

CLIMATE CASE UPDATE

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?



**THE AUSTRALIAN
CLIMATE CASE**

4 years ago, Uncle Pabai Pabai and Uncle Paul Kabai filed a case against the Australian Government in the Federal Court to protect our island homes from climate change.

They are arguing that the Federal Government has a duty of care to make sure Torres Strait Islander peoples are not harmed by climate change and that they should stop making it worse by creating more fossil fuel pollution. **Here is a recap of some of the big moments in the case so far:**

COURT COMES TO ISLANDS

The Federal Court came to Saibai, Boigu, Badu and Cairns for on-Country hearings to hear evidence from community witnesses and to see for themselves how climate change is impacting communities in the Torres Strait.

JUNE 2023

EXPERT SCIENTIST HEARINGS

In Melbourne we had 3 weeks of hearings where expert scientists from around the world shared strong evidence about climate change & the future of our islands. They made it clear that if we continue on the same path, our islands will be underwater.

NOVEMBER 2023

FINAL HEARING CAIRNS

Last year, the Federal Court travelled to Cairns for the final round of hearings. The Judge heard the closing arguments from the Uncles' lawyers and the Government's lawyers.

APRIL 2024



**COMMUNITY, LAWYERS & SUPPORTERS OUTSIDE
CAIRNS COURTHOUSE FOR THE FINAL HEARINGS**



**COMMUNITY WATCH THE JUDGE
HEAR EVIDENCE IN BOIGU**



**ELDERS & COMMUNITY WATCHING THE
FEDERAL COURT HEARINGS IN SAIBAI**



**AUNTY MCROSE SPEAKS TO THE
MEDIA OUTSIDE THE FEDERAL
COURT IN MELBOURNE**



UNCLE PABAI & UNCLE PAUL SAIL ON THE RAINBOW WARRIOR TO MEET WITH ALLIES, CLIMATE LEADERS & POLITICIANS IN VANUATU



UNCLE PABAI AND UNCLE PAUL SPEAK ABOUT RISING SEAS AT COP27 IN EGYPT

THE DECISION - 15 JULY

GETTING READY

After three court hearings, countless meetings, many events and trips across the country, the Pacific and two international COPs, **the Judge will read his decision in the Cairns Federal Court on Tuesday, 15 July.**



PEOPLE IMPACTED BY BUSHFIRES, FLOODS & RISING SEAS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA COMING TOGETHER AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

The case is very complex - which means there are lots of different legal questions the Judge has had to make a decision about.

If the Judge says that Uncle Paul and Uncle Pabai have won all or just some of these legal questions - **it would make history and be a huge step in the fight for First Nations and climate justice.**

Governments and people from all over the world will be watching this decision so it is **our chance to show the strength of our people and culture and that win or lose, we will keep fighting.**

We would love your help to prepare for the decision, build power and get involved in other ways to put the pressure on Government to stop causing harm to our communities. Scan the code to sign up to our community email list for updates:



TIMELINE

1 INFO SESSIONS

In early July, there will be info sessions about the decision in Saibai, Boigu and Cairns. You can come in person or go to an online session to talk about your community's plans and know what to expect.

2 THE DECISION: 15 JULY 2 PM

The Judge is coming to Cairns to read his decision. **Everyone is welcome to attend.** If you can't come to watch the decision in Cairns, there will be a livestream link and watch parties in Saibai, Boigu, Badu and Seisia.

3 COMMUNITY NIGHT: 15 JULY 6 PM

We are hosting a Community Night at the Tigers Club in Cairns on 15 July, after the decision. **Everyone is welcome.**