

MG CORPORATION News



Rhys Peart is just one Aboriginal employment success story to come out of the Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project. Picture: Nathan Dyer

MG Services delivering employment outcomes

OUTSTANDING Aboriginal employment and business engagement outcomes have emerged following completion of stage 2 of the Ord-East Kimberley Expansion Project.

The \$322.5 million dollar development was funded by the WA Government through its Royalties for Regions program and represented a key component of implementing the Ord Final Agreement, a native title

agreement signed between the State and the Miriuwung and Gajerrong people.

Between 2010 and 2013 more than 200 Aboriginal people were employed on the development while more than \$6.3 million was spent on work undertaken by local Aboriginal-owned businesses.

MG Corporation's MG Services division played a key role achieving the employment and

business outcomes, providing a one-stop shop which prepared MG and other Aboriginal job seekers for the workforce. Outgoing MG Chairperson and current director Edna O'Malley said Ord Stage 2 had helped create a new wave of Aboriginal working role models in Kununurra. "What we've got to remember is that for a lot of these local Aboriginal people working on Ord Stage 2 had never previously held



a job or had been disengaged from the workforce for a long time,” Ms O’Malley said. “What pleased me even more was the number of people who used this project as a stepping stone to other jobs in the mining, gas and civil construction sectors. “A lot of others decided the FIFO

way of life wasn’t for them and they’ve now secured local employment in and around Kununurra.” Ms O’Malley said these results couldn’t have been achieved without the commitment to Aboriginal outcomes by key stakeholders LandCorp. Leighton Contractors. the

WA Government and MG Corp. “MG Corporation, through having a seat on the SALT (Strategic Alliance Leadership Team, played an important role in driving and monitoring agreed targets and strategies relating to Aboriginal business, training and employment.”

Snapshot: Key Aboriginal outcomes 2010-2013

Employment

22,055 Aboriginal man-days worked
204 Aboriginal people employed
104 were MG people
Peak Aboriginal workforce of 97 (September 2012)
21.4% construction man days worked by Aboriginal people (target 20%)
86% average attendance (target 80)

Business outcomes

\$6.3 million spend in Aboriginal owned businesses (target \$4.4m 2012-2013)
14 Aboriginal owned businesses engaged (target minimum of 4)
\$130 million spend through local content in over 82 local businesses
A fund has been set up to incubate a future MG legacy business

Training

286 national accredited certificates (190 mobile plant machinery, 38 traffic control, 22 First Aid, 12 high risk, 24 other nationally accredited)
125 Aboriginal people accredited
94 in mobile plant machinery

Other outcomes

94 Aboriginal people placed into alternative employment outside the Ord Project
30 Aboriginal people in FIFO-DIDO employment
554 people participated in cross cultural awareness training, culturally specific to MG people



New MG Chairman Desmond Hill (Picture: Guy McLean)

New MG Chairperson elected while key experience retained

MG Corporation has undergone a leadership change with Desmond Hill taking over as Chairman. Mr Hill, who is also Chief Executive Officer of Warringarri Aboriginal Corporation, replaces Edna O’Malley who served the past two years as chairperson. Recent board elections saw a full complement of five MG directors appointed to the corporation’s board, with Ms O’Malley, Ted Carlton and Ted Hall Junior joining Mr Hill and Helen Gerrard, who is continuing in the role of deputy chairperson.