## NORTHERN TERRITORY LIQUOR COMMISSION DECISION NOTICE

MATTER: VARIATION OF THE CONDITIONS OF WIRIB

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION [2025] NTLiqComm 2

**LICENSEE:** Wirib Aboriginal Corporation (under administration)

Wirib Store & Tourism Park 1/13 Victoria Highway TIMBER CREEK NT 0852

c/- Samantha Rangika Sellahewa and Stuart George Reid

Joint and several liquidators Rodgers Reidy (NT) Pty Ltd Unit 13, 16 Charlton Ct WOOLNER NT 0820

**LEGISLATION**: Section 113 of the *Liquor Act 2019* (NT)

**REFERENCE**: LC:OMV:2024-002

**CONSIDERED BY:** Russell Goldflam (Chairperson)

Ms Ebony Abbott-McCormack (Health Member)

Mr Denys Stedman (Community Member)

**DATE**: 8 January 2025

 Section 113 of the Liquor Act 2019 (the Act) confers power on the Northern Territory Liquor Commission (the Commission) to vary the conditions of a liquor licence on its own initiative. Before varying the conditions, the Commission must give the licensee written notice of the proposed variation, the reasons for the proposed variation, and an invitation to the licensee to respond to the proposed variation within 28 days.

- 2. On 14 October 2024 the Commission issued a notice to the Wirib Aboriginal Corporation (**Wirib**) proposing to vary the conditions of the liquor licence that on 26 February 2020 the Commission had decided to issue for proposed premises at 1/13 Victoria Highway, TIMBER CREEK, NT 0852 (**the licence**).
- 3. The particulars of the proposed variations, together with the background and the reasons for issuing the notice are set out in the Notice of Proposed Variation of Licence Conditions issued by the Commission (the Notice).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Accessed at <a href="https://agd.nt.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0010/1452484/lc-omv-proposed-variation-of-conditions.pdf">https://agd.nt.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0010/1452484/lc-omv-proposed-variation-of-conditions.pdf</a>

- 4. The Commission sent the Notice to Wirib's last known address, together with an invitation to submit a response. The Commission did not receive a response.
- 5. On 21 November 2024, pursuant to s 158(1)(a) of the Act, the Chairperson of the Commission requested the Director of Liquor Licensing (**the Director**) to investigate the licensee.
- 6. On 6 January 2025 the Commission received from Principal Compliance Officer Mr Verity, a delegate of the Director, a report of the investigation he had conducted in response to the Chairperson's request.
- 7. Mr Verity reported that there were grounds for complaint against the licensee, who had never commenced trading from the premises, for breaching ss 69, 105 and 106 of the Act.
- 8. Mr Verity further reported that the licensee had ceased trading in January/February 2024, that on 13 November 2024 it was placed in administration, that on 18 December 2024 it was placed in liquidation, and that on 23 December 2024 the licensee's liquidators surrendered the licence. On 23 December 2024 a delegate of the Director issued a Certificate of Surrender, formalising the Director's acceptance of the surrender of the licence pursuant to s 66(2) of the Act.
- 9. In these circumstances, the Commission has determined to take no further action arising from the Notice.

Russell Goldflam

CHAIRPERSON

NORTHERN TERRITORY LIQUOR COMMISSION

8 January 2025

On behalf of Commissioners Goldflam, Abbott-McCormack and Stedman