

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Australian Government's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: National Indigenous Australians Agency

Topic: Consideration of constitutional recognition – after this term of parliament

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: 0063

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 19 June 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Has the Agency provided advice to the Government in relation to holding a referendum on constitutional recognition after this term of Parliament, including in relation to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic? When was the advice provided? What was the nature of the advice?

Answer:

No.

Senate Select Committee on COVID19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Australian Government's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: National Indigenous Australians Agency

Topic: Destruction of cultural heritage at Juukan Gorge

Senator: Gallagher

Question reference number: 0131

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 19 June 2020

Number of pages: 2

Question:

1. In relation to the recent destruction of cultural heritage at Juukan Gorge by mining operations:
 - a. When was the Minister, his office and Agency first contacted by traditional owners (or their representatives) concerned about the impending destruction of cultural heritage?
 - b. How many times was the Minister, his office and Agency subsequently contacted – and at what times and days did this occur?
 - c. What advice was provided to the traditional owners (or their representatives)? Were they advised to contact Minister Ley or her department?
 - i. Did the Minister, his office or Agency refer the matter to Minister Ley or her Department? If so, when did this occur?
 - d. Did the Agency provide any advice to the Minister that outlined options for delaying or preventing the destruction of this cultural heritage? When and how was this advice provided? What was the nature of the advice?
 - i. Did the Minister or his office ask for any advice from the Agency about how the destruction of the cultural heritage could be delayed or prevented? When and how did this occur?
 - e. Are there any Commonwealth powers that could have delayed or prevented the destruction of this cultural heritage?
 - f. Did the Minister, his office or the Agency contact Rio Tinto? If so, when did this occur?

Answer:

The question is not relevant to the terms of the Committee in that it has no relevance to the Government's response on COVID-19.