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14 AUG 2012

PETITIONS UNIT

**The Hon Tony Burke MP**

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**Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities**

C12/6836

The Hon John Murphy MP  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Petitions  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

13 AUG 2012

Dear Mr Murphy

*John*

I refer to your letter of 21 May 2012 concerning The Standing Committee on Petitions regarding the addition of Dampier Archipelago as a World Heritage listing.

On 2 March 2011, Senator Sterle advised the Senate, on my behalf, that the Australian Heritage Council would be instructed to assess whether the Dampier Archipelago has heritage value of Outstanding Universal Value and any threats to that site. On 4 April 2012, the Australian Heritage Council submitted their final report, which is available to the public on the Council's website: <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/index.html>.

I have requested the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities to provide me with advice on the report's findings. I will take the appropriate action after considering that advice.

Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Tony Burke

