

Project Manager
Draft Burrup Rock Art Strategy
Department of Water and Environmental
Regulation

By email: burruprockart@dwer.wa.gov.au

11 May 2018

Dear Sir / Madam

Draft Burrup Rock Art Strategy

Thank you for your email dated 28 March 2018 providing Rio Tinto the opportunity for further comment on the Draft Burrup Rock Art Strategy. These comments follow the release of the Australian Senate Environment and Communications Reference Committee's report on the protection of Aboriginal rock art on the Burrup Peninsula on the 21 March 2018. I also refer to our previous response to the Draft Burrup Rock Art Strategy from December 2017.

Rio Tinto has reviewed the Inquiry's Report and the separate three sets of additional reports from the Coalition, Labor and Australian Greens Senators. These reports do not alter Rio Tinto's previous comments regarding the Draft Burrup Rock Art Strategy.

Rio Tinto (Dampier Salt Limited and Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd.) is committed to ongoing engagement with both State and Federal governments in relation to the management of our iron ore and salt operations on the Burrup Peninsula (Murujuga). As stated in our previous correspondence we would appreciate the opportunity to be included as a member in the proposed Burrup Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group.

Rio Tinto are supportive of additional monitoring of potential industrial impacts to rock art. We have in place a Burrup Conservation Agreement with the Commonwealth Government which has the broad objectives of researching, managing, preserving and transmitting knowledge about the Burrup rock art. We acknowledge the international significance of the area and have been involved in a number of partnerships with the Traditional Custodians through the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporations as well as various academic institutions over the past ten years to deliver these objectives. Currently we are working with the Murujuga Rangers to document the cultural and scientific values of the rock art on our leases. We are also the partner organisation to the *Murujuga: Dynamics of the Dreamtime* ARC Linkage project with the University of Western Australia and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation.

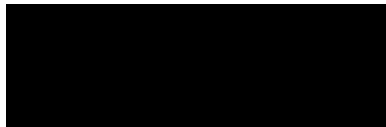
Rio Tinto also wishes to reiterate that we do not consider our operations are a significant source of emissions that could credibly impact on the Burrup rock art. Rio Tinto respectfully submits that if any additional regulation of existing or future operations in the area is proposed, it should be carefully considered and tested through consultation with potentially affected parties to ensure it is fit for purpose. Nevertheless, we are committed to actions which reduce our emission loads. Specifically, we will be acting in accordance with changes made by the International Maritime Organisations (IMO) requiring bunker fuel oil used in shipping to be low sulphur by 2020.



Rio Tinto will continue to work closely with State and Federal government regulators and the Traditional Custodians to manage our activities on the Burrup Peninsula. We will also actively engage with the Traditional Custodians and government in any discussions regarding World Heritage nomination for the Dampier Archipelago.

We look forward to the further development of the Burrup Rock Art Strategy and engagement with the State Government, Traditional Custodians and other industry.

Yours sincerely



Gavin Martin
Manager Heritage and Agreements