

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 438

Topic: Proposed Katherine Land Council

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Scullion asked:

Is it the Department's view that it is a proper use of Northern Land Council funds provided by the Commonwealth to campaign against the creation of a new land council? If it is not a proper use of those funds, what action would the department take?

Answer:

The Northern Land Council was invited to make a submission to the enquiry on the application to establish the Katherine Regional Land Council conducted by the former Aboriginal Land Commissioner, the Hon Howard Olney AM QC. The Department understands from its submission, and consistent with sec. 23(3) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*, that the Northern Land Council consulted with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal residents of the qualifying area in relation to the application to establish the proposed Katherine Regional Land Council.