



Stop Adani destroying our land and culture

We, the Wangan and Jagalingou people, are the Traditional Owners of the land in Queensland's Galilee Basin. Coal company Adani wants to use our ancestral lands for their Carmichael coal mine.

They want to dig up our land, poison our water and harm our totems. They are trying to dig six open cut mines and five underground mines. Land the size of seven Sydney Harbours will be destroyed, along with the flora and fauna that live there. They will use 12 billion litres of precious groundwater every year to wash their coal, which will become poisoned and unusable. Adani offered us a deal to use our land for their mine. As a group, we discussed it at length, then rejected it. We decided that protecting our land, water and sacred places was more important than the money they offered us. As soon as we rejected their offer, they betrayed us. They had promised to negotiate in good faith, but as soon as we rejected their offer they took us to court. Right now, Adani is telling the court that we should lose our Native Title rights forever so they can build their mine. It is an outrageous breach of trust, but it doesn't look good for us. They have millions to spend on lawyers and the law is designed so companies like Adani can walk all over us. They are using the might of their multi-billion dollar corporation and legal power to steamroll us. But we won't take it. Please, help us protect our rights, our land, our water and our history before they are destroyed forever.

We do hereby firmly REJECT a Land Use Agreement with Adani for the Carmichael mine on our traditional lands.

We DO NOT consent to the Carmichael mine on our ancestral lands.

We DO NOT accept Adani's "offers" to sign away our land and our rights and interests in it. We will not take their "shut up" money.

We will PROTECT and DEFEND our Country and our connection to it.

Why is this important?

We are gravely concerned about the push by Adani and the Queensland Government to open up the Carmichael Mine on our traditional lands. Our traditional lands are an interconnected and living whole; a vital cultural landscape. It is central to us as a People, and to the maintenance of our identity, laws and consequent rights.

If the Carmichael mine were to proceed it would tear the heart out of the land. The scale of this mine means it would have devastating impacts on our native title, ancestral lands and waters, our totemic plants and animals, and our environmental and cultural heritage. It would pollute and drain billions of litres of groundwater, and obliterate important springs systems. It would potentially wipe out threatened and endangered species. It would literally leave a huge black hole, monumental in proportions, where there were once our homelands. These effects are irreversible. Our land will be “disappeared”.

Nor would the direct impacts be limited to our lands – they would have cascading effects on the neighbouring lands and waters of other Traditional Owners and other landholders in the region. And the mine would cause damage to climate, unleashing a mass of carbon into the atmosphere and propelling dangerous global warming.

We could not in all conscience consent to such wholesale destruction. Nor could we allow such a project to contribute to the dire unfolding effects of climate change that pose such great risks to all peoples.

We know that many other people who care deeply about conserving natural places, vital water resources, the great fauna and flora of central Queensland, and a health planet share our concerns about this mine.

When we say No, we mean No.

