



8 December 2017

Project Manager
Draft Burrup Rock Art Strategy
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Locked Bag 33
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Sir Mudey

Dear

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Burrup Rock Art Strategy.

The Western Australian Museum supports the Strategy and really has no further comment at this stage, other than to recognise the extraordinary importance of Murujuga and the rock art associated with it and to welcome any strategy that promotes its protection and sensitive interpretation.

We welcome the commitment to scientific research into the petroglyphs and their condition but obviously emphasise the need for cultural sensitivity in these matters and not focus merely on a scientific appraisal.

The Museum has a long-standing relationship with the area, not least through its responsibility for the compound that contained the translocated petroglyphs that were moved at the time of the development of the LNG facility. The Museum has committed to transfer any interest in this site and its cultural materials to the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation. This transfer is now in the hands of the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. In the meantime, the Museum remains committed to do everything it can to support the recognition, conservation and interpretation of the site, in line with the aspirations of the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation.

The story of this area will be shared in the New Museum under development for Western Australia and there has been significant consultation on Country, with stakeholders, including the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation about how this will be done in line with the wishes of the relevant Aboriginal communities.

The Museum looks forward to continuing to engage with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and other relevant stakeholders in the management of this unique area of extraordinary cultural significance.

Yours sincerely

Alec Coles OBE
Chief Executive Officer