



16

PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

15 NOVEMBER 1983

Today's statement by the Chairman of Citicorp Australia, Mr Richard Jackson, that the transfer of the title of the Uluru National Park to the traditional aboriginal owners should not change the underlying security arrangements for foreign loans for the project is welcomed by the Federal Government.

The Government particularly notes that Citicorp and the other banks are still working toward the original deadline of November 24 for signing the international syndicated term facility.

Citicorp's statement exposes the cynical attitude of the Chief Minister, Mr Everingham, in calling an election eight months ahead of schedule.

Mr Everingham should now publicly apologise for his scare mongering tactics yesterday when he claimed the decision to transfer the title would have an adverse affect on investment in the \$150 million Yulara Tourist project.

So that even Mr Everingham can understand, let me repeat my statement of last Friday that the Ayers Rock area will be available for the use and enjoyment of all Australians and the many thousands of visitors from overseas who travel to the National Park every year.