Local Western Cape York company, NQ Civil Engineering Contracting Pty Ltd (NQCEC), successfully secured the 2016 road maintenance contract on Rio Tinto’s A$2.6 billion Amrun project.

The crew started on site in September 2016 to undertake maintenance work on the project’s site access roads, including re-sheeting, dust suppression and maintaining required stormwater controls.

Managing Director of NQCEC and Wik Traditional Owner, Bruce Martin, said “The Amrun project is practically in our backyard, so when the opportunity presented itself to express interest in securing one of the site based contracts, we were keen to grab it with both hands.”

“As one of the only part-owned Indigenous civil construction businesses in Queensland, we’re focused on growing our capability and providing employment opportunities for Local Aboriginal people from the Western Cape,” Mr Martin said.

“I’m pleased that more than half of the crew (six out of nine) completing this work are local Traditional Owners from Indigenous communities that are signatories to Rio Tinto Weipa’s agreements.”

Rio Tinto general manager, Amrun Project, Marcia Hanrahan, said “I’m pleased to see this construction and maintenance contract go to a company with such strong ties to the Western Cape region.”

“To be part of the Amrun project, contracting companies need to share Rio Tinto’s commitment to providing local jobs and strengthening Cape York’s economy. One of the reasons NQCEC was selected is their like minded thinking and attitude towards local and Indigenous employment, and I look forward to working with them during the construction project,” Ms Hanrahan said.