

BUURABALAYJI THALANYJI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION — MATTHEW SLACK

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

I have a supplementary question. Thank you, minister. I just have a question of clarification. Did the minister refer the concerns that were raised with him on to the appropriate body within the state and federal governments?

**Mr B.S. WYATT replied:**

There is no appropriate body in the state government. That is the point I am trying to make, Mr Speaker. This is, I guess, one of the frustrations I have—in fact, all native title ministers around the country have with native title—that whilst native title settlements are the role of state governments, the bodies that are set up under the Native Title Act are regulated by the commonwealth government. That is the reality and that causes, I think, some problems when it comes to poorly managed—I will take a step back; it is not necessarily poorly managed or governed organisations, but certainly when you have a CEO or an executive who appears to be misusing their position that is always a frustration. My view is—I remember with Gumala, the former member for Pilbara Tom Stephens a decade ago stood on the other side of the chamber and made a speech getting stuck into ORIC. This is a perpetual problem with that commonwealth regulator when it comes to Indigenous corporations; it is slow and frustratingly stale when it comes to a reaction, and this is where we end up.