

Aboriginal push for tourism say

By ALEXANDRA HUMPHRIES

THE Aboriginal community must be consulted before any eco-tourism developments can begin, Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre state secretary Trudy Maluga says.

Ms Maluga made the statements yesterday, after an ABC program on Monday night reported that the state government planned to accept proposals for developments in national parks and World Heritage areas.

Ms Maluga said the agreement of the original owners of the land should be sought by developers.

“Every day sees Will Hodgman’s government announcing more tourism ventures on our traditional lands,” Ms Maluga said.

“These lands are our only opportunity for land justice.

“The only remaining non-private land in Tasmania, mostly administered by Parks and Wildlife, is all that is left to us. We need to be involved in decisions about it.

“This applies to current applicants



Trudy Maluga

for tourism developments in Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area such as the proposed South Coast walk and stay, and the course development at South where permits to destroy Aboriginal heritage will need to be given.”

The government said it has received 37 proposals for eco-tourism developments in the state.

Premier Will Hodgman called the eco-tourism plan a “game-changer” for the Tasmanian economy, but is likely to face strong opposition from the Greens.