

# Arnhem Exploration & Rural Services

## ARNHEM EXPLORATION & RURAL SERVICES

ABN 58 460 598 610

### Report on CLC meeting at Ampilatwatja re Elkedra geochem project

On 11 November 2005, I attended a meeting with the Central Land Council at Ampilatwatja to discuss the proposed Arafura work program at Elkedra.

The meeting was led by Olaf Geerken and attended by six traditional owners. The following points were discussed:

1. I explained the sampling procedure (mattock and shovel to 30cm, 500g sample taken, hole backfilled and marked with a pin marker). Mapping would be carried out by a geologist walking over the area. Three vehicles and five to six people would be involved, expected duration would be about five to six days.
2. A fly camp would be set up, probably near Fitz Bore. The traditional owners were happy for us to camp near a water hole located near sample site 36.
3. The initial sampling is wide-spaced. Depending on results, future work will involve closer spaced sampling in selected areas of the current program. The traditional owners want such work cleared with the CLC. This meeting covered the wide spaced sampling only.
4. In response to a question, I stated that gold and base metals were the target commodities.
5. Olaf stated that Elkedra station had not been notified of the proposed program. I showed him a fax from Arafura to the station dated 11/10/05 giving notification. He accepted this and thought that the fax had probably not been understood by the station owners.
6. A discussion on sacred sites took place: there are a number of additional sites as well as several discrepancies in AAPA sites. There are two new sites which result in the following sample sites being cancelled: 32, 33 (waterhole west of AAPA5955-15) and 100, 101, 102, 108, 109, 110, 111, 119, 120, 121, 122 (southern headwaters of Newlands Creek). There are also three unlocated sites, all probably outside the project area. A list was presented to me and has been faxed by me to Arafura. It was stressed by Olaf that although two AAPA sites are incorrectly located, nevertheless the AAPA exclusions remain in place as shown in AAPA documentation as the CLC does not have the authority to issue variations.
7. The unlocated site south-west of Supplejack bore will prevent sampling in the area (none presently proposed), however Arafura is free to map the area provided that no samples are taken.
8. The view expressed by the meeting was that allowing exploration near sacred sites could result in later pressure to allow further work which might result in damage to the site.

No site visit was carried out by myself as this had been carried out by Olaf the previous day. In discussion prior to the meeting, access was apparently fair although tracks are washed out in places. Stone artifacts are present in the area and I said that the crews will be briefed to leave such artifacts in place. A requirement to report archaeological sites to the CLC was noted. I stated that we would be running a dry camp. Apologies were presented on behalf of John Goulevitch for his absence.

The meeting seemed positive and was carried out in a friendly and co-operative atmosphere. From previous meetings on behalf of other companies involving one of the elders at this meeting, once again the main concern is that no sacred sites are disturbed and that future

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work is cleared with the CLC. I am aware that there have been issues in the past with other companies (primarily government road maintenance contractors) working around Amaroo. I would recommend that personnel involved in the proposed work program for Arafura be made aware of sacred site locations and archaeological reporting requirements.

(Philip Merry, AERS)

Attachment faxed to Arafura 11/11/05: CLC preliminary advice to Arafura 10 Nov 2005

