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**Subject:** FW: Submission: Inside Australia - Lake Ballard Sculptures

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**From:** Alice Steedman

**Sent:** Monday, 14 September 2009 4:41 PM

**To:** Standing Committee, Community Development & Justice

**Subject:** Inside Australia - Lake Ballard Sculptures

I visited Lake Ballard in July 2008. I had heard about the project when it was first launched and the idea captivated me. I grew up in Tasmania and find the Western Australian landscape alluring and fascinating, especially the salt lakes which have a unique beauty.

I found the 'Inside Australia' exhibition a stunningly beautiful art installation that invited the viewer into the landscape in which it interpreted. The installation also provides a skilful and intelligent interpretation of the stories of Aboriginal occupation of Western Australia, the conflict which followed European settlement and the struggle of contemporary cultural existence.

Public art installation always carries risk of damage and degradation more than other artworks and the remote location and environment of Lake Ballard contribute to an increased risk for 'Inside Australia'. A fund for the ongoing maintenance of the exhibition should be established.

*Alice Steedman*