Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group

Meeting on 7 May 2020 (DWER Head office and online)

The Chair, Dr Ron Edwards, and Mr Peter Jeffries (CEO, Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation) welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Guests attending the meeting were Mr Mike Rowe, Director General, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and Ms Estelle Roux, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC.

The Minister for Environment, Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, provided a video welcome to members, including new members Travis Inman from Rio Tinto, Adam Lees from Woodside and James Barker from the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. The Minister also noted that the Puliyapang team had recently been appointed to monitor Rock Art on Murujuga.

The Minister noted the importance of collaboration and the State Government's partnership with the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation.

Award of monitoring contract to Puliyapang Pty Ltd

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provided an update to members on the award of the monitoring contract to Puliyapang after an extensive procurement process and the key specialists involved across a multidisciplinary team.

The department also updated members on the finalisation of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Industry participants.

Update from Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation

Mr Jeffries provided members with an update on activities, including recent inductions with Puliyapang and others involved with the monitoring program, engagement of staff to support the world heritage process and ranger programs.

Member Updates

Members also received updates on:

- Murujuga World Heritage listing nomination process
- Recent operations of Woodside, Rio Tinto and Yara Pilbara
- Member organisation's responses to Covid-19.

Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program – Stakeholder workshop

Following the Stakeholder Reference Group meeting, members attended a stakeholder workshop with Puliyapang and Curtin.

The purpose of the workshop was to inform the project stakeholders on the development of the conceptual model and the scope of the monitoring studies, which will inform the design of the monitoring program and derivation of the Interim Environmental Quality Criteria. Presentations were provided on the development of the conceptual model and monitoring studies, reflecting the multidisciplinary approach to the project.

The Chair of the Stakeholder Reference Group and Mr Peter Jeffries thanked Puliyapang and Curtin for their presentations and noted the importance of the day in reaching an important milestone in the implementation of the Murujuga Rock Art Strategy.