

**Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native  
Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Land Fund**

**Indigenous Land Corporation Annual  
Report 1999-2000**

**Submission No: 2b  
13 June 2001  
Mr John Wilson  
68 Hampton Circuit  
Yarralumla ACT 2600**



**E-mail:**

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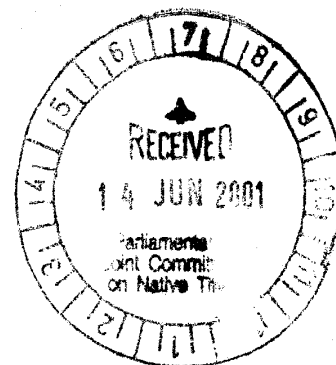
FAXED

13 June 2001

Mr Peter Grundy  
Committee Secretary  
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title and  
the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Land Fund  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Facsimile: 02 6277 5706

Dear Mr Grundy



***Public Hearing 21 May 2001—Adverse Mentions***

I refer to your letter of 29 May in which you provided me with a copy of the Hansard of the Parliamentary Joint Committee hearing of 21 May 2001. You referred to NT52 and 54 and asked me whether I have any comments to make.

With respect to NT52, I have nothing further to add to my letter of 12 September 2000, which is referred to. The suggestion in the last paragraph of Mrs Firebrace's comment on that page is that I, when CEO, asked her to respond (presumably to your letter of uncertain date) which asks for an explanation of her earlier letter (2 August) and my letter of 12 September. My advice to the Chairman was that since I had responded on behalf of the Board on 12 September, as instructed to and in doing so contradicted some of the advice she had provided to the PJC in her letter of 2 August 2000, it would have been impossible for me to reply or indeed to draft a reply given I would have had to contradict myself. The suggestion that I insisted on her responding is not true. I merely pointed out it would be inappropriate for me to draft a reply, given the above.

Turning to NT54, I am at a loss to understand Mrs Firebrace's comment towards the end of that page. She appears to be saying that she spoke to me on the night of 2 August 2000 and that I advised her that she should respond (presumably to the PJC). The specified date (2 August) I believe is the date of her letter to the PJC which, as I have previously advised, I knew nothing about until Matthew Coleman found it 'surfing the net' for the PJC report on the Examination of

Annual Reports for 1998/99. Since I did not know about the incoming letter to Mrs Firebrace nor the fact she had replied, let alone the content of that reply, until some time in September 2000—from memory I think it was 6 September, her suggestion is an ill-conceived fabrication. My recollection is that it was the letter from the PJC to the Chairman post 12 September, the “please explain” letter, to which she asked me to draft a reply. In other words the request for me to draft a reply was as per my comments on NT52. It is not clear whether she is suggesting I “set her up”, but then most of the paragraph is nonsensical in the first place.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Wilson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**JOHN WILSON**