

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**Question Without Notice**

**Tuesday, 11 August 2020**

**C741. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment**

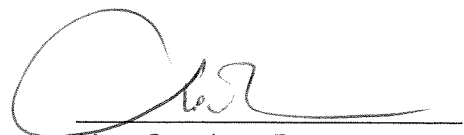
I refer to the pit outline in MLA4SA Sec 125 brought before the EPA for assessment by Rio Tinto in Aug 2005 (Figure 2), in relation to the Brockman 4 Syncline mine BS4 project area, which has been shown to seriously impact the Juukan cave sites, and I ask:

1. Did the EPA specifically assess the Juukan complex, or rely on Rio Tinto's assertion that they have not identified any sites of ethnographic significance in the area?
2. According to that pit outline assessed by the EPA, was the Juukan cave complex within the pit outline, as approved by the EPA?

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**Answer**

1. The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) assessed the Hamersley Iron, Brockman Syncline 4 Iron Ore Project at the level of Public Environmental Review with a four week public review period in 2005. I am advised the Hamersley Iron's Public Environmental Review document dated August 2005 did not specifically reference the Juukan complex. The EPA Report (Bulletin 1214) dated January 2006 made no specific reference to the Juukan complex.
2. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has reviewed the Environmental Protection Authority's Report (Bulletin 1214) and advised that there is no map showing the Juukan complex in relation to the pit outline.



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC  
**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT;  
DISABILITY SERVICES; ELECTORAL AFFAIRS**