Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Impact of Defence Training Activities and Facilities on Rural and Regional Communities – 23 August 2017

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Exemption of Defence land from Native Title

Question reference number: 1

Senator: Kitching

Type of question: provided in writing

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 22 September 2017

Question:

Is any Defence land across Australia exempt from Native Title?

Answer:

No. There is no blanket exemption for Department of Defence land from Native Title. However, for many properties, the Native Title rights over Defence land have been extinguished by other activities. Examples of these activities include the construction of public works and the grant of particular tenure types including freehold tenure.