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Traditional owners join with Downer in Century mine deal

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A trailblazing model of mining in which traditional owners tap the contracting know-how of a mining services giant is under way in northwest Queensland.

The local Waanyi people have formed a joint venture with Downer to develop, expand and work Century zinc mine, 250km north of Mount Isa, for New Century Resources.

The deal will see Waanyi -people, most living at nearby Doomadgee, Mornington Island or Mount Isa, benefiting from salaried jobs as fitters, mechanics and -machinery operators offered by their own contracting joint venture, and from an equal share in profits as contract mining service partner for work performed for NCR.

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