

TAMALA STATION

**1313. Hon RICK MAZZA to the minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:**

Tamala station, which has had approximately 6 000 visitors per annum, has had its request for a new camping licence declined, and it will remain closed for camping until further notice. Station managers have been advised that they will need another Indigenous land use agreement that specifically includes the camping area before any application will be considered.

I ask this question given that the Western Australian government is promoting holidaying in our own state during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- (1) What was the catalyst for Tamala station's Indigenous land use agreement to be terminated?
- (2) What is the estimated time frame for Tamala station to regain a camping licence and reopen?
- (3) Can the Indigenous land use agreement process be expedited?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The camping area operated under the provision of a licence issued by the state over unallocated crown land adjoining the Tamala pastoral lease. There was no Indigenous land use agreement associated with this camping area. On 4 December 2018, a native title determination encompassing the area was made by the Federal Court of Australia. The licence terminated upon the determination of native title.
- (2) The camp site would be able to reopen only once the pastoral lessee and native titleholders have reached an Indigenous land use agreement and appropriate tenure has been granted.
- (3) This is entirely dependent upon the pastoral lessee and the native titleholders. There are no statutory limits on the time necessary to conclude ILUA negotiations,