



MEDIA STATEMENT

30 May 2013

MG Corporation delivers lasting employment outcomes

MG Corporation Chief Executive John Hughes says the Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project has put a large and long-lasting dent in Aboriginal unemployment in the Kununurra region.

Now approaching completion, the Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project has seen hundreds of local Aboriginal people provided with employment, up skilling, training and personal development opportunities through MG Corporation's MG Services division.

"This project has seen a massive spike in Aboriginal employment in and around Kununurra over the past 18 months," Mr Hughes said.

"However, it's not just jobs that have been secured through the MG Services model. We've seen many local Aboriginal people gain the training opportunities they required to gain long-term careers which have changed their lives."

Mr Hughes pointed to the 16 Aboriginal employees who took up jobs in the resources and construction industry away from Kununurra during the Ord project's wet season shutdown period.

"These people haven't just got a job – they've got a career and a foot in the door in what is now their chosen industry through Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project," he said.

"Through engagement with MG Services, many gained their start through the LCPL Construction Fundamentals Course (CFC) before moving into employment with Leighton Contracting Pty Ltd (LCPL) and other large employers."

Mr Hughes said the Bringing Skills To Life (BSL) program which is currently being run by MG Services had identified a new wave of Aboriginal people who want to become job ready and move away from the welfare cycle.

"These courses have been extremely well-attended and many of the graduates have now moved into employment, locally and further afield."

Mr Hughes said the long-term employment outcomes which have arisen from the Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project were achieved with support from the public and corporate sectors.



“The WA government, through Regional Development & Lands and Land Corp has taken a ‘can-do’ approach to making this project a success.

“While Indigenous employment is not its core businesses, the WA government has worked tirelessly to ensure that Aboriginal outcomes were front and centre as key performance indicators to the project’s overall success.”

“Add to this the support of outstanding corporate citizens like LCPL, Charles Hull Contracting and Northern Development Company.”

MG Corporation Chairperson Edna O’Malley backed Mr Hughes’ comments.

“The Ministers and MG people have worked very hard over the last seven years and we can now wipe the sweat off our brow because we’ve done a good job,” Ms O’Malley said.

“MG people have got good jobs and will be able to move forward and get other employment because we have been together for this long; we know the good and the bad and we have learnt many lessons.

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About MG Corporation

MG Corporation is the leading Indigenous organisation that receives and manages the entitlements and benefits transferred under the Ord Final Agreement (OFA) to the Miriuwung and Gajerrong peoples, the native title holders over their country in the East Kimberley.