

## **ERA's DIRTY WAR CONTINUES...**

**Wednesday, August 12**

The Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation, an organisation controlled and managed by the Mirrar people, has today accused mining giant ERA of inciting division in the local Aboriginal community as the campaign to stop Jabiluka uranium mine continues to gain public support.

The accusations have arisen in relation to an attempt by ERA to broker negotiations for a major "Aboriginal" development project in Jabiru without the consent or knowledge of the traditional owners.

Executive Officer of Gundjehmi, Jacqui Katona, said today:

"ERA's actions are all too familiar to traditional owners. When all else fails a mining company they seek to sidestep the traditional owners and offer false promises to other Aboriginal people in the area. We've seen this happen to indigenous people around the world and now it's happening in Kakadu.

"ERA have thrown everything at the Mirrar and they have stood strong. Now it appears that they have decided to actively create conflict in the local Aboriginal community. The Mirrar consider their actions to be on par with Shell, Western Mining and other development companies which initiate divisions between indigenous peoples to benefit themselves.

"ERA has played a role in a number of mismanaged and exploitative "Aboriginal" business enterprises throughout their time on Mirrar land. It is a complete farce that ERA should intervene in the Aboriginal community on the pretext of being a "good corporate citizen" when their clear intention is to undermine the opposition of the Mirrar people.

"As we continue our lobbying efforts in Europe it is clear that the international community is outraged at the actions of ERA and the Australian government."

For more information contact Jacqui Katona on (0417) 814470 or Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation on (08) 89792200.