

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARINGS

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO

Department/Agency: Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Outcome: 1

Topic: Kimberley Land Council

Senator: SIEWERT

Question reference number: 25

Type of question: Hansard F&PA page 58-59, Tuesday 19 October 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Senator SIEWERT—That would be appreciated, thank you. I have another set of questions and, again, I am not sure if I am asking in the right area. With the process of development in the Kimberley, I am aware that there has been a social impact study done by the Kimberley Land Council that has been provided to the state government and I am wondering (a) if you are aware of that study and (b) whether you have been given a copy of that study.

Ms Fleming—I think we would have to take that on notice because the Kimberley Land Council has been concerned about a number of issues in the Kimberley, so it depends whether you are talking about James Price Point or you are talking about some other elements of the Kimberley development. ...

Ms Fleming—It is my understanding that the two issues are quite separate, but we would need to take that on notice because James Price Point is an issue for the WA state government at this stage. ...

Senator SIEWERT—What I was referring to is I was not sure if the social impact study just considers James Price Point, or some of the other development proposals in West Kimberley.

Ms Fleming—The West Kimberley package that was announced, I think, in the media a week or so ago, about potential future agriculture: we are still seeking information around the WA government's perspective on that, so we would need to take questions on that on notice.

Senator SIEWERT—Okay, so could you take on notice whether you have seen the social impact statement—well, it is not just the statement, sorry; it is a pretty thorough study, as I understand it.

Ms Fleming—Yes, happy to take that on notice.

Number of pages: 1

Answer:

The Department is aware of the Kimberley Land Council's social impact study and has been provided with a copy.