

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2008-09  
2-3 June 2008

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES

**TOPIC:** AIATSIS Audiovisual Material

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Eggleston

**QUESTION No. BI-1**

The Australian Film Commission has started work on placing film, television and other audiovisual material available on line. The site, [www.australianscreen.com](http://www.australianscreen.com), draws from the archives of AIATSIS, could you provide us with an overview of how that is going?

**ANSWER**

To date no Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) material has been supplied for inclusion on the Australianscreen Online website.

AIATSIS has been working with the Australian Film Commission on this project since early 2007. To date we have provided the Australian Film Commission with selection only copies of 28 film titles from our collection. These copies were provided to enable Australian Film Commission staff to assess the suitability of the material for use on the Australianscreen Online website.

AIATSIS is currently waiting for the Australian Film Commission, or the National Film and Sound Archive, which will administer Australianscreen Online in the future, to secure informed consent from the relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and communities in accordance with the community consultation process as set out in sections 8.5. and 8.6 of the *AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive Collections Management Policy Manual*. Details of this policy can be found at [:http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/audiovisual\\_archives/audiovisual\\_archives\\_collection\\_management\\_policy\\_manual/access\\_policy](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/audiovisual_archives/audiovisual_archives_collection_management_policy_manual/access_policy)

Once AIATSIS has received written evidence of this process and is satisfied that the proposed use adheres to both s41 of the *Australian Institute or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Act 1989*, and sections 8.5. and 8.6 of the *AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive Collections Management Policy Manual*, the material will be made available for inclusion on the Australianscreen Online website.