

Minority Report by Senator Rachel Siewert, Australian Greens

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account, Report on the Operation of Native Title Representative Bodies.

I strongly support the intent of Recommendation 18 on Prescribed Bodies Corporate but believe that the current recommendation does not go far enough. As pointed out in the report ... "the dire situation of many PBCs due to lack of resources was highlighted during the inquiry" (para 5.68).

I believe that the Commonwealth should be funding Prescribed Bodies Corporate to ensure that they are able to meet their responsibilities. I also believe that resources should be made available immediately to assist PBCs meet their short-term needs while the Commonwealth examines as a matter of urgency sustainable funding options for the longer term operation of PBCs.

Senator Rachel Siewert

