

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice**

Thursday, 18 June 2020

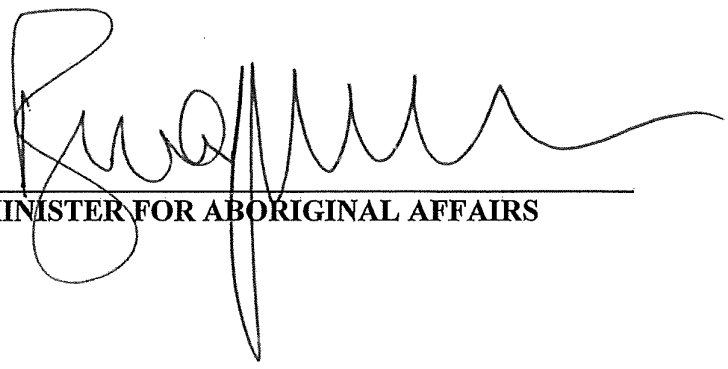
C653. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

I refer to the *Aboriginal Heritage (Marandoo) Bill (1992), Explanatory Notes*, Objects of the Bill, lines 1-4, page 2 of the Bill, brought before this House assembled, on the 6th of February 1992, wherein "the Government has, in providing consent for the Project under Section 18 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972, ensured that three important Aboriginal sites within the Project area will be exempt from this Bill", and I ask

1. Will the Minister please advise the current status of these sites as they relate to the relevant legislation?
2. Will the Minister please advise on the current physical state of these sites referred to at (1.)?
3. If the Minister is unable to answer (1) or (2), why is this information, as referred to directly by State legislation, unavailable?

Answer

(1)-(3) As the Member would be aware, the Explanatory Notes to the *Aboriginal Heritage (Marandoo) Act 1992* (the Act) state that the Act was intended to not exempt certain areas which contained important sites in the area of the proposed Marandoo Iron Ore Project and which were to remain subject to conditions imposed pursuant to the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. A recent desktop audit of the sites by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage indicated that the sites have not been impacted by any operations authorised by the Act. No notices have been lodged pursuant to section 18 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* in relation to the sites. The Member may wish to contact Rio Tinto, which currently manages the Marandoo Iron Ore Project, for further information in relation to the sites.



MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

