

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Indigenous Land Corporation
Topic: Noongar Groups

Senator: Senator Lines

Question reference number: 85

Type of question: FPA Friday 3 March 2017, page 6

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 1.

Question:

Senator LINES: Just in relation to Western Australia, what discussions recently has the ILC had with Noongar groups.

Mr Maher: Two weeks ago, our chairman was discussing with a Noongar group the potential for building a relationship. I will not say it is specifically a joint venture, but certainly a relationship to help realise the Noongar people's economic wealth there.

Senator LINES: Which group was that?

Mr Maher: I am not sure. I will hand over to Ms Button for that.

Ms Button: If I can take on notice the formal name, but it is a consortium of a range of Noongar title holding bodies in the south. A few months ago, we had an introductory meeting with SWALSC along similar lines in terms of what might be some potential opportunities for the ILC to help them manage their land that they will take over and also realise economic opportunities on those properties.

Answer:

On the 15th February the ILC Chairman Mr Eddie Fry met with the Noongar Land Enterprise Group (NLEG). NLEG is an alliance of 6 Indigenous landholders all of whom have an existing relationship with the ILC. Four properties were ILC granted while the remaining 2 are ILC-held properties, which are leased to Indigenous groups for future divestment.

The meeting was part of the ILC Chairman's focus on building stronger alliances with Indigenous landholders similar to other meetings held around the country.

The meeting was an introductory meeting with the Chairman for the purpose of: (a) strengthening the existing relationship the ILC has with the member organisations of NLEG; and (b) to explore future partnerships to build the economic opportunities from their properties.

Members of the NLEG are: Wongatha Caps Aboriginal Corporation, Banjelup Aboriginal Corporation, Walitj Aboriginal Corporation, Dowrene Aboriginal Corporation, Woolkabunning Kiaka Association and Avondale Park, Yaraguia Association Inc.