

Introduction to the Dja Dja Wurrung RSA and LUAA

FACT SHEET 1

The **Dja Dja Wurrung Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA)** between Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DJAARA) and the State of Victoria (the State) acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung People's (Djaara) Djandak (Country) and Traditional Owner Rights.

The RSA is a result of DJAARA and the State coming together in good faith to recognise, under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic), some of Djaara's lasting rights as the First Peoples of Djandak. These are known as Traditional Owner Rights. The RSA binds DJAARA and the State to a meaningful partnership founded on mutual respect.

It is a means by which Dja Dja Wurrung Culture and traditional practices and the unique relationship of Djaara to their traditional country are recognised, strengthened, protected and promoted, for the benefit of all Victorians, now and into the future.

The RSA is a constructive step towards reconciliation and cements the sovereignty of Djaara. A map of the RSA Area can be found [HERE](#).

The RSA is a comprehensive settlement package which includes a **LAND USE ACTIVITY AGREEMENT (LUAA)** with the State.

The LUAA provides a framework whereby proponents of certain activities on Public Land may be required to notify and consult with DJAARA before they commence their activity. This process ensures activities are undertaken in a way that recognises and respects Traditional Owner Rights and is a means of recompense where an activity results in an impact on or loss of those rights.

For more information about the history of Traditional Owner Rights and the RSA refer to [FACT SHEET 4](#).

Before Commencing Your Activity

Protecting Cultural Heritage

Before commencing your activity, you may need to obtain a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). Please seek advice from DJAARA's Malamiya Team via culture@djadjawurrung.com.au prior to engaging a cultural heritage advisor.

If the proposed activity is a Negotiation or Agreement Activity under the LUAA, DJAARA may require a LUAA Site Inspection.

Regardless of whether any cultural heritage inspections, reports, plans, or agreements are required, you must know your obligations under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic). In particular, see sections 27 and 28.

Find more information about Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and fact sheets on what to look out for, on the Government's First Peoples – State Relations website [HERE](#).

DJAARA has also developed an **Aboriginal Object Collections fact sheet** about Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, including, what are Aboriginal objects and places, what to do if you think you have found an Aboriginal object or place, what can be done with unwanted collections, and what is the law.

DOES THE LUAA APPLY TO YOUR ACTIVITY?

To check whether the LUAA applies to your proposed activity, consider the following:

1. Is your activity taking place on Djandak (within the RSA area)?
2. If yes, is this activity taking place on Public Land?

If you answer yes to both above, contact DJAARA's Dja Dja Wurrekatjalangu Team via luaa@djadjawurrung.com.au. The Team can then help to assess the categorisation of your activity.

Land Use Activity Types

The LUAA establishes four main categories of Land Use Activities:

1. **Agreement Activities** – Substantial activities including grants of estates in fee simple, Carbon Sequestration Agreements, and significant commercial activities such as Major Works and long-term leases;
2. **Negotiation Activities** – Medium to high impact activities such as the installation of services, construction of more substantial public works, mining and treatment of earth resources, longer-term leases, licenses and permits, and Timber Release Plans;
3. **Advisory Activities** – Activities including a range of leases, licenses and permits, land management activities, lower-impact construction activities, and certain management or working plans; and
4. **Routine Activities** – Low impact activities such as maintenance and short-term licences and permits.

Where activities may fall under more than one category of Land Use Activity, the higher categorisation will apply.

For more details and examples of how activities may be categorised, refer to Schedule 3, Items 1-4 of the LUAA and/or contact DJAARA's Dja Dja Wurrekatjalangu Team via luua@djadjawurrung.com.au.

To understand the process for your activity based on its categorisation, go to [FACT SHEET 2](#). You may need to provide a formal notification to DJAARA before the activity commences.

Resources

A list of resources referred to in this Fact Sheet, along with more information about DJAARA, Djaara history and the LUAA processes, can be found below:

[FACT SHEET 2](#)

Land Use Activity Processes

[FACT SHEET 3](#)

Opportunities for Engagement with DJAARA and Potential Negotiation Outcomes

[FACT SHEET 4](#)

The Road to the Dja Dja Wurrung RSA

[DJAARA Website](#)

[Dja Dja Wurrung Recognition and Settlement Agreement \(RSA\)](#)

[Dja Dja Wurrung Land Use Activity Agreement \(LUAA\)](#)

DJAARA's aspirations, plans, and strategies for managing and healing Country (as set out on the right) and more resources can be found [HERE](#).

- [Dhelkunya Dja – Dja Dja Wurrung Healing Country Plan 2014-2034](#)
- [Turning 'wrong way' climate, 'right way' - Dja Dja Wurrung Climate Change Strategy 2023-2034](#)
- [Nyauwi Mutjeka 'To keep the Sun' - Dja Dja Wurrung Renewable Energy Strategy](#)
- [Galk-galk Dhelkunya - Forest Gardening Strategy 2022-2034](#)
- [Dhelkunyangu Gatjin Working together to heal water - Djaara Gatjin Strategy](#)
- [Djandak Wi \(Country Fire\) Strategy – dhelkunya wi \(healing fire\) 2024-2034](#)

Contacts

DJAARA's Dja Dja Wurrekatjalangu Team (RSA Team) - luua@djadjawurrung.com.au

DJAARA's Malamiya Team (Cultural Heritage Team) culture@djadjawurrung.com.au

Please note this Fact Sheet does not constitute legal advice.

If you require legal advice regarding the interpretation or application of relevant laws, you need to seek this advice independently.