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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice

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BY:.....

Thursday, 12 May 2016

C470. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Planning representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to the story 'Burrup Art Heritage Push' which aired on the ABC News TV program on the 1st of May and ask:

- (1) What current protection and heritage arrangements are in place to protect the Burrup rock art and cultural material that meet world heritage criteria?
- (2) If none to (1), why does the Minister not support World Heritage listing?

Answer

I thank the Hon Member for some notice of this question.

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (1) There is a robust management and regulatory regime in place which serves to protect Burrup rock art and cultural material. The Department of Parks and Wildlife and Department of Aboriginal Affairs work closely with the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC) on matters relating to the conservation and management of the cultural heritage of the Burrup Peninsula.

In January 2013, the Murujuga National Park on the Burrup Peninsula was declared as Western Australia's 100th national park and as a result, is afforded protection through the provisions of the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*. The *Murujuga National Park Management Plan 2013*, which was developed in consultation with MAC, outlines a range of strategies to protect the environmental, cultural and heritage values of the area and promote and manage recreational use.

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* applies to protect cultural heritage sites and materials.

As a National Heritage listed place, the Burrup Peninsula is afforded protection under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The current arrangements provide significant protection for this area and involve MAC directly in the management of the national park. World Heritage listing would not confer any additional statutory protection.

- (2) Not applicable.

AG

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