

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 2: Indigenous  
**Topic:** Gunbalanya

**Senator:** Peris, Nova

**Question reference number:** 89

**Type of question:** FPA Friday 12 February 2016, Page 21

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 1 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator PERIS: Was that letter you had from the traditional owners collective—all the traditional owner groups—or just a select—

Senator Scullion: I would have to take that on notice. Invariably it is from traditional owners. It was certainly from their legal representatives, and I know I have received letters under that which also include all their individual signatures, so I do know that, yes, it is in the entirety of the traditional owner group. Whether that traditional owner group missed one or two signatures or not is not a matter of such great importance in that the act provides for the majority of traditional owners. I do not think that was germane to it but I will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

On 21 October 2015 one senior traditional owner, on behalf of the traditional Aboriginal owners, of Gunbalanya signed a letter to Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion, Minister for Indigenous Affairs, and the Northern Land Council inviting them to a meeting with the traditional Aboriginal owners in Gunbalanya to discuss a range of matters including township leasing.