

Thursday 13 August, 2020

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Economics
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Via Email: economics.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Chairperson,

I am writing in response to a Question on Notice submitted by Senator Patrick in respect to the hearing of the Senate Economics Legislation Committee for the inquiry into the National Radioactive Waste Management Amendment (Site Specification, Community Fund and Other Measures) Bill 2020. The question posed was in respect to minutes and documentation pertaining to the reasoning behind the use of the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999* for the ballot held which was, as referenced by Senator Patrick, the subject of litigation.

Following consideration of the question and further clarification I can advise that the ballot was undertaken at the request of the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan. In a letter received by Council from the Minister on the 4th May 2018 and detailed in paragraph 5 as attached Minister Canavan specifically requested that the same arrangements apply to the ballot to be held as per the previous ballot. This was referencing the criteria as set out in the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999*. This request was formally considered by Council and subsequently adopted at an ordinary meeting held on 9th May 2018, minutes attached.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to the release of the report of the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Deb Larwood
Chief Executive Officer

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