

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Tiwi Land Council
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: Damage to heritage site – Port Melville

Senator: Senator Nova Peris OAM
Question reference number: 139
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

The Tiwi Land Council would be aware that one of the first attempts by British colonialists to build a presence in the North of Australia was at Fort Dundas in 1824, and that this is a protected heritage site.

Has the Tiwi Land Council been informed of any damage to this heritage site during the development of the Port Melville project?

Answer:

The Fort Dundas protected heritage site is excluded from the Port lease area and TLC is not aware of any damage to this heritage site during the development of the Port Melville. TLC is aware that Sylvatech Forestry Pty Ltd worked in close liaison with the Northern Territory University, via Dr Clayton Fredrickson, to assess the then proposed Port Melville site for archaeological significance, and to determine the Port Melville lease boundaries. Dr Fredrickson concluded that no adverse impact would occur under the proposed development. TLC is also aware that EOLHT has taken considerable effort to avoid intrusion into the area separating Port Melville from the Fort Dundas area.