

PRESS RELEASE

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More state rights granted to Territorians

The High Court's recognition of the Northern Territory's right to receive "just terms compensation" for land acquired by the Commonwealth, as part of its recent decision concerning the Commonwealth intervention, has important implications for Statehood.

"The recent decision of the High Court of Australia is a timely reminder that the Northern Territory's status as a Territory is becoming redundant and that Statehood is our next step", said Ms Fran Kilgariff, Co-Chair of the Northern Territory Statehood Steering Committee.

The High Court's decision in *Wurridjal v Commonwealth* recognises that Territorians should be treated equally to people living in states when their land is compulsorily acquired and are entitled to compensation.

"The High Court's decision brings Territorians one step closer to constitutional equality with people in the States."

"This decision shows that the constitutional status as a Territory is no longer appropriate for the people of the Territory. This is why it is more important than ever to end these arrangements and become a State in a complete legal and constitutional sense" Ms Kilgariff concluded.

For more information visit www.statehood.gov.au .

Media inquiries contact Poppy Lelekis on 89461567.

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