



Mr Tim Parslow  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Milingimbi Community Incorporated  
 Milingimbi Community Inc.  
 via DARWIN NT 0822

SIHIP-PD-0085

Dear Mr Parslow

The next step in the Australian and Northern Territory Governments' Strategic Indigenous Housing Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) is to let you know how much money will be spent on major capital works and infrastructure developments in your community.

The new Indigenous housing strategy will see \$647 million spent on new construction, refurbishments and infrastructure developments in 73 Territory communities over the next four years. Allocation of the SIHIP funding is based on overcrowding and levels of need.

It is Government policy that all significant investment in Indigenous communities is secured by appropriate lease arrangements prior to commencement of construction. Funding of \$24.3 million has been allocated to your community for major capital works, including new housing, on the condition that a new lease arrangement is agreed.

The Australian and Northern Territory Governments are already working with Land Councils about leasing arrangements. You should contact the Land Council for more information or to discuss this process.

With this money comes the opportunity for local people in your community to get jobs and be trained. The houses will be built by contractors who will be encouraged through contractual incentives to train and employ local people.

Early planning has been done and the SIHIP team will start working with your community and continue working with your Government Business Manager before then to explain what will happen and to make sure local people who want jobs in the program are able to be trained and ready to work when construction starts.

Creating jobs and training opportunities for local people is an important part of Government's investment in your community to make sure people living in the houses benefit as well as the whole community.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact Julie Rannard on telephone (08) 8982 2339 or email [julie.rannard@nt.gov.au](mailto:julie.rannard@nt.gov.au) if you need more information.

Yours Sincerely

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RICK HARRIS  
 Program Director, SIHIP  
 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008

safe, secure and affordable housing.