



Australian Government

Director of National Parks

Senator John Williams
Chair
Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Williams

On 24 February 2014 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing Senator Ruston asked, in relation to Indigenous employees at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

"I am sure you have all the answers. Last December, there was a report on the ABC that the former member of the board of management of Uluru said that only a small number of rangers at the park are Indigenous. Could you give us an update on how many rangers are employed at Uluru and how many of those rangers are actually of an Indigenous background."

In my responses to the above question I indicated that across the permanent workforce, about 40 per cent of ongoing positions are Indigenous and that there were 57 community rangers, who are not our employees but community members that come and work on park.

I would like to clarify my answer to this question. Across the permanent workforce within Parks Australia's three jointly managed parks about 40% of ongoing positions are occupied by Indigenous people.

As at 30 December 2013, in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park 20% of ongoing employees are Indigenous. In addition there were 66 Indigenous community rangers who worked in the park during the period of July-December 2013.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify this important arrangement for the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Sally Barnes
Director of National Parks
17 March 2014