

Gove Futures

July 2026 Community Update

Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club

'Working together to build a positive future'



NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL
Our Land, Our Sea, Our Life



Australian Government
National Indigenous
Australians Agency



Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts

RioTinto



NORTHERN
TERRITORY
GOVERNMENT



Agenda

- 1 Welcome to Country
- 2 Traditional Owner Vision
- 3 Gove Transition – NTG position and Governance
- 4 Update from Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation
- 5 Update from the Northern Territory Government
- 6 Update from Gumatj Aboriginal Corporation
- 7 Update from Northern Land Council
- 8 Update from National Indigenous Australians Agency
- 9 Update from Developing East Arnhem Limited
- 10 Update from Rio Tinto Gove
- 11 Q & A



A new journey together

Traditional Owners' Vision
for the Future of Nhulunbuy
and the Gove Peninsula

Gove Peninsula
Futures Reference Group

Traditional Owners' Vision

The Vision provides the foundations for Yolngu landowners, residents, businesses and industry to work together to achieve a positive post-mining future for the region

Oly Carlson MLA

Assistant Minister for the Nhulunbuy Transition

- **Nhulunbuy: A Regional Services Hub**
- **Northern Territory Government investment
to Rebuild the Economy: Cyclone Shelter
and Central Arnhem Road**

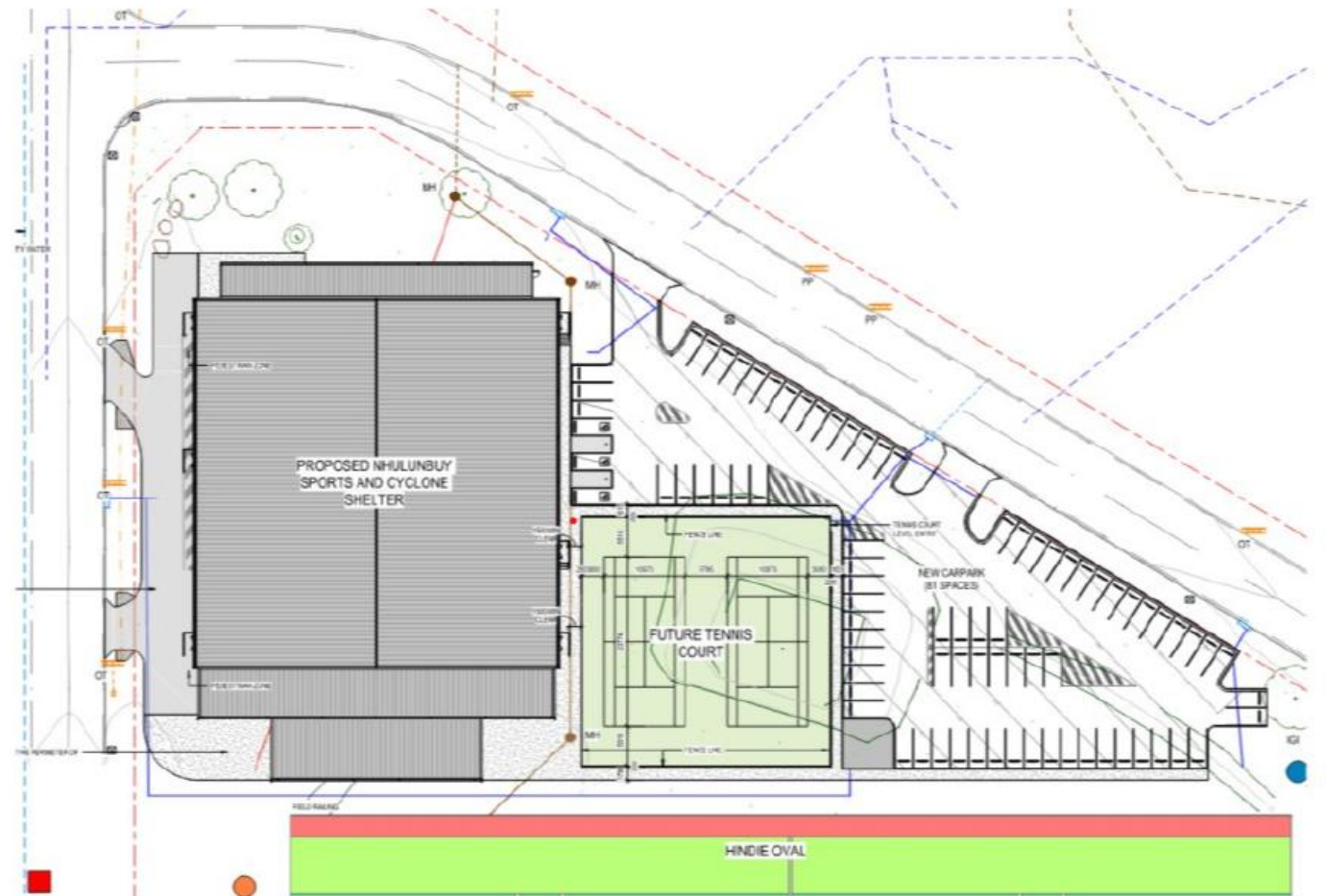


Nhulunbuy Multipurpose Cyclone Shelter

NTG and Commonwealth investment in the future of Nhulunbuy

Project Update

- Confirmed: \$30m funding from the Commonwealth and NT Government for the Cyclone Shelter.
- Expected detailed design and public tender release for August 2026.
- Nhulunbuy Corporation will own and operate the facility.
- A stakeholder working group will form in coming weeks.





**Rirratjingu
Aboriginal
Corporation**

July 2026

GPFRG Updates



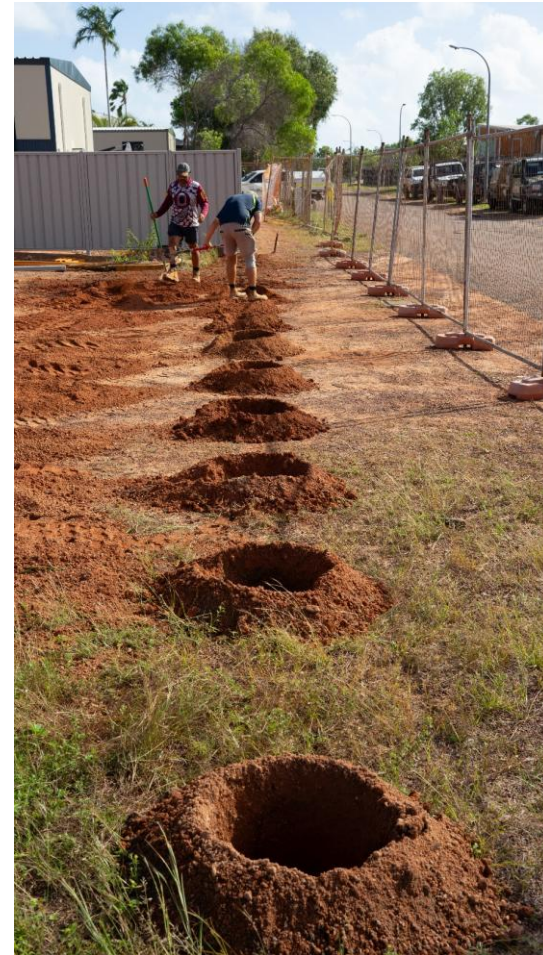
STRATEGIC PLAN

- Governing principles 2025 – 2030
- 10 priority areas including a renewed focus on mine closure transparency, regional economic development and a firm commitment to hold all stakeholders to account for the future of the township of Nhulunbuy.
- A strong township is consistent with the needs of our members.



RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Dargaville Close – 14 dwellings – 35 bedrooms



RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Bunggulwuy Close – 11 dwellings – 22 bedrooms



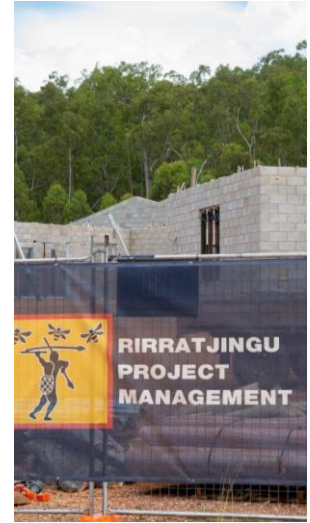
COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Central Arnhem Road Roadhouse (investigating in conjunction with Laynhupuy)
- RAC Infrastructure Fund – starting with \$8M.
- Extension of the Barawun Center.
- Yanawal Experiences.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- Quarry – demand from Rio has slowed but we are taking advantage of other regional opportunities.
- Enterprises – Pond 5 work is now complete and we are continuing with the Pond 6 South rehabilitation works.
- RPM – managing the residential construction projects and tendering for upcoming RT and NTG works.
- RPMMS – have recently secured some NTG housing upgrades, and three years of vegetation management works through Aggreko and Rio Tinto.



LAND TENURE

- We are consulting widely with interested parties to ascertain the best way forward.
- A 99-year lease looks like a possibility although the underlying governance structure has not been decided.
These questions will be taken to our board at the end of this month.
- Traditional owners are committed to providing existing leaseholders with as much ongoing security as possible. We are working on integrating this position into the broader land tenure negotiations.



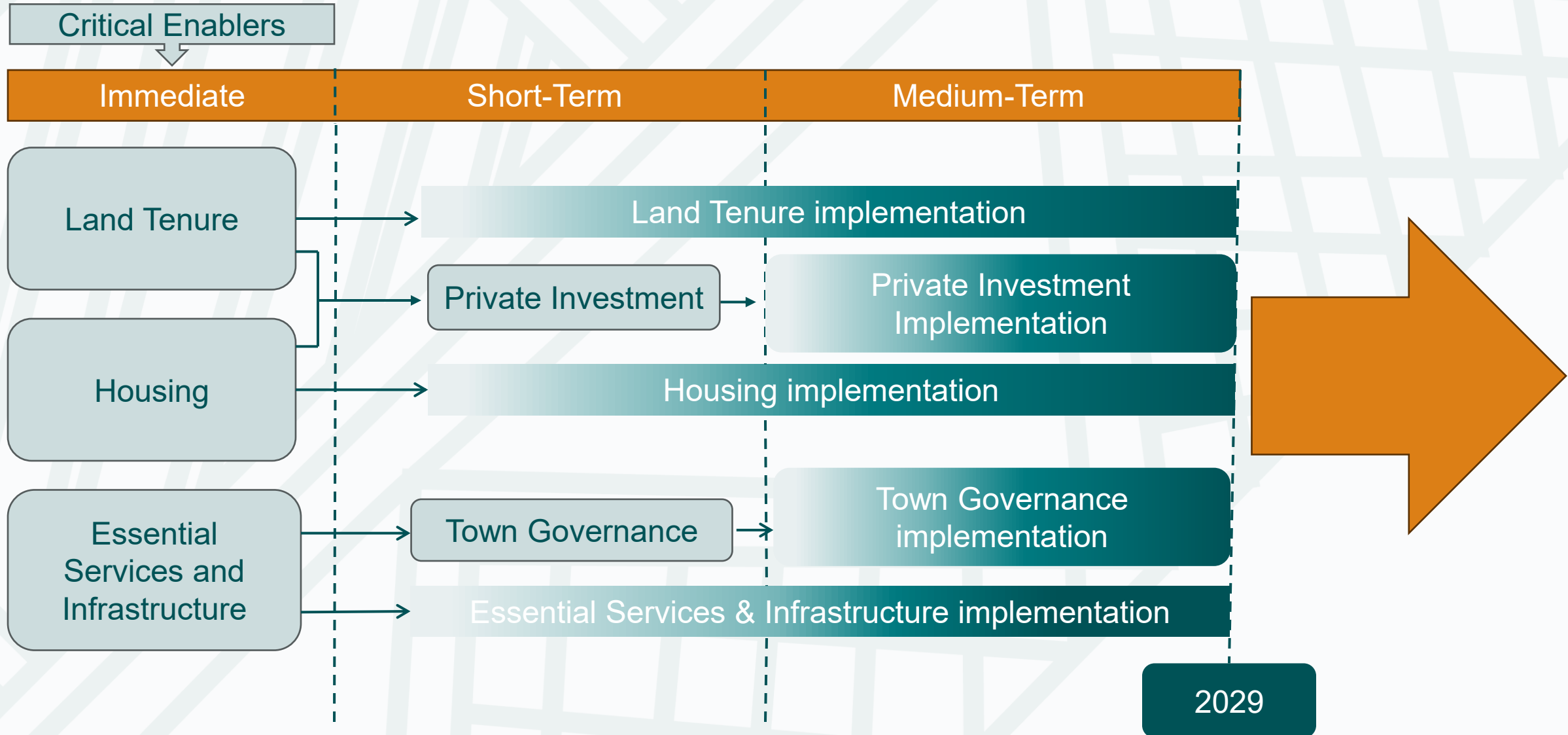
An update from the Northern Territory Government

Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet

Louise McCormick
Executive General Manager Strategy, Economic Growth
and Development



Upcoming Gove Transition process



Northern Territory Government – NT Health

Mary-Clare Arkcoll
Regional Executive Director
NT Health

Provision of medical services and interim access to GP services



Northern Territory Government – NT Health

Gove District Hospital - Emergency and Community Health services

Miwatj Health Centre – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents

Telehealth via healthdirect.com.au – Remote GP Services

1800Medicare – 24/7 Medical advice

Mental Health Support Services – Crisis counselling support

Remote Therapy – Telehealth psychology appointments for eligible clients

Gove Pharmacy – Advice on medication and minor illness and infection

Allied Health Providers – dental, physiotherapy, speech and occupation therapy

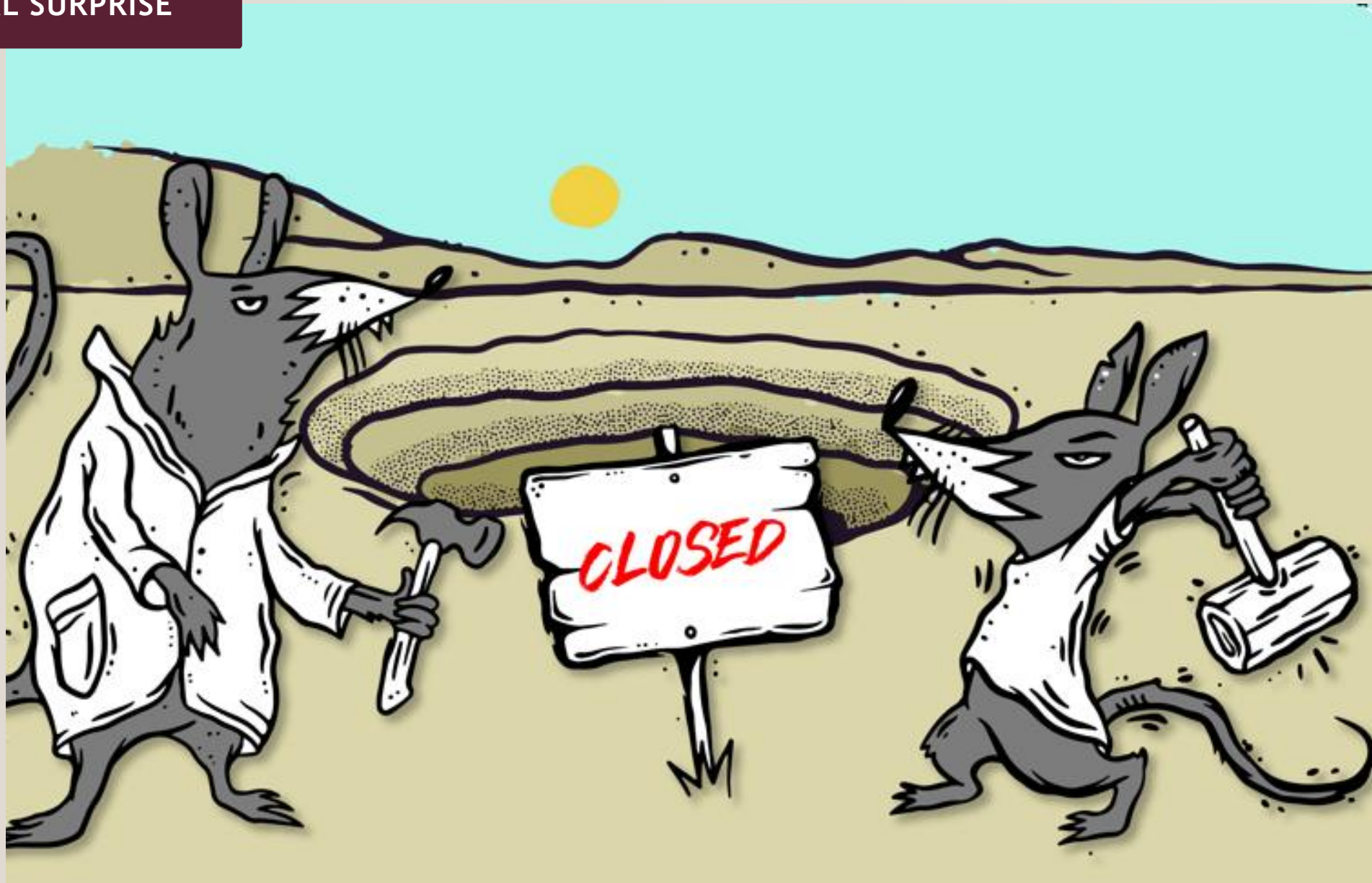


An update from Gumatj Corporation

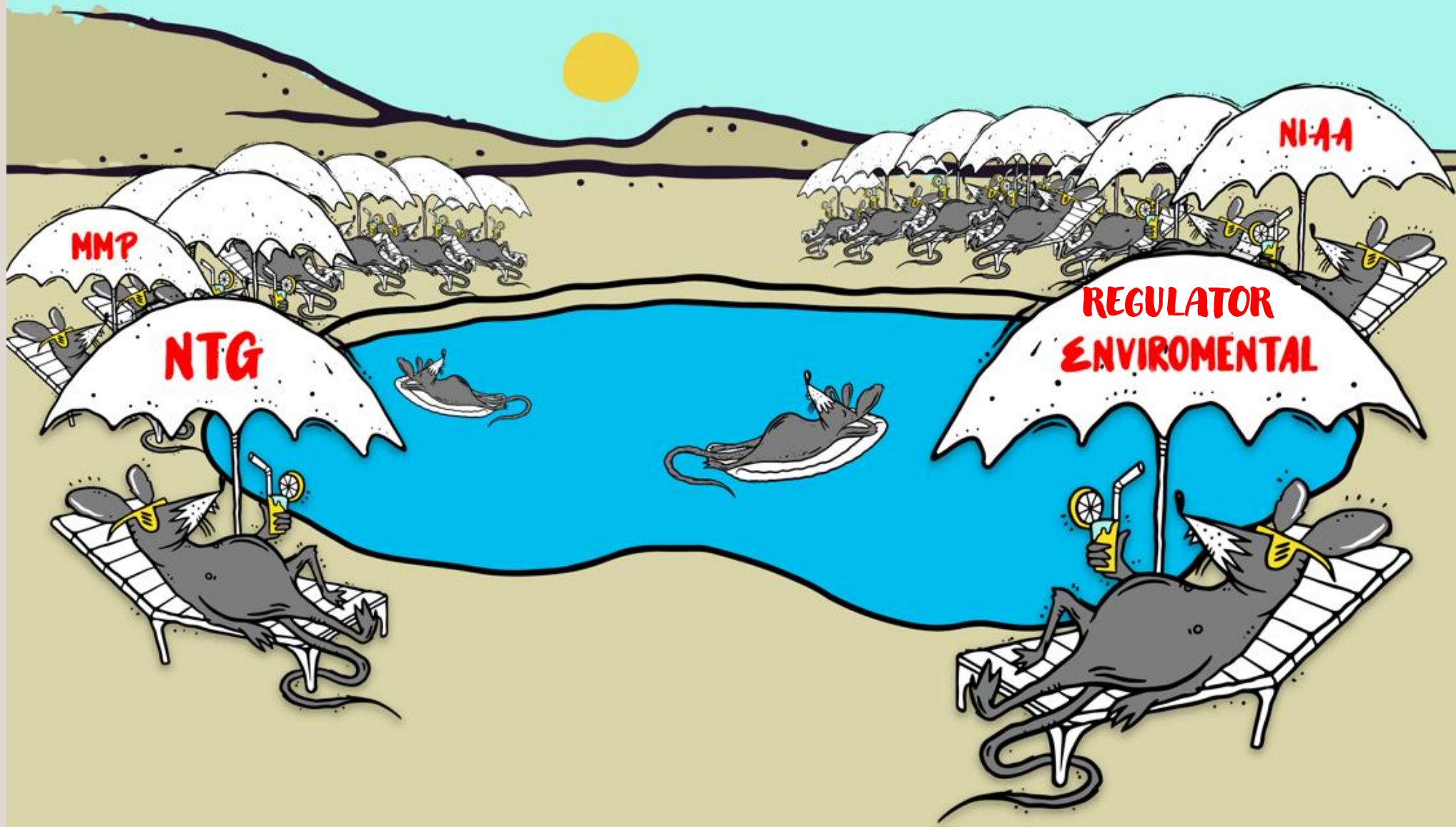
Klaus Helms
Chief Executive Officer



NO REAL SURPRISE



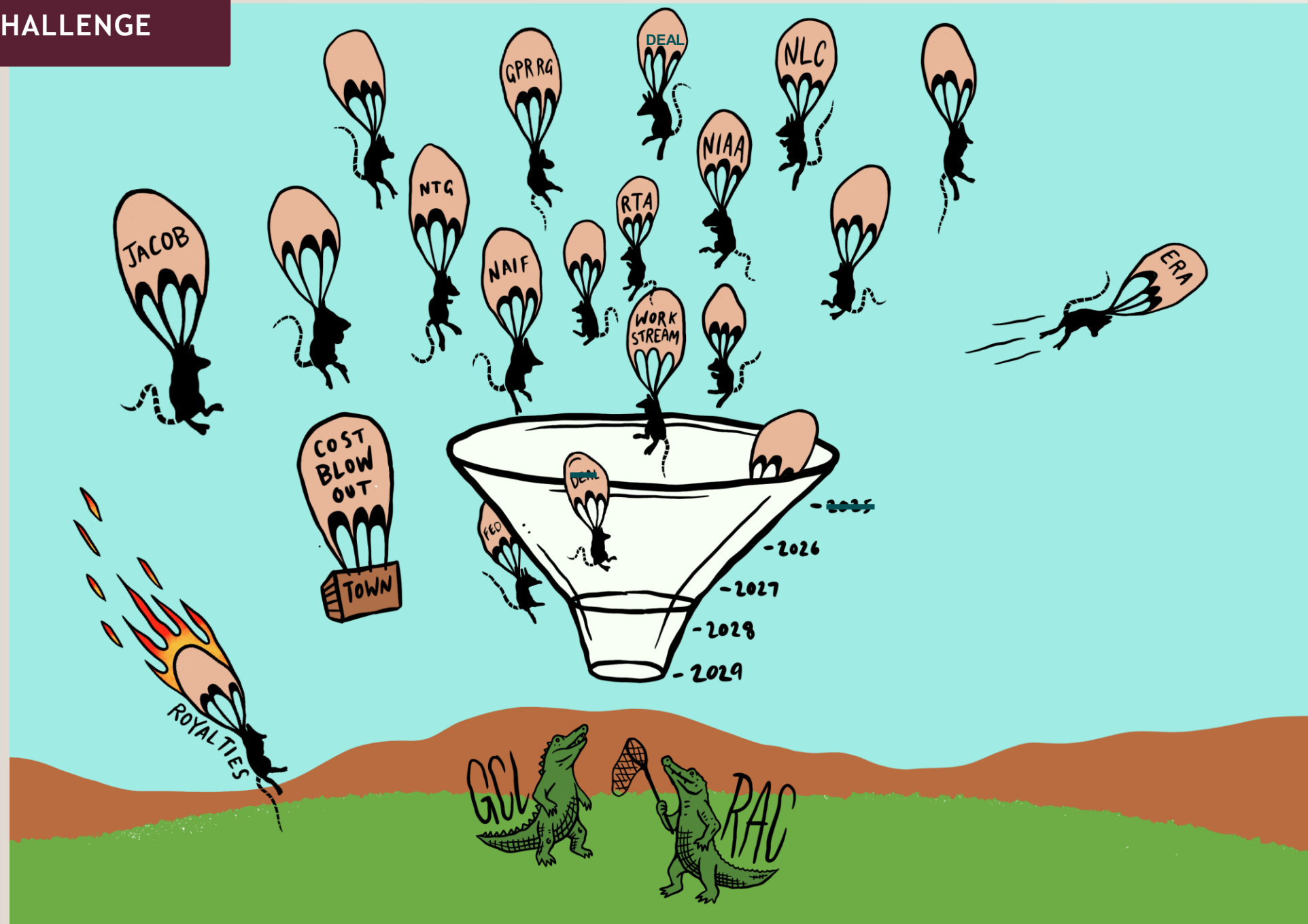
DID WE TAKE IT
SERIOUSLY?



REALITY



OUR CHALLENGE



COLLABORATION





GUMATJ GROUP



GUMATJ CORPORATION

LAW AND CULTURE



Royalty
Management



Legal &
Land Rights



Ceremony



Funerals



Homelands



Food & Fuel
Supplement



Garma
Festival

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY



GUMATJ
DEVELOPME
NT



Community Store
& Cafe



Mechanical
Repairs &
Maintenance



Groundworks &
Nursery



Training &
Development



Outreach



Cultural
Programs &
Tourism



GUMATJ
IMPACT



Healthy Homes



Youth



Growing Leaders



Outreach



Thrive



Community Voice



Township Plan &
Lease(s)

BUILDING COMMERCIAL SUCCESS



GUMATJ
CIVIL



Civil Works



Transportation



Batch Plant



Waste
Management



GUMATJ
CONSTRUCTIO
N



Construction



Plumbing



Electrical



Fabrication



Forestry
Products



GUMATJ
MINING



Exploration



Mining



Quarry



Nursery &
Rehabilitation



GUMATJ
RETAIL



Commercial
Leases



FUTURE INDUSTRY



Space



Port



Fuel Security /
Bio Fuel Refinery



Fisheries



Cattle
Farm



Agriculture

WHAT'S NEW



GUMATJ CIVIL



GUMATJ RETAIL



WHAT'S AHEAD



**Ground Station
Network**



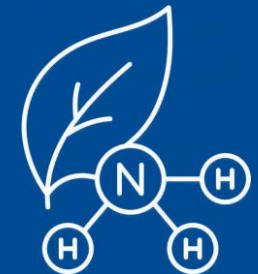
Space



Fuel Storage



Defence



Green Ammonia



NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL

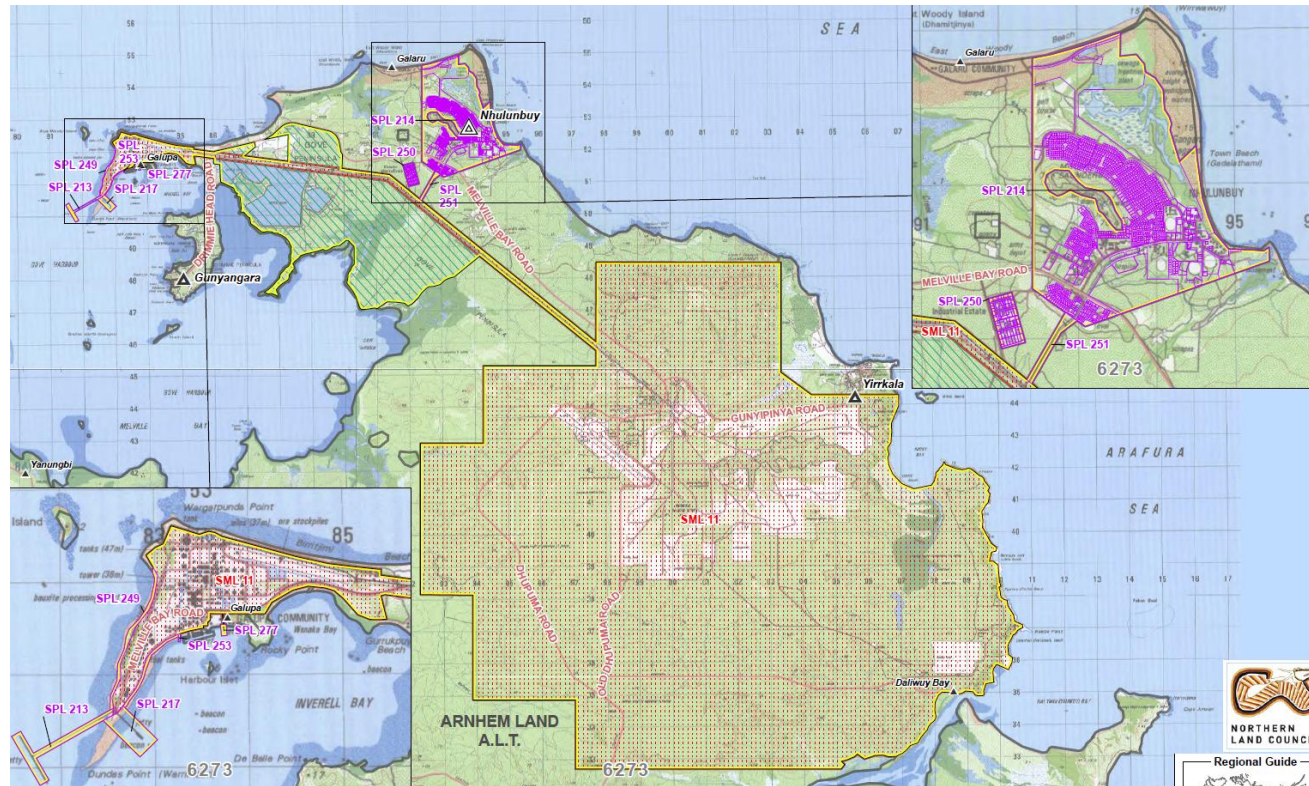
An update from Northern Land Council

Dominic Gomez and Craig Bonney



NORTHERN
LAND COUNCIL

Land tenure



NT Crown Land
& Un-granted
Aboriginal Land

Now

Leased to Rio
Tinto

A Rio Tinto
lease expires or
is surrendered

Granted
Aboriginal Land

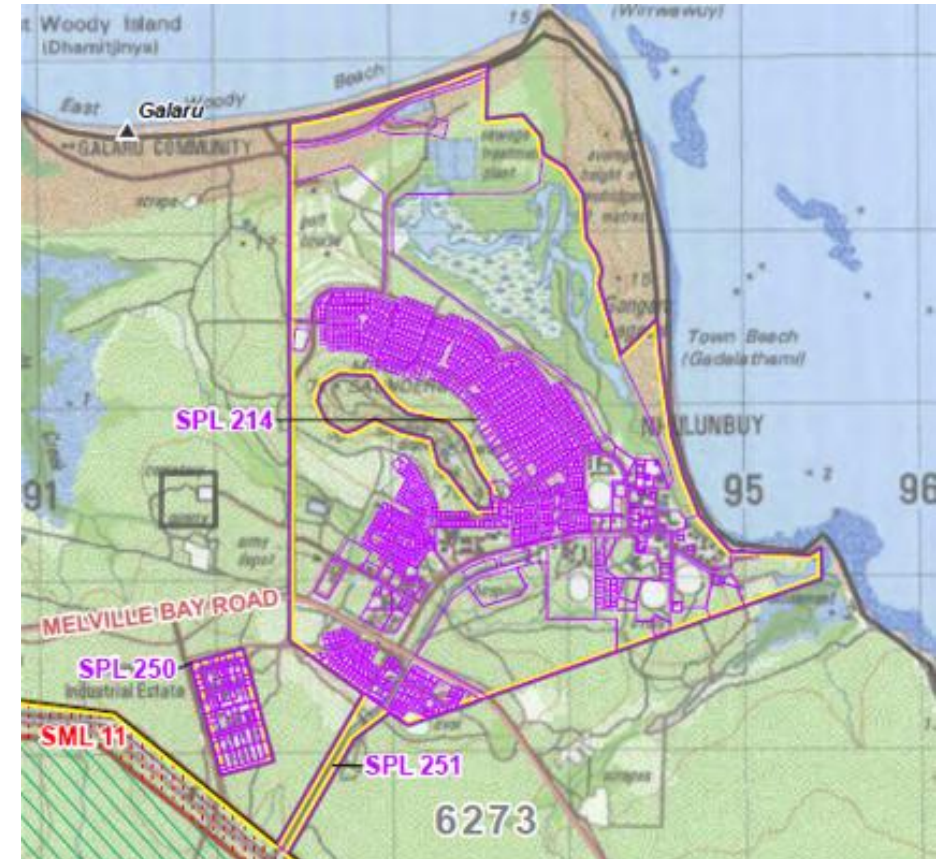
Land tenure – the town

Land tenure models on granted Aboriginal land

The traditional owners are the decision makers.

Tenure models proposed:

- converting land to a torrens freehold system – requiring the traditional owners to give up land rights
- long term head lease (~ 99 years) to NTG or Cth entity – similar to in Canberra
- township lease (~ 99 years) to the Office of Township Leasing under section 19A of the Land Rights Act



Update – Gove Futures

Recent work

- consultations started with traditional owners in May and June 2026
- traditional owners have been provided information about the land tenure issues
- CSIRO are providing expert strategic and economic advice on the land tenure options



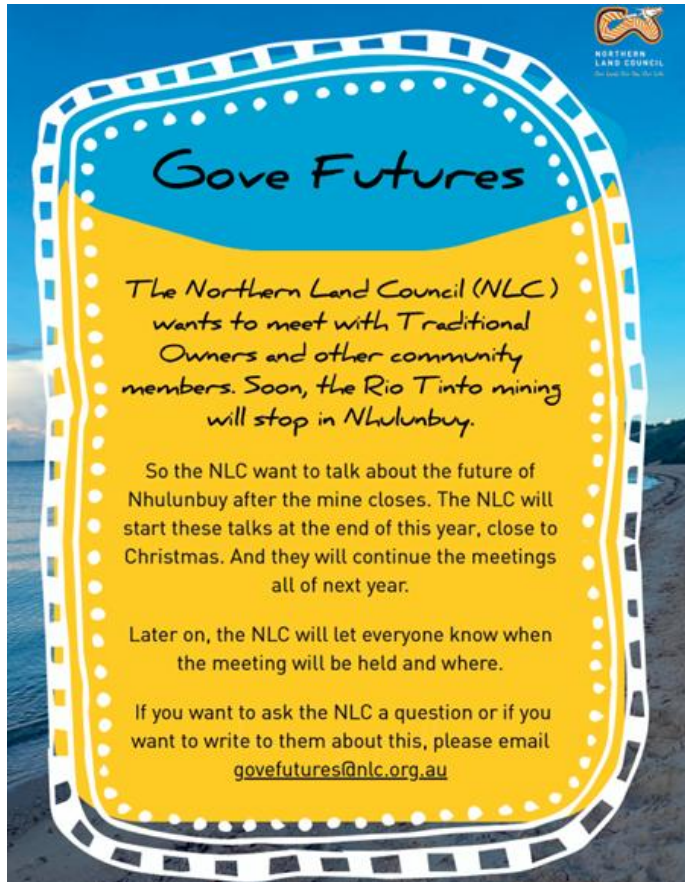
Update – Gove Futures

CSIRO provisional findings

- Long-term (~ 99-year) leases on ALRA freehold can deliver the many of the same benefits as a freehold system, including:
 - investment certainty;
 - mortgageability; and
 - being transferable and inheritable.
- Well-designed leasehold models work, with places like the ACT having strong and functional property markets.
- ALRA freehold protects Aboriginal ownership, cultural continuity, and intergenerational inheritance, key priorities for traditional owners.
- Land tenure is one aspect but long-term success also depends on government investment, retaining government services and adequate housing.



Update – Gove Futures



Upcoming work

- Decision making consultations will take place with traditional owners and interested and affected groups once the land tenure models are refined
- Continuing to work closely with RAC and GCL about land tenure and other mining transition matters

Update – CAR

Central Arnhem Road

The NLC begun consultations with traditional Aboriginal owners and interested and affected groups.

A large consultation took place in May, with smaller group meetings and fieldwork taking place throughout 2026.

The NLC is aiming to complete consultations by the end of this year in the North East Arnhem region.





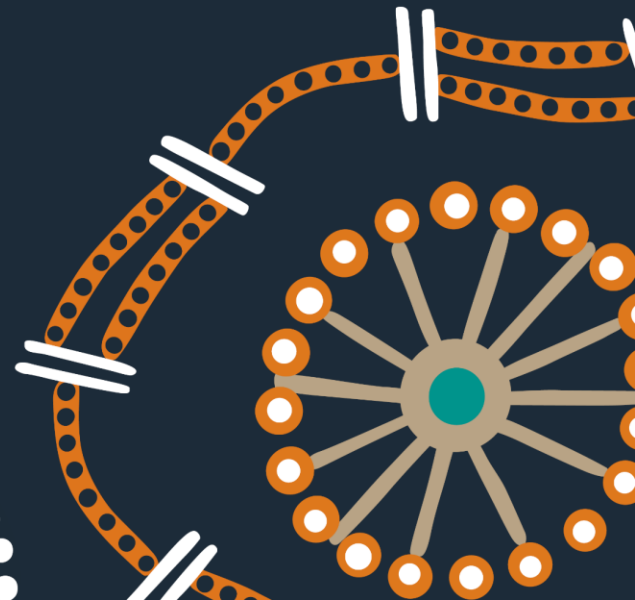
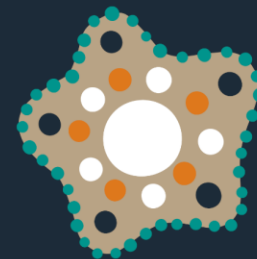
Australian Government
National Indigenous
Australians Agency



NIAA

National Indigenous Australians Agency

Gerrit Wanganeen, Regional Manager, Arnhem
Land & Groote Eylandt

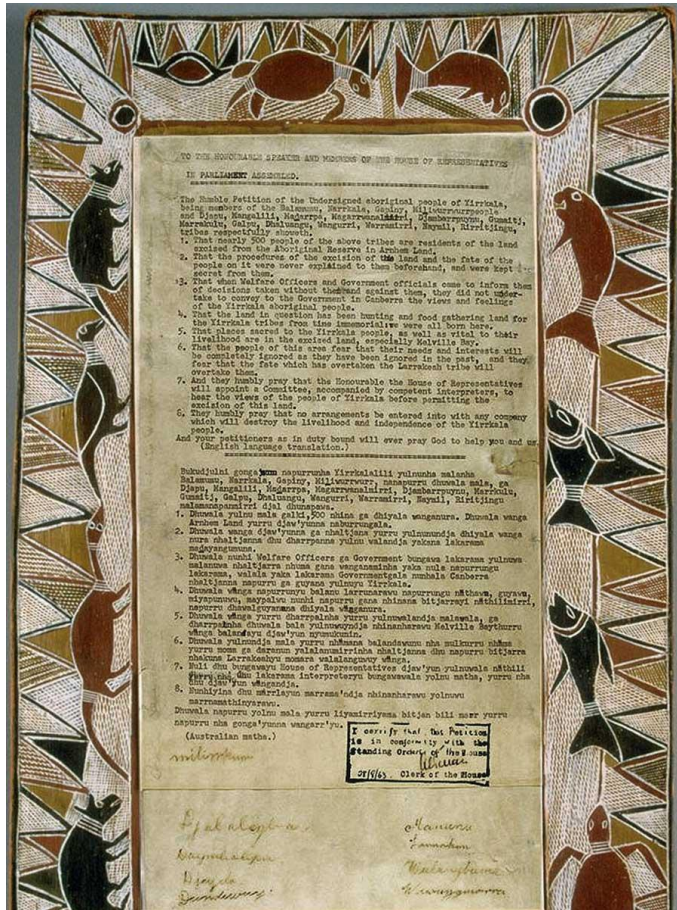


Coordinated Commonwealth Engagement



- NIAA has established a Gove Mining Transition Inter-Departmental Committee (IDC).
- 12 Australian Government departments working together.
- The IDC will:
 - improve coordination and planning for the Australian Government
 - help align priorities with potential funding and investment opportunities
 - connect the right people and resources to progress opportunities.
- The IDC does not replace the GPFRG but rather supports it.
- Most IDC members will attend Garma 2026 and tour the Gove Peninsula to inform discussions/considerations.

Aboriginal Land Rights Act



- NIAA administers the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (ALRA).
- Traditional Owners and the Northern Land Council are leading discussions about future land tenure arrangements.
- NIAA will work in partnership to support land tenure discussions and respects that decisions about future arrangements must be led by Traditional Owners.

Food Security



- Future arrangements in Nhulunbuy will need to be tailored to the local circumstances, community needs and commercial realities.
- Remote food security involves a range of stakeholders.
- A local Food Security Taskforce has been established to coordinate planning and explore options with Woolworth's departure.
- NIAA has experience with remote community food security programs and will contribute its knowledge and networks.

Update Developing East Arnhem Limited

Luke Walker
Chief Executive Officer

**EAST
ARNHEM**

SMALL BUSINESS UPDATE

Practical support for local SMEs

DEAL is helping businesses manage operational issues now and prepare for transition pressures ahead.

Operational support

- Coordinating insurance and compliance support for SMEs.
- Enrolling businesses in 1:1 business clinics and broader support mechanisms.
- Linking SMEs with legal support for restructuring discussions.
- Yirrkala Farm commercialisation - moving the project activity toward a sustainable operating model for food security.

Market readiness

- Connecting businesses to DEAL marketing and social media channels.
- Assisting businesses with tenders and ICN registration to support business growth.
- Referring businesses to grants, funding pathways and support providers.
- Screen, rank and package priority opportunities and take to market.

Purpose: retain jobs, protect essential services and help businesses adapt early.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND UPDATE

Simple entry, targeted support

Backing local businesses through transition with grants and 0% interest loans for eligible projects.

2 × \$50,000

grants awarded

2

approved

4

under development

Up to \$50,000

support per eligible project

Priority support areas

- Gove Peninsula business development
- Essential liveability services
- Business retention and diversification
- Growth and market readiness

Eligible projects should help retain jobs, create new revenue, protect essential services or become more market-ready.

It starts with a simple EOI

- 01** Submit a short EOI or contact DEAL
- 02** DEAL tests fit and shapes the next step
- 03** Full application and assessment if suitable
- 04** Agreement, milestones, acquittal and reporting

EOI screening is not automatic funding approval.

VET SERVICES CONTINUITY

Continuity now, practical pathway to a long-term PAWS facility

Services are transitioning from Katherine Vets to Dr Becky's LL Vets - maintaining regular local care.

Katherine Vets → Dr Becky & LL Vets → long-term PAWS facility pathway

NOW

Continuity of care

- Dr Becky's LL Vets continue veterinary care from Katherine Vets.
- Consultations remain at PAWS for familiar local access.
- Surgery location secured with DEAL support.

NEXT

Permanent facility pathway

- DEAL, NCL, LL Vets, PAWS and Tristan Animal Services are working together.
- Target solution: purpose-built veterinary facility at PAWS.
- Maintains local service confidence through transition.

CORE MESSAGE Continuity of care now, with a practical pathway to an improved long-term veterinary facility at PAWS.

EAST ARNHEM BRAND LAUNCH

WHY A BRAND CAMPAIGN?

- A lack of Awareness or knowledge of where EA is and what it has to offer is extremely low.
- (We asked Australians to place a dot on a map locating East Arnhem.)
- Messaging what EA has to offer across INVEST/VISIT/LIVE

DIGITAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN RESULTS

- Potential Invest/Live - we reached over 1.1 million Australians in 4 months (+ 600 Invest leads)
- Visitors - overall we reached 3,760,641 Australians in 4 months

NEXT STEPS

- Continue to target potential Investors and communicate our Clear Value propositions.
- Brand Ambassadors/Influencers to promote the region.
- Repeat last years 'Where is East Arnhem?' survey nationally.



2026 CENSUS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

ABS AUSTRALIAN CENSUS NIGHT IS TUESDAY 11 AUGUST 2026!

- Census are held every five years.
- DEAL and CM&C are working together to promote awareness and community participation.
- Government service levels and business investments and jobs hire use Census data.
- Promoting on Gove FM, Yolngu radio and other Channels

3 Key Messages:

- What the Census is.
- Why it is important to our future
- Call to action.

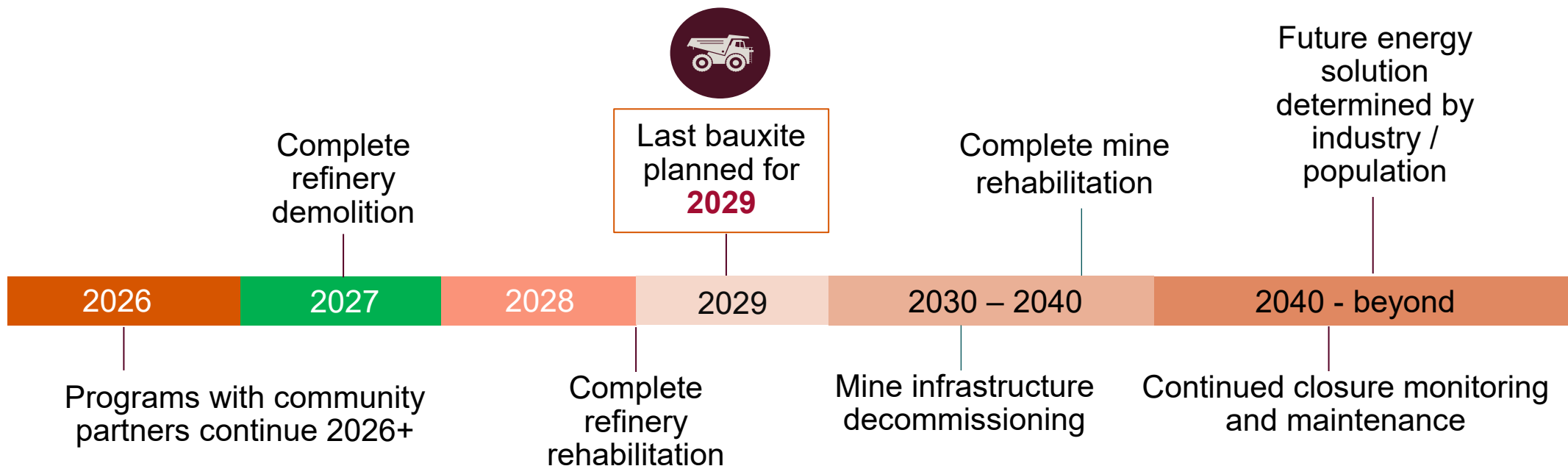




An update from Rio Tinto Gove

Shannon Price
General Manager

Rio Tinto's journey to closure and beyond



**Timeline subject to change as closure studies progress*

Housing

We recognise Nhulunbuy's housing constraints, and can offer some relief now to support essential services, critical service delivery and key workforce needs in Nhulunbuy.

We are proposing:

- to make 10 houses available during Q3 2026 (rentals)
- another 15 houses in Q4 2026 (full handover)

Already this year:

- Delivering 12 properties to RAC as vacant lots for development activity
- Refurbishing housing assets to be retained.



Community programs

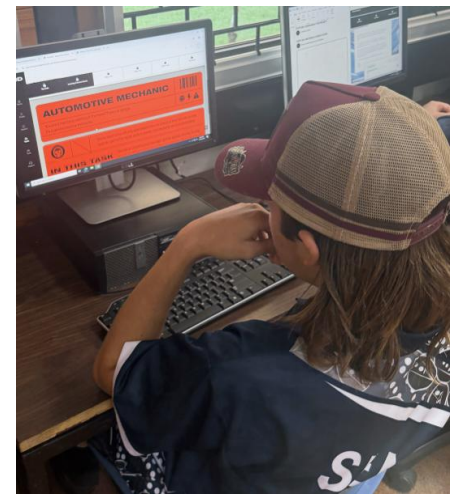
We are working with community organisations now to help them develop capability before last bauxite is mined in 2029. In 2026 we're:

Economic Development

- sponsoring DEAL, DTBAR and other groups with **training to support local businesses**
- supporting **alternate industry development**
- continuing the **discounted (Benevolent) rate** introduced in 2025 for clubs and not-for-profits
- funding an **economic empowerment program** with Marngarr
- facilitating an **economic development and cultural tourism exchange** to NZ for Rirratjingu.
- providing **in-kind support** for the Yirrkala Farm.

Future Skills

- sponsoring a **partnership agreement with Dhimmuru** to support Ranger capacity development
- providing **career-focused funding support** for Nhulunbuy High School, the Christian College, Yirrkala School, Barawun Centre, Dhupuma Barker and other education hubs via The Careers Department
- funding a Charles Darwin University **study on Yolŋu future skills.**

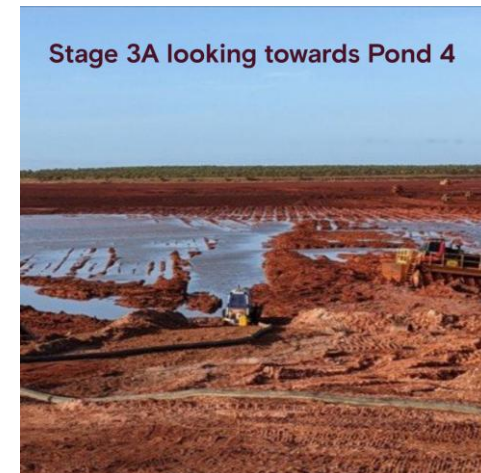


Rehabilitation in partnership

Rehabilitation activities on our mining lease have been successfully carried out since the 1970s.

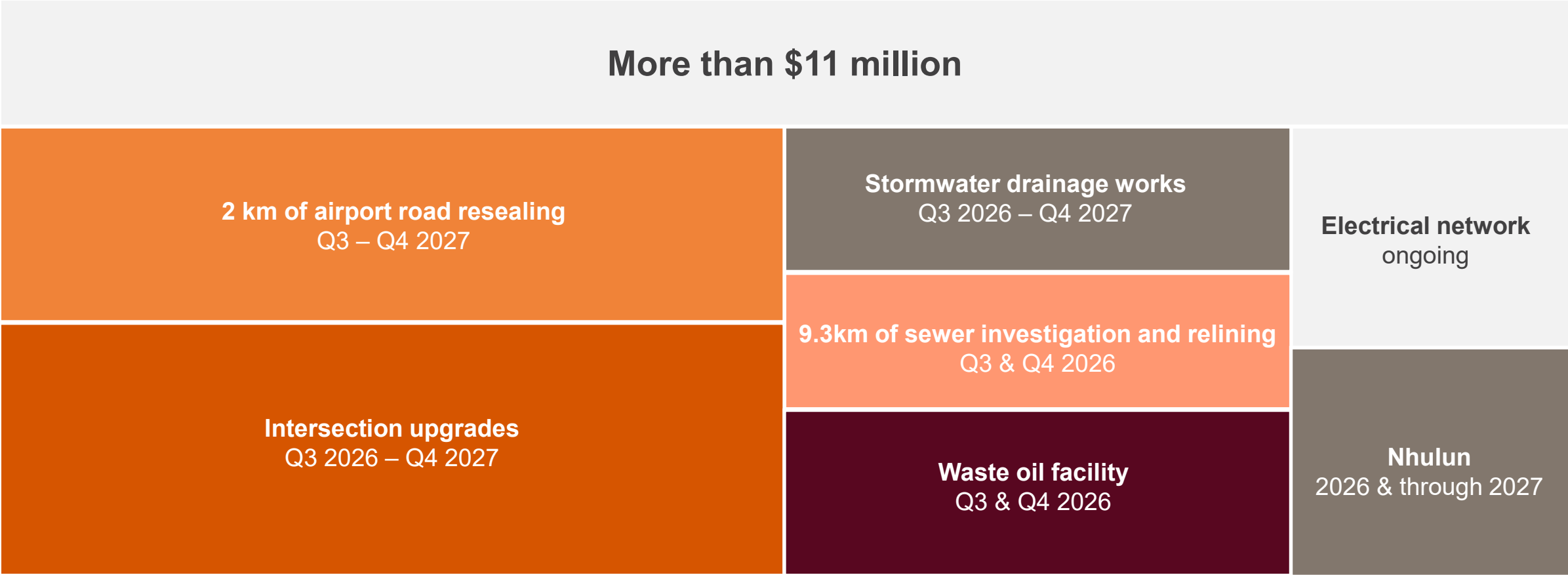
Did you know?

- 400kg of seeds are collected each year
 - 10,000 plants are raised annually by hand
 - Over 100 hectares are rehabilitated annually on our mine lease
-
- A dedicated **closure nursery** continues to support our rehabilitation program.
 - This year we have partnered with Gumatj Aboriginal Corporation on key activities supporting our **mine rehabilitation program**.
 - The completion of **Pond 5** would not have been possible without collaboration with both Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation and Gumatj on landscape and irrigation activities, plus the supply of concrete and quarry material to support civil construction works.



Town works

2026 / 2027



RioTinto

Q&A

Getting Information

The Reference Group
invites attendees to visit
Gove Futures website
for further information or
to submit any questions
or feedback –
govefutures.nt.gov.au

