



9th August 2021

CATSI Act Review
National Indigenous Australians Agency

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Via email: CATSIActReview@niaa.gov.au

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: SANTS submission on the Exposure Draft of the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Amendment Bill 2021*

South Australian Native Title Services Ltd (SANTS) is the Native Title Service Provider (NTSP) for Greater South Australia as recognised under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). In performing our statutory functions, SANTS represents and works with Registered Native Title Bodies Corporate (RNTBCs) and other native title entities incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (Cth) (the CATSI Act).

SANTS welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Amendment Bill 2021* (the *Amendment Bill*). We acknowledge the review process undertaken by the National Indigenous Australians' Agency (NIAA), including the publication of the *CATSI Act Review Final Report* of 30th October 2020 which outlined 72 recommendations.

In making this submission, we refer NIAA to the submission of the National Native Title Council (NNTC), of which SANTS is an active regional member. SANTS supports the comments provided by the NNTC on the *Amendment Bill*. In particular, we strongly encourage further consideration of a separate change for RNTBCs given the unique and specific requirements these Corporations have. Given the *Amendment Bill* includes a number of provisions which apply only to RNTBCs, it would greatly assist RNTBCs with their governance if these were outlined as a stand-alone chapter. Our additional concerns with the Amendment Bill reflect those of the NNTC including in regard to collection of further contact details and reporting/compliance, time limits on deciding on membership applications, and lack of consideration of transitional provisions.

SANTS appreciates the opportunity to provide input into this important review of the CATSI Act. Should you wish to discuss anything further in relation to our submission, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Keith Thomas'.

Keith Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

Working to empower Aboriginal Nations to strengthen culture, country and community