

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 79
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Cape York
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Question Type: Spoken

Senator Urquhart asked:

Senator URQUHART: Thanks. Can you give us an update on Cape York and, within that, the consultation with the Indigenous people?

Mr Johnston: That is a process that is being run by Queensland.

Senator URQUHART: So the Queensland state?

Mr Johnston: The Queensland state; that is right.

Senator URQUHART: So there is no involvement from the Commonwealth on that?

Mr Johnston: No. We are not involved in the consultations. We were having some discussions early on with Queensland about the scoping of their project, but I do not think we have been having those for the last couple of months. I can take that on notice and confirm. Senator

URQUHART: That would be great.

Answer:

1. The Queensland Government is responsible for progressing the Cape York World Heritage process as set out in the 2009 Intergovernmental Agreement on World Heritage.
2. The Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection will consult with Traditional Owners and stakeholders on potential World Heritage options.
3. The Department of the Environment and Energy has not provided funding to any Indigenous groups for consultation under the current World Heritage process.
4. A World Heritage nomination of an area, or areas, of Cape York will only proceed with broad stakeholder support.