



**Hon Peter Collier MLC**  
**Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Electoral Affairs**  
**Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council**

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Your Ref: Petition No. 131  
Our Ref: 34-68826



Hon Simon O'Brien MLC  
Chairman  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your letter dated 20 October 2016, requesting my comments on a petition to have the Liquorland store in the South Hedland shopping centre closed.

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs continues to witness the harmful effects of excessive alcohol consumption on Aboriginal people, which results in adverse health impacts, increased rates of family domestic violence (and other violence), increased rates of self-harm and other socially dysfunctional behaviour.

To this end, I understand the Hedland Liquor Accord has recently supported the introduction of the Takeaway Alcohol Management System, which is used in other locations to better manage the sale and supply of alcohol.

It is noted there are already two other similar outlets within a 200 to 300 metre radius of the South Hedland shopping centre; therefore, the issue of supply should not be looked at in isolation. Universally applied measures, not just for Aboriginal people, that restrict the availability and access to alcohol should be considered as part of a range of actions that can be undertaken.

Kind regards

Hon Peter Collier MLC  
**MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

18 NOV 2016