

ASX Announcement

ASX Code: **ATR**

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Journey and Understanding Agreement with Traditional Owners

Astron Limited (ASX:ATR) is pleased to announce that the Donald Project Joint Venture has executed a *Journey and Understanding Agreement* with Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (Barengi Gadjin Land Council).

Barengi Gadjin Land Council represents the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia, and Jupagulk Peoples (WJJWJ Peoples), who are the Traditional Owners of the lands within the Donald Project Mining Licence area (MIN5532), and are recognised as Native Title Holders for land and waters along *Barringgi Gadyin* (the Wimmera River). Their Country extends from *Gariwerd* (the Grampians) through to *Ngalpakatia/Ngelpagutya* (Lake Albacutya) and beyond into sandhill country.

The Donald Project Joint Venture (Donald Project Pty Ltd, trading as Donald Mineral Sands), is advancing the Donald Rare Earth and Mineral Sands Project near Minyip, in the Wimmera region of Victoria, approximately 300km northwest of Melbourne.

The Agreement establishes a framework for a long-term relationship based on trust, mutual respect, and transparency, supporting the self-determination of the WJJWJ Peoples and provides for:

- A Cultural and Environmental Governance Framework with a joint Strategic Oversight Committee and a joint Technical and Operational Working Group providing the WJJWJ Peoples meaningful input into project decisions affecting Country
- Employment, training, and procurement opportunities for the WJJWJ Peoples and WJJWJ-aligned businesses
- Participation by the WJJWJ Peoples in environmental management, rehabilitation, and mine closure planning
- Cultural awareness training delivered by Barengi Gadjin Land Council across the Donald Project organisation
- A Best Practice Implementation Protocol ensuring project approvals uphold WJJWJ cultural values
- Cultural heritage protection measures consistent with current best practice
- Financial contributions supporting WJJWJ Peoples' self-determination principles programs throughout the life of the project.

Astron managing director Tiger Brown said: "This voluntary *Journey and Understanding Agreement* reflects our commitment to working in a genuine partnership with the WJJWJ Peoples, the Traditional Owners of the lands where the Donald Project will operate. Barengi Gadjin Land Council has been a constructive and valued partner in advancing the Donald Project and this agreement lays the foundation for an ongoing relationship built on respect, transparency, self-determination, and shared benefit."

Next steps

DMS and Barengi Gadjin Land Council will establish an agreement governance structure and develop implementation protocols. A Barengi Gadjin Land Council liaison officer, part-funded by DMS, will serve as the key point of contact between the parties.

The agreement complements existing cultural heritage management arrangements under Victoria's *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and aligns with best practice for partnerships between Traditional Owners and the resources sector.

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About Astron

Astron Limited (ASX: ATR) is an Australian-based company listed on the ASX. With over 35 years of operating history, Astron has been involved in mineral sands processing, downstream product development, and the marketing and sales of zirconium and titanium related products. Astron's prime focus is the development of its large, long-life Donald Rare Earth and Mineral Sands Project in regional Victoria, Australia. In addition to its Australian assets, the Company also conducts a mineral sands trading operation.

This announcement is authorised for release by the Managing Director of Astron Limited.

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