

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(305) Output 3.2: Services for Indigenous Australians

Senator Evans asked:

What safeguards, if any, are being put in place to limit potential uses of leased land, or will the lessee be able to exploit the leased land in any way possible?

Answer:

The Scheme allows Traditional Owners to place their own limits on who can use their land and how this can be done. The scheme will be handled by a body with statutory functions which must ensure that all legal requirements are properly followed. The Land Councils which assist Traditional Owners in negotiations will continue to fulfil the function of ensuring that the interests of the Traditional Owners are protected.