Monday 21st November 2005

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Australian Communications and Media Authority
PO Box 34
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

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To Whom It May Concern:

As the Yolngu Manager of Miwatj Health Board in north-east Arnhem Land I am very happy to support Aboriginal Resource and Development Services ARDS in receiving permanent AM community broadcasting licence for their Yolngu Mata Radio service.

I hear many Yolngu people talking about the ARDS Yolngu Radio service. This is the first time we (Yolngu People) have been able to hear information about disease and sickness straight from the doctor in our own language. And because of it many Yolngu people are changing the way they live so they do not get sick anymore. Other Yolngu people that have diabetes are now getting support from other members of the family because they have all heard about what causes diabetes. From a health point of view this radio service is what we really need and ARDS are the only organisation that can deliver this sort of Radio service.

We also hear good Yolngu music on this radio service and a chance to know what is going on in the world.

This radio service is needed not just in the main Yolngu communities of Arnhem Land but also across the whole region, so it can cover many of our homeland villages as well. I understand with permanent community broadcasting licence this will be possible. I fully support ARDS’s attempt to bring this very valuable media service to the Yolngu people of north-east Arnhem Land.

Yours sincerely,

Banambi Wunungmurra
Interim CEO
Miwatj Health