

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio  
2016 - 2017 Additional Estimates  
2 March 2017

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**AGENCY:** NORTHERN AUSTRALIA INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITY

**TOPIC:** NAIF interaction with Minister's office

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Waters

**QUESTION No.:** AI-70

1. How often does the NAIF CEO or staff communicate with the Minister or staff from the Minister's office?
2. Is there a policy formal or informal for at what stage the NAIF let the Minister know what type of projects are being put in front of you for assessment?
3. When the Minister publicly announced in early December last year that the NAIF is looking into the Adani rail proposal did he discuss that with you or your office before he let the media know?
  - a. If yes how was it communicated - phone or email?

**ANSWER**

1. The NAIF CEO and staff communicate with the Minister and staff from the Minister's Office on an as needs basis. This includes requirements to formally consult the responsible Minister as outlined in the NAIF Act and Investment Mandate.
2. The NAIF provides (on a monthly basis) the Minister's Office with a high-level written summary of some of the projects in the NAIF's pipeline including the stage in the NAIF Application and Approval Procedure that the project is at.

For projects, which have been submitted for an Investment Decision, the NAIF provides notification to the Minister in accordance with Section 11(2) of the NAIF Act 2016.

3. As the Minister stated at Senate Estimates there has been no public formal announcement from Government.

The NAIF had informed the Minister via email that Adani had consented to disclose the following:

'Adani has expressed interest in accessing the NAIF facility, for the purposes of supporting the North Galilee Basin Railway Project.'