



22nd March 2012

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Pila Nguru (Aboriginal Corporation) RNTBC on behalf of the Spinifex People**

Pila Nguru (Aboriginal Corporation) (**Pila Nguru**) is the Registered Native Title Body Corporate that holds the native title rights and interests of the Spinifex People on trust.

Spinifex traditional lands are located around the remote community of Tjuntjuntjara, which lies approximately 700 km east of Kalgoorlie.

Pila Nguru have agreed to enter into a 'Negotiation Protocol' with Lost Sands Pty Ltd (**Lost Sands**) in relation to the proposed development of a mineral sands mine on the Spinifex People's traditional lands (**Proposed Cyclone Project**).

This Negotiation Protocol is a first step for the Spinifex People in a long and complex process of negotiation. The Spinifex People maintain strong traditional connection to their country and continue to make decisions about country in accordance with their traditional laws and customs. As Spinifex Country is remote and undeveloped, a decision about the Proposed Cyclone Project will be one of the most significant decisions the Spinifex People will make.

In entering into this Negotiation Protocol, Lost Sands recognise the significance of this decision for the Spinifex People and the importance for them to be able to make that decision in a process that is 'free, prior and informed' and which accords with their traditional laws and customs.

The Spinifex People look forward to developing a strong and productive relationship with Lost Sands throughout this negotiation process.

For more information please contact Pila Nguru's representative for this matter:

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