

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 53
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: National Heritage Listing - Thompson Square
Hansard Page: 115-116
Question Date: 17 October 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Chisholm, Anthony asked:

Senator CHISHOLM: In relation to Thompson Square, at Windsor, has the government given any consideration to an emergency listing on the National Heritage List?

Mr Johnston: We have received a letter asking for an emergency listing. We have done an assessment of that and we have consulted with our Heritage Council historic expert pair on that. We will be providing a briefing to the minister probably this week, with a recommendation around how to respond to that one.

Senator CHISHOLM: My understanding is that previously Thompson Square had been found to be ineligible. Can you give us an idea of what else was approved for listing around that time?

Mr Thompson: I cannot recall when that nomination was considered, so I can take that one on notice.

Senator CHISHOLM: Just to confirm, there will be something going to the minister soon in regard to a potential listing, is that correct?

Mr Johnston: Soon, yes.

Senator URQUHART: The second question that Senator Chisholm asked was about what the other approvals for listing were. You said you did not know what year that was. Can you find out and come back to us with that information?

Mr Johnston: Yes, we will take that on notice and come back to you.

Answer:

1. Thompson Square was considered for inclusion on the Australian Heritage Council's National Heritage assessment work plan in 2012 and 2013. Thompson Square was also considered and rejected for inclusion on the National Heritage List under the emergency provisions in 2012.

In 2012 and 2013 the Australian Heritage Council was asked to assess the following places for potential inclusion on the National Heritage List: the Coral Sea, Saltwater Country of the Groote Eylandt Archipelago and Quinkan Country.

In 2012 and 2013 the following places were added to the National Heritage List: Great Ocean Road, Coranderrk, Ngarrabullgan, Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (Indigenous Values), The Goldfields Water Supply Scheme, The West Kimberley, Wilgie Mia Aboriginal Ochre Mine, Jordan River levee, HMS *Sirius*, and HMAS *Sydney II* and HSK *Kormoran* shipwreck sites. The Australian Heritage Council's assessments for these places started prior to 2012.