

AUSTRALIAN SENATE
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL RESOURCES

PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600
TEL (062) 72 6925

12 December 1986

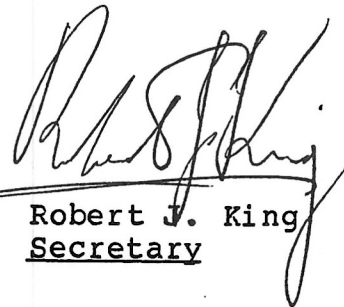
Ms Lora Leschner, PSG Chair
C/- Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory
4990 Shoreline Highway
Stinson Beach
CALIFORNIA USA 94970

Dear Ms Leschner,

Senator Gerry Jones has passed on to me your letter, expressing concern about developments in the phosphate industry on Christmas Island and their possible effects on the natural environment of the island. Senator Jones made a short statement in the Senate on the matter on 8 October last, and I enclose a copy.

A copy of the Official Hansard report of the hearing to which Senator Jones refers in his statement is available to you if you wish to receive it.

Yours sincerely,



Robert J. King
Secretary

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Statement by Senator

Senator JONES (Queensland)—by leave—
Pursuant to sessional order No. 7 authorising the Standing Committee on Science, Technology and the Environment to inquire into matters raised in the annual report referred to it for examination, the Standing Committee held a hearing on 22 September last on the effects on the natural environment of Christmas Island of recent and proposed development in the island's phosphate mining industry. The Senate may recall that I tabled a brief report on Christmas Island on behalf of the Committee last June. In that report we said that we would continue to monitor the situation on Christmas Island. The recent hearing was for the purpose of obtaining information on developments since then.

Christmas Island is now at a most important stage in its history. This is reflected by current media interest. The information our Committee obtained at the hearing from officers of the Department of Territories and the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service was most useful. For the information of honourable senators, I seek leave to table the official *Hansard* report of the hearing and some additional documents which were sent to the Committee by witnesses.

Leave granted.