**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

*Funding Rules made under section 60 of the Australian Research Council Act 2001*

*Special Research Initiative for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers’ Network* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2012 Variation (No.1)

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research

Subject: *Australian Research Council Act 2001*

*Special Research Initiative for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers’ Network* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2012 Variation (No.1)

Authority

Section 60 of the *Australian Research Council Act 2001* (the Act) provides that the Minister responsible for Science and Research must approve ARC funding rules.

Purpose and effect

The *Special Research Initiative for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers’ Network* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2012 is a scheme that will be a national collaborative Network, led by experienced Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers with track records in coordinating team-based cross-disciplinary projects, mentoring research students and early-career researchers. The network’s core functions will include building Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research capacity, mentoring new researchers and advancing research in Indigenous Knowledge Systems.

A variation to these rules was approved under section 61 of the Act by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research Minister Chris Evans on 20 April 2012. Details of the approved variation to the *Special Research Initiative for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers’ Network* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2012 Variation (No.1):

**“****Key Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Closing time for submission of Proposals** | **5.00 pm (AEDT) Friday, 27 April 2012** |
| **Deadline for Request not to Assess** | **5.00 pm (AEDT) Friday, 27 April 2012** |

”

and

“ **11.3** **Closing Time for Proposals**

11.3.1 The online form completed within the RMS must be submitted by **5.00pm Friday, 27 April 2012**.”

with

**“Key Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Closing time for submission of Proposals** | **5.00 pm (AEST) Friday, 25 May 2012** |
| **Deadline for Request not to Assess** | **5.00 pm (AEDT) Friday, 25 May 2012** |

”

and

“ **11.3** **Closing Time for Proposals**

11.3.1 The online form completed within the RMS must be submitted by **5.00pm Friday, 25 May 2012**.”

Commencement

The *Special Research Initiative for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers’ Network* Funding Rules for funding commencing in 2012 Variation (No.1) shall take effect the day after registration on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.