



Attention: News Editor/Chief of Staff

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### **Supreme Court to review State Government approval of FMG railway**

- The Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation have lodged an application for judicial review with the Supreme Court of Western Australia
- The review will focus on an Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee meeting that resulted in a recommendation to approve destruction of Aboriginal heritage sites, in addition to consent for further work to determine their significance, at the one meeting.

The Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation (WGAC) has lodged an application for judicial review with the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

The review relates to the State Government process that led to the approval of a Section 18 application that permits FMG to impact Aboriginal heritage sites to facilitate its \$1.5B Eliwana mine.

***Please attribute the following comments to Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation CEO Glen Camile.***

“We have not taken this action lightly. However the board members of the Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation have a responsibility to protect and preserve significant Aboriginal heritage for future generations.”

“We will allege, amongst other things, that the Ministers’ advisory Committee (the ACMC) failed to afford the Wintawari Guruma Aboriginal Corporation procedural fairness by failing to ensure that it had sufficient information as to the significance and importance of the Sites.”

“The ACMC recommended that FMG’s application be approved, despite being aware that a report was being prepared to determine the significance of the area.”

“23,000 years of continued use by Aboriginal people should not be cast aside because it is an inconvenience.”

“To be clear, we are not opposing the planned mining operations at Eliwana. We had simply asked that FMG to realign around 2% of the planned railway to avoid an area of unique significance.”

“Despite our pragmatic approach to balancing economic development and Aboriginal heritage protection, we feel we have been let down by the State process that is designed to ensure fairness and clarity in decision making.”

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