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Press Release

Tiwi Land Council Responds to NOPSEMA Approval of Santos Barossa Gas Project

The recent approval by NOPSEMA of the Santos Barossa gas project marks another chapter in a process that has caused deep concern and division among Tiwi people. It underscores the urgent need for Tiwi to assert and secure native title rights over sea country.

The Tiwi Land Council is actively working to progress a native title claim, with the aim of strengthening our Tiwi people's right to speak for our seas when developments are proposed that may impact our marine environment and cultural heritage. Securing rights over sea country is not just about protection—it's about identity, culture, and sustainable futures. It supports Tiwi people to manage marine resources in ways that align with our values and traditions, and to share in associated economic benefits.

The Tiwi Land Council has reset its relationships with offshore resources companies, including Santos, in the hope that future activities are conducted with transparency, respect, and in accordance with proper process. We remain firmly committed to supporting our people with development opportunities that are culturally appropriate, environmentally sustainable, and economically empowering. Our goal is long-term financial independence for Tiwi people—built on respect for country and culture.

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