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LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy

Office of the Director-General

Dr Lesley Clark MP Chair Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Dr Clark

Re: Review of the accessibility of administrative justice

Thank you for your letter of 1 December 2005 advising of this review, and providing a copy of the discussion paper and inviting submissions.

Freedom of information and judicial review mechanisms make a major contribution to the openness and accessibility of government information and decision-making processes.

Because of the continuing disadvantages experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, barriers of cost and procedural complexity are important factors in limiting their participation in democratic processes, including their access to freedom of information and judicial review processes.

I appreciate your invitation to provide a submission to the committee's review. However, the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Policy (DATSIP) does not consider that it can provide any detailed information at this stage that would assist your committee in its review process.

If you require any further information or assistance in relation to this matter, please contact Mr Tony Dreise, Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Partnerships Directorate, DATSIP on 3224 2518.

Yours sincerely

Dr Warren Hoev

Director-General

Neville Bonner Building Block A Level 6 75 William Street Brisbane Queensland 4000 PO Box 397 Brisbane Albert Street Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone +617 3235 9612 Facsimile +61 7 3006 4059 Website www.indigenous.qld.gov.au ABN 84 150 594 360