

UPDATE

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

20 December 2011

DECISION OF THE VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL HERITAGE COUNCIL TO DECLINE REGISTERED ABORIGINAL PARTY APPLICATION FROM EAST GIPPSLAND INDIGENOUS AQUACULTURE COOPERATIVE

At its meeting on 7 December 2011, the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council (Council) decided not to register East Gippsland Indigenous Aquaculture Cooperative (EGIAC) as a registered Aboriginal party (RAP).

EGIAC had applied to the Council to be a RAP for an area that begins east of the Snowy River and borders ridge lines and waterways that generally make up the watershed of the Snowy River.

Council considered the information provided by EGIAC about its membership and the traditional and familial links of some of its members to the area being claimed.

Council also noted the Cooperative's structure and rules, including that the primary activity of the Cooperative is to hold land and infrastructure which will be used to accommodate indigenous aquaculture business development projects in East Gippsland.

The Council decided that EGIAC was not an appropriate organisation to represent Traditional Owners of the area included in the application.

Date of decision: 7 December 2011