Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation CommitteeANSWERS TO OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Indigenous Land Corporation

Topic: Properties Purchased by ILC

Senator: Senator Siewert

Question reference number: 87

Type of question: FPA Friday 3 March 2017, page 7

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

Number of pages: 2.

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: How many have you considered?

Mr Maher: Considered?

Senator SIEWERT: So, you purchased two?

Mr Maher: Yes.

Senator SIEWERT: How many have been considered in that time?

Ms Button: There is an iterative process, if you like, that we work through with groups that have some proposals around purchasing land. I would have to take on notice and get back to you on the total number of inquiries, conversations and initial investigations that we had. In terms of properties that have reached a full due diligence and investigation process, been recommended and gone to the board and not been approved, there have been none.

Senator SIEWERT: How many?

Ms Button: None.

Senator SIEWERT: Are you saying that the two were already in train?

Ms Button: They are two that have gone through the full process, then a recommendation gone to the board, the board has supported it and the property has been purchased, but ones that have been initial investigations or informal conversations with groups or inquiries made—there would be a number of those. I would have to get back to you on the total number. But in terms of formal requests, formal processes and then a formal request to the board, only the two that have been approved.

Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice, that would be really appreciated.

Answer:

From October 2015 to March 2017, the ILC has formally assessed/considered 6 requests for Land Acquisition assistance. This resulted in 2 acquisitions being recommended to the Board, both of which were approved.

More specifically during the same period:

- The ILC received 85 initial enquiries to its Land Acquisition program.
- 14 enquiries were registered within the ILC system, with further discussions with the enquirer undertaken. These would be enquiries which met the ILC Land Acquisition criteria (for Indigenous organisations etc).

- 6 of these enquiries were formally considered with ongoing discussions with the group, and due diligence and further investigations undertaken on both the property and the group.
- Following due diligence, 2 acquisitions were recommended to the Board and approved, being Panatana, Tasmania in October 2015 and Kings Run, Tasmania in August 2016.
- Both properties were purchased for their cultural and environmental values.
- Panatana was purchased in partnership with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy for the Six Rivers Aboriginal Corporation.
- Kings Run was purchased in partnership with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy (including philanthropic donations they had secured) for the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania.