The State of Victoria introduced an alternative settlement framework to the claims system under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) in 2010. The new framework is enabled by the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic) (the TOS Act). The alternative framework does not require recognition or extinguishment of native title under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), but provides for the State’s recognition of a group of people as the traditional owners for a particular area together with other benefits. A recognition and settlement agreement under the TOS Act is accompanied by the registration of an indigenous land use agreement in the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

NOTE: