

Question directed to: **Aboriginal Affairs**

Parliament: **40** Session: **1**

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE — PERDAMAN UREA PLANT — KARRATHA

921. Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE to the minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

I refer to the ministerial statement made on 19 August 2020 by the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade on the development by Perdaman Industries (Chemicals and Fertilisers) on the Burrup Peninsula.

- (1) Is the minister aware of four petroglyph sites in the middle of the proposed Perdaman development, of which at least one displays cultural heritage values?
- (2) Has an application been lodged under section 18 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 to impact these sites?
- (3) Is the minister aware that the custodians of the area are prohibited by gag clauses in the Burrup and Maitland Industrial Estates Agreement, which was brokered between the traditional owners and the government, from lodging any objection to these sites being impacted?
- (4) Will the minister override the Western Australian government's gag clauses to allow the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation to comment on the impact to these sites?
- (5) If no to (4), why will the minister not override these gag clauses?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) No.
- (2) I have been advised that a section 18 notice has not been lodged.
- (3)–(5) The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs is not aware of any gag clauses in the Burrup and Maitland Industrial Estates Agreement. The contracting parties continue to be engaged with Perdaman on the identification, management and protection of Aboriginal heritage. It is common practice for heritage surveys undertaken in the agreement areas to specifically seek input from contracting parties.