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Sent: Monday, 26 July 2004 12:09 PM
To: Committee, Indigenous Affairs (SEN); Collins, Patricia
Subject: Submission

Dear Senator

Healthabitat have worked on the issue of improving Indigenous housing to improve health for just on 20 years.(see brief info sheet attached)

Attached is a brief summary of the intervention works completed since 1999.

This information shows:

- Housing is very poor throughout large parts of Australia (urban, rural and remote)
- It provides near to NO health benefit (by standard testing of houses)
- with small budgets, local Indigenous workers and careful targeting housing can be improved (from \$3500-\$7600 per house)
- House damage by tenants is NOT the primary or secondary cause of poor housing POOR CONSTRUCTION AND LACK OF ROUTINE MAINTENANCE ARE THE MAIN CAUSES OF HOUSE FAILURE

We would welcome a chance to present more detailed information

Paul Pholeros
Director Healthabitat
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