

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE — MEMBERSHIP

466. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

I have a supplementary question. I thank the minister for confirming that there will be no specific industry representatives such as from the Chamber of Minerals and Energy or WAFarmers. Could the minister advise whether this was considered by government in the formulation of these amendments, or whether it was a requested by industry representatives?

Dr A.D. BUTI replied:

I do not know whether there has ever been representation made by industry in respect to that. I do not know. I do not think so in regards to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee—what began under the 2021 act. Obviously, we made the announcement only yesterday about the new amendments, so I assume there would not have been any representation in that time. The current Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee for the 2021 act and the previous Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee have never had industry-specific representation because that is not what they are there for. They are there for their expertise in areas that will help the process of section 18 applications. They are there for their expertise and, for a number of members, because of their Indigenous backgrounds.