



Australian Government

Austrade

18 December 2018

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Trade and Investment Growth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House ACT 2600
jsctig@aph.gov.au

Dear Secretary,

On behalf of the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), please find Austrade's response to the question posed by Mr Rick Wilson MP which was taken on notice.

Mr Wilson requested "(Austrade staff) follow up and see if there has been any engagement with Austrade on Albany's Middleton Beach waterfront development".

Austrade became aware of the Middleton Beach waterfront development opportunity in June 2015. Tourism Western Australia's Investment Manager informed Austrade of the initial Expression of Interest process. On 26 June 2015, Austrade's Tourism and Regional Investment team circulated information on the opportunity to Austrade's international network.

In February 2016, Austrade arranged a meeting between Landcorp and a visiting Indian investor to discuss a number of opportunities in the region, including the Middleton Beach project. However, the Middleton Beach project was not pursued. Austrade was not informed of the revised June 2018 Expression of Interest process for the Middleton Beach project.

On 12 and 13 November 2018, Austrade's Senior Investment Specialist for Tourism and Regional Investment visited Albany and discussed investment opportunities with the Great Southern Regional Development Australia Committee and the Great Southern Development Commission. The trip included a visit to the Middleton Beach site.

Under the auspices of Austrade's *Regional Tourism Infrastructure Investment Attraction Strategy*, Austrade is working closely with the Western Australian Government. The state's nominated priority region to realise investment in tourism assets is the South West region, specifically Margaret River.

Should any further detail be required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

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