the impacts of Jabiluka.”

“The Jabiluka project is on increasingly shaky ground. The world is aghast that such a proposal has been allowed to proceed without the preparation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan and with the direct knowledge that a number of sites of significance are yet to be identified and protected.”

“Our sincere hope is that Government will now act on repeated requests from all acknowledged custodians of the Jabiluka land to prevent Energy Resources of Australia's imminent desecration of sacred sites in the vicinity of ongoing construction activity,” concluded Ms Katona.