

Your legal problem is about ...

Trees and hedges

Residential development

Other development

Mining

Biodiversity

Heritage

Water

Land valuation

Compensation for compulsory acquisition of land

Reviewing a government decision

Failing to obey the law or orders

Environmental crime

Aboriginal land claims

Aboriginal land claims

The *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* entitles the New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council or one or more local Aboriginal Land Councils to make a claim for certain lands in New South Wales.

The Crown Lands Minister may grant the claim and transfer the land if satisfied that the land is claimable Crown land. If the Crown Lands Minister refuses the claim, the claimant Aboriginal Land Council may appeal to the Land and Environment Court under [s 36\(7\)](#) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*. The appeal is allocated to [Class 3](#) of the Court's jurisdiction.

A judge of the Court, assisted by one or two commissioners who have been appointed with qualifications concerning land rights for Aboriginal people, hears and determines the appeal. If the Crown Lands Minister fails to satisfy the Court that the land is not claimable Crown land, the Court will uphold the appeal, grant the claim and order the transfer of the land.

More information

Find more information about how the Land and Environment Court deals with [Aboriginal land claims](#).

Need legal advice or information?

In NSW, there are a number of places where you can get specialised legal advice on the sorts of legal problems heard by the Land and Environment Court. Find out [where to get legal advice and information](#).

Aboriginal land claims

Fast track ...

Need to know about how the Court deals with Aboriginal land claims?

Go to [Class 3: valuation, compensation and Aboriginal land claim cases - Aboriginal land claims](#).