

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 May 2004**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(145) Output: Indigenous Land Corporation**

Senator O'Brien asked:

- (1) Can the Committee be advised of the dates on which the Board has met and discussed the divestment and/or sale of Wittenburra Turn Turn?
- (2) Can the Committee be provided with the Minutes of these meetings?
- (3) Can the traditional owners of the land take any action that would prevent the sale of the land and facilitate its divestment? If so, what action?

*Answer:*

- (1) Meeting No 70 of 25 September 2002  
Meeting No 73 of 27 February 2003  
Meeting No 74 of 7 May 2003  
Meeting No 75 of 25 June 2003  
Meeting No 78 of 19 February 2004  
Meeting No 78B of 16 March 2004  
Meeting No 79 of 23 April 2004

(2) The ILC Board Minutes are confidential in nature. Accordingly, for the ILC Board to waive that confidentiality and release Minutes or extracts from them, it would have to be satisfied that a greater public purpose was being served over and above mere curiosity. The ILC Board is obviously keenly aware of its other obligation of public accountability and to fulfil this obligation is happy to provide the Committee with a general summary of the relevant part of each meeting where it considered the sale of the Wittenburra Turn Turn properties. If the Committee still considered that such information was not adequate to appropriately address its concerns, the ILC Board would be happy to further consider another request from the Committee at that time.

- (3) No.

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**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 May 2004**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(146) Output: Torres Strait Regional Authority**

Senator O'Brien (L&C 86) asked:

In relation to the TSRA Board, provide a copy of the relevant notice and advise when it was published in the *Gazette*.

*Answer:*

The notice of polling day for Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) elections for the wards of Port Kennedy and Horn/Prince of Wales was gazetted as a special notice on 15 December 2003 as per attached *Gazette* notice no. S 468.

The notice of polling day for TSRA elections for the Zone Election Rules was gazetted as a special notice on 28 April 2004 as per attached *Gazette* notice no. S 128.



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989

NOTICE OF POLLING DAY  
FOR TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

ZONE ELECTION RULES

NOTICE OF FIXING TIME, DAY AND LOCATION FOR ZONE ELECTIONS

I, GARY HARDGRAVE, Acting Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, under Rule 3 of *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (Zone Election) Rules 1990* made pursuant to section 138 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989 (as amended)*, hereby determine the following schedule in relation to a zone election for the Torres Strait zone.

Zone	Day for the close of nominations	Time on nomination day for the close of nominations	Day for the close of the poll	Venue at which polling is to take place
Torres Strait	Tuesday 11 May 2004	10.30am	Tuesday 11 May 2004	Torres Strait Regional Authority Offices Torres Strait Haus Victoria Parade Thursday Island Queensland

Signed on

22 J 04 / 2004

Acting Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*

NOTICE OF POLLING DAY  
FOR TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS  
FOR THE WARDS OF  
PORT KENNEDY  
AND  
HORN/PRINCE OF WALES ISLANDS

I, AMANDA VANSTONE, Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, under subsection 143 (1) of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*, hereby fix Saturday 3 April 2004 as the day for polling in the Torres Strait Regional Authority election for the wards of Port Kennedy and Horn/Prince of Wales Islands.

Signed on 12/12 2003

Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA*****Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*****(Paragraph 143 (2) (b))****NOTICE OF PRESCRIBED MATTERS**

In accordance with paragraph 143 (2) (b) of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*, the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs has made estimate of the number of persons in the Torres Strait area who will be entitled to vote in the forthcoming Torres Strait Regional Authority elections, and of the number of people living in the area who are Torres Strait Islanders or Aboriginal persons. The Minister's estimate is set out in the table below.

<b>WARD</b>	<b>Estimate of the number of person who will be entitled to vote at the forthcoming TSRA Elections.</b>	<b>Estimate of the number of persons living in that area who are Torres Strait Islanders or Aboriginal persons.</b>
<b>Port Kennedy</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>1244</b>
<b>Horn/Prince of Wales Islands</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>406</b>

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**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 May 2004**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(147) Output: Torres Strait Regional Authority**

Senator O'Brien (L&C 90) asked:

What cost to the Commonwealth was associated with the purchase and distribution of briquettes for water tanks to aid eradication of dengue?

*Answer:*

The cost to the Commonwealth for the purchase and distribution of briquettes was \$13,800.71.

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IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(148) Output: Torres Strait Regional Authority**

Senator O'Brien (L&C 90) asked:

What was the cost of the program designed in the dengue sheet that was provided to the Committee?

*Answer:*

The cost of the Bulk Waste Removal Program indicated in the dengue sheet is \$100,000. These funds have not yet been fully expended.

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IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(149) Output: Indigenous Business Australia**

Senator O'Brien (L&C 94) asked:

For a copy of the legal advice on the wording of the draft ATSIC bill.

*Answer:*

IBA is not in a position to provide a copy of the advice. IBA sought advice on the Bill in order that it could provide meaningful input into the drafting process. The advice it received is confidential and subject to legal professional privilege.



## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 May 2004

#### IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

#### (150) Output: Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations

Senator O'Brien (L&C 96) asked:

How much did the review of the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act of 1976* cost?

*Answer:*

The review of the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976* (the ACA Act) was conducted over the period February 2001 to December 2002, when the Final Report was released (the Final Report is accessible at [www.orac.gov.au](http://www.orac.gov.au)). The review involved consideration of the findings of previous reviews of the ACA Act, targeted consultation with Indigenous people, peak Indigenous bodies and a range of stakeholders, and thorough research on relevant issues. The total cost of the review was \$584,079.83. The Government subsequently announced its intention to reform the ACA Act and a reform Bill is currently being drafted.

A breakdown of the costs of the review follows:

1.	<b>Independent assessment of tenders to undertake the review</b>	<b>\$ 1,990.00</b>
2.	<b>Consultants fees</b> Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Lawyers, were engaged to undertake the review. They were contracted on 10 April 2001 and completed their work on 30 October 2002. The cost of review includes substantial consultation with Indigenous people and peak Indigenous bodies.	<b>\$ 516,635.59</b>
3.	<b>Consultative Workshops</b> Two workshops were held during the review to ensure that consultation was undertaken with a wide of range of interested stakeholders. Participants at the workshops were from a broadly representative cross-section of corporations incorporated under the Act, those incorporated under other legislative regimes, key Indigenous representative bodies, and a range of people from government agencies who have involvement in and experience with Indigenous corporations. Both workshops were held in Alice Springs. The first was held on 3-4 May 2001 and the second on 9-10 April 2002.	<b>\$ 46,091.34</b>
4.	<b>Correspondence to all registered corporations and requests for submissions to the review via Indigenous radio and newspapers.</b>	<b>\$ 13,471.33</b>
5.	<b>Steering Committee Meetings</b>	<b>\$ 1,964.30</b>
6.	<b>Independent Legal Advice</b>	<b>\$ 3,927.27</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 584,079.83</b>