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MEDIA RELEASE (25 September 2025)

SANTOS PR CAMPAIGN FORGETS TRADITIONAL OWNERS REJECTED NARRABRI PROJECT

First, an MoU with Narrabri Council, then sponsorship of the Aboriginal Knock-out, then endorsement by sitting Premiers, none of that will change the fact that Narrabri Project has stalled because they cannot tick their boxes.

Gomeroi Traditional Owners rejected the project at a Nation meeting in 2022. It was a strong and proud moment for our people, which showed the world that when we say No, we mean it. The Claimant Group has been in court ever since and has lodged an appeal against the latest Tribunal finding this year. This is because Santos have failed to consider the impact of climate change on our people and cultural environment and have failed to consider the stories of connection with our country. These were the findings of the Federal Court.

Santos had their buy-out bid rejected by the Emirates Gas giant and now they are clearly trying to improve their public relations, given their massive share price collapse. But even Chris Minns and Peter Malinauskus, who spruiked heavily for Santos at the Energy Conference the other day should know, projects can't get the go-ahead if the company fails to address its legal obligations.

The intervention by the two Premiers is a sad reflection on the state of politics in our country at the moment. I think the public would like to know what amount of speaking fee these representatives received.

We expect Narrabri Council, who has sold its soul to Santos a long time ago, to go along with whatever Santos suggests, but we expect better from our state leaders who are there to represent the whole community, not just corporate interests.

As far as the Aboriginal Knock-out is concerned, the organisers will live to regret the sponsorship deal they took with Santos, as the backlash against the event is now building and a Boycott is planned.

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